

~~Chron~~

—

S. HARRISON DOGOLE
POST OFFICE BOX 500
LAFAYETTE HILL, PA 19444
(610) 834-8750

Sign Sec.

February 24, 1997

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President,

You may not recall, but I wrote to you over a year ago emphasizing the necessity of doing something substantive about Campaign Finance Reform.

Having been seriously involved in political fundraising for over thirty years, I was not terribly surprised to hear about all the garbage that has come out publically over the last few months.

It is my recommendation that you seriously consider calling upon the Democratic Party to temporarily cease all "soft money" fundraisers, until there is proper and new legislation to alleviate what may be legal, but certainly is an onerous fundraising device. This would help to diffuse the current publicity and certainly put great pressure on the Republicans to do likewise.

Furthermore, I believe that new legislation, under the aegis of the F.E.C., should place a maximum individual contribution of \$5,000 to Federal candidates. The \$1,000 current limit is certainly far too low and this has to be up-graded as a result of the general increase in economic costs over the past twenty-five years.

Such a program would help to bring back the smaller contributor, who feels that he is left out of the process by virtue of the \$1,000 limit, as well as by the "soft money" program. By doing this, the concept of influence-peddling would no longer be an issue.

The smaller contributor only wants recognition which the current fundraising limits do not provide.

3/5/97

Send to Dorskind

Yes ☒

No ☐

C

-2-

I hope that this will give you some food for thought because, I sincerely believe that unless something is done promptly, the whole process is going to be held hostage by the very rich and by corporate entities.

With my very best wishes.

Sincerely,


S. Harrison Dogole

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3/5

TO: John Podesta
Bob Ash

Attached letter from Tim Kaine
was delivered today -- his last
day is now March 31.

POTUS already accepted his
resignation.

cc: Clerk



1574925-42085

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
OF THE UNITED STATES

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN

March 5, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, the term of my commission as President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States expired on January 20, 1997, and I have continued to serve pursuant to the Bank's charter which provides for an automatic extension of my term for up to six months or until my successor may be nominated and confirmed. However, the considerations that led me not to seek a second term continue to pertain and, indeed, grow more acute with the passage of time. In addition, I am fortunate enough to have attractive options in the private sector that, in fairness to my family, must be acted upon in timely fashion.

Accordingly, I regret to inform you that I am tendering my resignation as President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, effective March 31, 1997. I hope that it will be possible for you to nominate my successor with utmost dispatch, so that we can effect a smooth transition. This is particularly important, as the Bank faces its legislative reauthorization this year.

Thank you for allowing me to serve our country under your leadership. It has been a pleasure and a privilege, and Elaine joins me in wishing you health, happiness and continuing success in your important endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Martin A. Kamarck".

Martin A. Kamarck

MAK/nc

Staf... 2/28

7206 Glen Oak Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209
February 19, 1997

Mr. Bill Clinton
The President
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to ask that you give assistance to Mr. Irag Rovnanaghi, an architectural landscape designer, 7620 Count Massie Road, Maumelle, Arkansas, Telephone #(501) 753-7421. Mr. Rovnanaghi is requesting a 30 to 45 day Visit Visa for his brother, Jamshed Rovnanaghi who lives in Kohrramabad, Iran. He would come to Istanbul, Turkey to the Consulate General for the Visa. Please help him to get his Visa upon his interview at Istanbul. We would like for him to be here by March 18, 1997.

Jamshed's mother, Meimenat Samadi, age 78, is a resident of the United States and lives in Little Rock. She is now experiencing serious health problems and is quite anxious see her son. She has not seen him in fourteen years. Jamshed has a family in Iran and engages in both Real Estate and Rug businesses.

Irag will take responsibility for his brother while he is here for a visit.

Thank you for your attention to this request. I send you and your family my very best wishes.

Sincerely Yours,

C. Ray Tribble

C. Ray Tribble, ACSW

315197

Send to Donskurd?

Yes ☒

No ☐

Appropriate Agency Liaison Working I think C.

United States Sen

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0401

February 20, 1997

*This letter forwarded to
Consulate 2/21/97
by Sen Bumpers
office.*

Hon. Jerrold Mark Dion
American Consul General
American Consulate General
Istanbul, Turkey

Re: Jamshed Rovnanaghi
Kohrramabad, Iran

Dear Sir:

I have been contacted by my constituents, C. Ray Tribble and Irag Rovnanaghi, on behalf of Jamshed Rovnanaghi, brother of Irag. Mr. Tribble and Mr. Rovnanaghi have invited Jamshed to come to Arkansas on March 18, 1997, to visit. The Rovnanaghi's mother, Mrs. Meimenat Samadi, has not seen Jamshed for fourteen years, and has lately been experiencing serious health problems. It is her strong desire to see Jamshed and her health is not such that she can travel long distances.

It is my understanding that Jamshed has no intention of remaining in the United States because he has both family and business interests in Iran.

I will appreciate your giving every consideration to Mr. Rovnanaghi when he applies for a tourist visa. Please let me know your findings by writing to me at 3108 Federal Building, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

Sincerely,


Dale Bumpers

DB/pwp

cc: Mr. C. Ray Tribble
7206 Glen Oak Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Mr. Irag Rovnanaghi
7620 Count Massie Road
Maumelle, Arkansas

A VIEW FROM Washington

'No Es Fácil'

By STAN HASTEY
Executive Director
The Alliance of Baptists

This was my fifth trip to Cuba in the past three years. On each of the previous four ventures, I had heard the expression. Yet for some reason I really hadn't heard it. Not the way I did this time. Again and again, with reference to a variety of life experiences, I heard it said, "No es fácil" — "It's not easy."

It's not easy, a middle-aged woman told me, to watch one's husband stricken suddenly with cancer and not be able to have the surgery needed for him to have a fighting chance.

It's not easy, a single man said with a sigh, to see your monthly food rations cut back to a kilogram of rice and a pound of black beans — Cubans routinely use both weight standards — with no meat or even eggs. What's even tougher, he allowed further, is to take note of those able to get their hands on U.S. dollars for the purchase of additional food from the "alternative market" while most Cubans never handle the precious greenbacks.

It's not easy to see your child lose her eyesight because of prolonged vitamin deficiencies, her entire future clouded with uncertainty.

It's not easy to be pastor of a church and have members of the community plead with you for an aspirin tablet for a migraine headache or a tube of antibiotic ointment for a small child with an infectious rash — and have to turn them away because it's been months since the last small donation of such common medicines came your way.

Such is the grind of day-to-day life on the 700-mile-long island of Cuba, our nearest yet most distant Caribbean neighbor. It's not easy.

Can-Do Spirit

Something else about that expression struck me for the first time as well. Cubans might well complain, "Es difícil" ("It's hard"). But they don't. That is not their mind set, their psychological frame of reference. They would rather say, "No es fácil."

This can-do spirit runs deep in the Cuban psyche and we in the United States would do well to understand it, particularly in our diplomatic and economic policies.

For nearly 35 years, since President Kennedy first imposed an economic embargo perpetuated by all seven of his successors to date, our policy has been premised on the belief that economic sanctions would topple Fidel Castro from his iron grip on power. It hasn't happened.

Now, ironically, the embargo itself is perpetuating Castro's rule. It is, quite literally, all he has left to rally the Cuban people to a common cause. One

young man told me that while every one of his friends wants out of Cuba, the subject of toppling the government is not one they even talk about. So long as Castro has the U.S. to demonize, he concluded, the "bearded one" will retain power.

So why has President Clinton perpetuated such a failed policy? Why did he reverse field and sign the infamous Helms-Burton law that moved our Cuba policy from the refrigerator to the freezer?

The most obvious reason has to do with the presidential electoral map. Clinton, who in 1992 lost Florida to George Bush by a mere two percentage points, went all out to eke out the narrowest victory there on Nov. 5. Narrow or not, the effort was worth 25 electoral votes, and in the South to boot. An estimated 40 percent of Cuban-Americans in Florida voted for Clinton.



Stan Hasty

But as was revealed in the Oct. 28 issue of *Time* magazine, there's more to the story. It turns out, *Time's* Douglas Waller wrote, that what some Clinton aides call the "core group" of those persuading the President to go all out for Florida's Cuban-American voters was headed by none other than Hillary Clinton's sister-in-law, Maria Victoria Arias, a Miami lawyer married to Hugh Rodham, the First Lady's brother. Rodham, not coincidentally, is a politician who mounted an unsuccessful campaign two years ago to unseat U.S. Sen. Connie Mack, a Florida Republican.

Influences First Lady

According to Waller's report, "Arias telephones Hillary frequently and often sends Clinton clippings from Florida newspapers. In regular meetings at the Colonnade Hotel in Coral Gables or at Little Havana's Versailles Restaurant, the core group plans strategy and prepares appeals, which are sent by way of private notes to Clinton's top political aides."

This group's efforts have blunted those within the Clinton administration who had sought a thaw in U.S.-Cuba relations, particularly career diplomats and national security advisers who have argued without effect that if the United States could restore relations with Vietnam we surely could do the same with Cuba.

If we could grant most-favored-nation trading status to China, surely we could lift the economic embargo against an impoverished Cuba.

Despite widespread understanding in Cuba of Clinton's election-year need for votes in Florida, many Cubans continue to hope the President will change his mind about their country. This sentiment was expressed repeatedly during my recent trip by Baptist leaders, who wondered aloud how a fellow Christian and fellow Baptist could continue to inflict more suffering on the Cuban people.

On this issue, too, they told me, "No es fácil."

3/5/97

Send to Donald?

Yes

No

Coord with NSC

Kyle Baker sent
this over

Through
4/10

February 3, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Before expressing the specific concerns that prompt me to write, let me say how very pleased I am at your reelection and the bright prospect of a successful second Clinton Administration. As a fellow Christian and fellow Baptist -- in that order of importance -- I love you and pray for you. Those sentiments are constant and have nothing to do with whether I agree or disagree with your policies.

In fact, as to the broad sweep of your policies, I affirm and support you. That is why I have voted for you twice. Of particular significance to me is the splendid leadership you have demonstrated on church-state issues. But that is only one of many examples I could cite.

Permit me, however, to express anew my puzzlement at your Administration's policies toward Cuba. Enclosed with this letter is another one, written in his own hand by my Cuban colleague Adalberto Cuéllar -- a plaintive appeal from one Christian to another to reexamine those policies. In addition, I'm taking the liberty to send a copy of my most recent column in Baptists Today on Cuba, observations based on my most recent visit there last November.

Please, Mr. President, give a hearing to those of us who have a passion for the improvement in relations between the United States and Cuba.

Very respectfully yours,

Stan Hastey

Stan Hastey
Executive Director



Fraternidad de Iglesias Bautistas de Cuba

January 24, 1997

Mr. William Clinton
President of the United States of America

Honorable Mr. President:

It is our constant prayer that God may give you Grace to lead your nation with wisdom and justice.

I am Adalberto Cuellar, a Baptist Pastor with 36 years of Pastor and working in the ministry in Cuba. I have lived all these years accompanying my Church and my people as part of both and suffering with them the effects of the blockade that your large nation has against our small country.

This is the second time I write to you about this issue and rather than writing I dream about being able of talking to you, as a prophet of God, interceding for the sake of my people, to explain our wish as a Baptist Cuban Christian. I am afraid some close advisors of yours may put you against us.

I shook your hand at the Assembly of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, held in Charlotte, N.C., in 1995 and I thank God for that opportunity.

Mr. William Clinton, you are the President of the most powerful nation of the world. You have enough power to be just and magnanimous with our small nation although you may think we are wrong, and to let us, those who live in Cuba choose our own destiny. In this case, however, this is an elemental principle of justice, because our country does not represent a danger for the United States of America.

We are requesting from you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and in the name of our common Baptist faith, in the name of the justice of the Kingdom of God, **to eliminate the Blockade** that makes us suffer so much.

Politically, this measure has not succeeded, it was a mistake by a Republican government and later a wrong influence of Cubans who have power that preferred to migrate rather than to face the risk of living in a small and poor country.

Mr. President it is about time - God's Kairos - to change that aggressiveness against our country. The Cuban people love and admire the American people and is suffering the consequences of the blockade of your government.

I am attending the meeting of the Board of the Progressive National Baptist Convention and I will return to my

country on January 31. However I will expect your
wise and positive answer that may encourage hope for
my suffering people.

Fraternally in the love of Jesus Christ.


Rev. Adalberto Cuellar
Secretario Ejecutivo

C.C. Progressive National Baptist Convention
601-50th St. NE
Washington D.C. 20019-5499
Phone (202) 396-0858

The Alliance of Baptists
1328-16th St. NW
Washington D.C. 20036
Phone (202) 745-7609

American Baptist Convention
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge P.A. 19482-0851
Phone 1-800-222-3872

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Record: 1150922.A

Revised: 10 Jun 94

Entered: 24 Aug 93

Mr. Stan Hastey

.Contact.Aide.Type..Code.....Status

Dear Stan

No home address

Executive Director

The Alliance of Baptists

1328 16th Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20036

.History.Aide.DateIn/Out..Letter/Subject.....

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09 Dec 93

No affiliations

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24 Aug 93 SCHROEDER.N

Group:

Mr. S. H. G. G.

February 18, 1997

Ms. Carolyn Huber
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Huber:

Hope all is well with you and that the city's cold spell has finally ended. It won't be long, now, before all Washington will be in bloom! I've often wondered why they don't hold the inaugurations in the spring?

Please see that the President gets the enclosed.

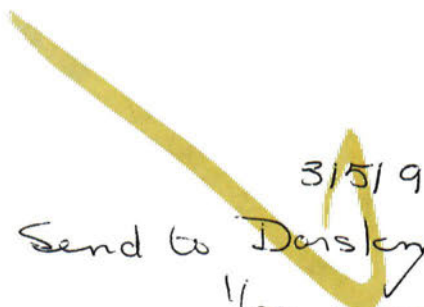
Thank you, as always, for your kind help.

Best regards,


Claude Brickell

Shady Acres
Clarendon, Arkansas 72029

343 1/2 N. Curson Ave.
Los Angeles CA 90036


3/5/97
Send to Dersky? ☒
Yes ☒
No ☐
Coordinate w/ NSC? ☒
Yes ☒
No ☐
C.

February 18, 1997

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

Dear Mr. President:

You might find the enclosed editorial regarding Cuba by Robert Scheer, which appeared in this week's *Los Angeles Times*, of some interest.

Despite the fact Scheer is a die-hard Castro supporter--dating back to his radical '70's Berkeley days--he does manage to capsulize the dynamic changes occurring in Cuba that are speeding that society toward democracy and free market reforms. The question is, where does all of this leave the United States in Cuba's future?

If you have never read anything by the noted philosopher on revolution Regis Debray, you might want to. As a political revolutionary yourself, you may find Debray's ideas enlightening. For example, in his *Revolution in the Revolution?*, he illuminates a fundamental flaw that 'We always superimpose the past on the present, even when the present is a revolution.'

I can't help but think of this in regards to our three-decade-old policy of dealing with Cuba that has been a dismal failure to date, for we can point to few examples of any worthwhile progress in it. And, holding up the European Community's recent condemning of Cuba on human rights as proof that our policy is at last working is surely patting ourselves on the back for minuscule achievements.

What speaks to me and to a great deal of Americans--and especially to the world at large--is the fact that aggressive and progressive engagement with Cuba on the part

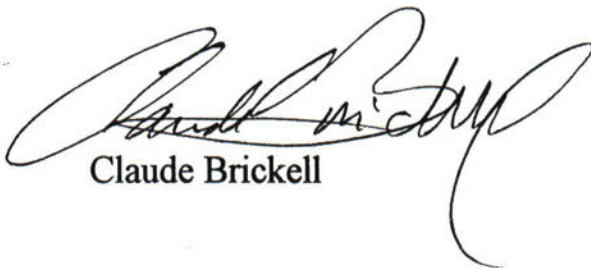
The President
February 18, 1997
Page two

of other industrialized nations is very definitely bringing about those very changes that we have failed to effect that will undoubtedly culminate in seeing democracy evolve there, and more important, insure those nations a solid place in Cuba's bright future.

As we build our bridge to the 21st century, it is clear Cuba is not at the far end of it. And, even though we are in the midst of an historic revolution of our own, in regards to our dealings with Cuba, there's that old *past superimposed on the present* again that Debray told us about--not so long ago--that we just can't seem to shake. Fortunately, there are other bridges being built to Cuba, though, and Scheer's editorial gives us clear examples of this.

Enjoy the editorial.

An Arkansas friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Claude Brickell", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the end.

Shady Acres
Clarendon, Arkansas 72029

343 1/2 N. Curson Ave.
Los Angeles CA 90036

COLUMN LEFT/
ROBERT SCHEER

Mouse That Roared Has the Last Laugh

■ When U.S. media discover a mellowing Cuba, an armada of dollars will sink the embargo.

It has become a truism of modern history that when communism falls, prostitution thrives. Whether we are talking of the former republics of the Soviet empire or the surviving communist nations of China and Vietnam, hookers are the surest harbinger of a free society.

An ancillary sign of the dawning of freedom is a visit by the pope. So it is obvious that Cuba, which has booked a papal visit for next year and is also approaching pre-revolution levels of prostitution due to a booming tourist industry, is poised to join the free world.

Even Jesse Helms has admitted as much by giving his approval to the administration's plan to permit American news organizations to set up shop in Havana. When those news crews loaded with fat wads of cash hit the beaches, the embargo that has strangled Cuba since 1960 will effectively end.

CNN has already obtained Castro's approval, and while Helms is counting on stories of Cuba's myriad problems given the on-air hours that CNN has to fill, there will undoubtedly be many in-depth reports featuring balmy beaches, wild nightclubs and the intricacies of cigar rolling.

It won't be long before cruise ships ply the 90 miles from Miami to Havana with the regularity of old and the heirs of Meyer Lansky return to reopen the old gambling casinos. Given the homophobic policies that have long marked the Castro regime, Helms himself might start vacationing there.

Once linked to Miami, Cuba could resume its historic role as a center of the drug trade. The U.S. has tried in vain to cast Castro as a drug lord, but Fidel, who is even more of a puritan than a Marxist, has rejected that role. Recently, drug czar Gen. Barry McCaffrey assured me that he has never seen any evidence of drugs coming out of Cuba, even when he headed up the Southern Command, which had the task of interdicting drugs.

Castro has also been a great disappointment for those who want to keep the Cold War going. As a military threat, Cuba has dropped to the level of Ecuador. "The Cuban air force is completely flat on its ass," McCaffrey told me. "The whole Cuban armed forces have come to a grinding halt."

Nor are they holding up their end on

'The coming visit of the Pope represents a far greater risk to [Castro's] tenure than four decades of CIA sabotage and assassination attempts.'

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Nor are they holding up their end on

'The coming visit of the Pope represents a far greater risk to [Castro's] tenure than four decades of CIA sabotage and assassination attempts.'

human rights violations. Cuba recently agreed on an exchange with Canada to bring judges and other experts in due process to the island. Most important, Castro has accepted the resurrection of the Catholic Church, which now represents the main threat to his power, and the coming visit of the pope portends a far greater risk to his dictatorship than four decades of CIA sabotage and assassination attempts.

The rise of religious freedom in Cuba is particularly embarrassing for U.S. policymakers at a moment when their most favored friends in Beijing once again have chosen to imprison Catholics who represent a tiny percentage of the Chinese population and are no threat whatsoever. Then again, that also could be said of the crushing of the Tibetans, but the Chinese have assuaged our human rights concerns by their profound commitment to the free market. With sweatshops like that, who needs a bill of rights?

We have judged China by a kindlier standard than Cuba ever since Nixon embraced Mao at the height of our war against communism in Vietnam. Otherwise we might be more alarmed about Beijing's development as a sophisticated military power. But much of the advanced technology is being purchased from Russia, and our policymakers regard such military sales as necessary to strengthening the pro-capitalist forces in Moscow. That both Russia and China are supplying arms to Iran is further proof that free market principles are sweeping the world. Even North Korea seems to be eliciting growing approval from the U.S. with what some experts detect as a decidedly free market twitch.

It's just too difficult to keep the Cold War going when Cuba is the sole surviving communist threat. Still there are those Cuban American voters in Florida who can make life miserable for politicians who normalize relations with Castro. That's why Clinton signed the Helms-Burton bill to punish foreign investors rushing into the island; it helped him carry Florida. However, the European community, Japan and Canada are furious over this interference in free trade. As a result, Clinton did a Clinton and has simply put off enforcement of Helms-Burton.

But with Cuba now dotted with fancy joint-venture hotels and our satellite surveillance picking up nothing more threatening than the excess of European sunbathers, it is all too reminiscent of that classic satire, "The Mouse That Roared."

We are being laughed at, which could be the most threatening weapon of all.

Robert Scheer is a Times contributing editor. E-mail: rscheer@aol.com

22/11/97
1/12/97
3/12/97
Send to Donskind?
Yes
No

FRED PHILIP HOCHBERG

February 24, 1997

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Coord w/ VP's
Shirley & Sonny

Dear President Clinton,

I didn't want to allow too much time to pass without writing to congratulate you on the State of the Union address. Both in terms of substance and presentation, you made a compelling case for what you want to accomplish in your second term. I've long been supportive of your point that the business community must take an active role in moving people from welfare to the work force. (Please see the enclosed letter to Bruce Reed, which discusses this issue.) You made that point at the convention, and reiterating it during this address sent the right message to business leaders.

I also wanted to thank you for the value you put on finding a cure to AIDS, with greater emphasis on research and a vaccine. Frequently, when the subject of AIDS is addressed in political discourse, it is listed as just one problem in a long list of woes. Therefore, it was good to see you give this issue the attention and time it requires.

Furthermore, I applaud your pro-education stance, and support the incentives you propose to enhance the quality of young Americans' lives. However, teaching good values and good citizenship does not stop with public school uniforms and access to the internet. One important goal of this nation's educational platform must be to promote ideas of tolerance and diversity for all minority groups, whether they be of ethnic, sexual, or religious nature. On that note, there's one area where I'd like to make a suggestion: you mentioned that Vice President Gore will soon be convening a conference on parenting and schooling. When planning that conference, I would like to suggest that there be an effort to include lesbian and gay parents to better reflect the diversity and reality of parenting in this country. It's important that gay people be seen as fully integrated into the fabric of American life.

Hope this was helpful.

Sincerely,


Fred P. Hochberg

cc: Vice President Al Gore
Rahm Emanuel

Thank you for your
public statement regarding the
bombing in Atlanta - they
were prompt and strong
and needed. - Thank
you

FRED PHILIP HOCHBERG

January 27, 1996

Mr. Bruce Reed
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

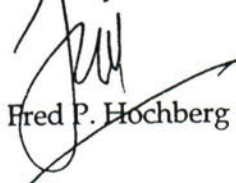
Dear Bruce,

It was good to see you at the luncheon at Ron and Beth Dozoretz's last Saturday. I enjoyed our discussion about how to move people off of welfare and into the job market. As a businessman who was formerly President of Lillian Vernon, I can offer some perspective on how to make this work. The barriers are clearly enormous, but it seems the most likely employment would be in the low-wage, low-skill job area, rather than at the drafting table at Boeing. It's also clear that the right place to put responsibility for this is on the business community. Business leaders can't complain about the growing burden of welfare unless they're willing to put some effort into employing these people.

As I mentioned at lunch, I would certainly like to help with this work in any way. As you know, I'm looking for a position in the Administration. Most recently I have spoken with Bill Daley and the President. I've enclosed the most recent correspondence on this matter to keep you informed.

I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely,



Fred P. Hochberg

The Heyday Company 101 Fifth Avenue, 6th Floor New York, NY 10003
212.367.7200, telephone 212.367.7201, fax

315197

Send to Densland

Y 20

He

Haff sec

410 West Gilmore
Senatobia, MS 38668
February 20, 1997

1997 MAR 5 AM 8:58

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing you this letter because I have heard you say many times that you care about what is happening to America's families. I am a 40 year old victim of Cerebral Palsy, Who had to have 14 surgeries just to be able to function in society.

Mr. Clinton I have been a recipient of Supplemental Social Security Income for the last 23 years. I am currently receiving a check for \$ 69.00. The Social Security Office has stated that they over paid me. I have requested many hearing and have yet to be granted a hearing. I have (3) children and a wife that are some what depending on help from me, even though my wife is a teacher in one of the poverty stricken school districts in Mississippi, which leaves her being home pay less than 2000.00 dollars each month. With all the expenses to be taken from her check, has made it a hardship on us being a family. It is time something be done about the situations families are forced to live in because those who have will never think of how they can help those who are less fortunate.

For as long as I have been a registered voter, I have been hearing politicians saying if elected they will help the senior citizens and the handicapped voters, in my experience with politicians they have only hurt us time and time again. Elected officials have made it impossible for good teachers to effectively do their jobs.

Mr. Clinton in your administration I have heard many people talk about the value of the family. But it seem that instead of focusing on the family its the destruction of the family and all it stands for, you yourself should know the special value the family holds.

My wife has tried many times to get help with her student

loans, they have been sold off to so many different loan companies that it has become difficult to keep up with them, we have asked help from our Senators and Representatives but have found no help. I don't feel its fair to punish the disabled by taking the only money they receive because they get married, and that's what the system does when it takes away much needed money.

Mr. Clinton I don't know whether there is anything you can do but I would be very appreciative to you if you can help us. Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely Yours

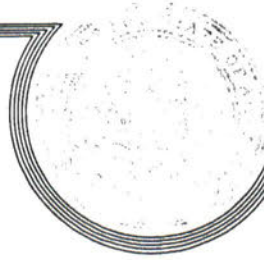
Bobby R. Wayne

Bobby Ray Wayne

ARKANSAS STATE BANK DEPARTMENT

Bill J. Ford
Commissioner

Mike Huckabee
Governor



February 18, 1997

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500-2000

Re: State Banks Exam Fees

97 MAR 5 AM 8:53

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the State Exam Fees Proposal as stated in your FY 1998 Budget. At present, the fee structure for national banks and state chartered banks is the same.

If Congress adopts this proposed new examination fee, state chartered banks will have rising regulatory costs while the rest of the industry's cost are declining. The states have worked hard to keep supervisory costs down.

Mr. President, this proposal is unfair, unnecessary and will damage the state chartered banks and the dual banking system.

Maureen and I did attend the Inauguration and were proud to be part of it. Thanks for your leadership for our country.

God Bless.

Cordially,

Bill J. Ford
Bank Commissioner

BJF:bls

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Send to Denskind

Yes ☒

No ☐

coordinate w/OMB?

Yes ☒

No ☐

February 28, 1997

AN ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROPOSAL FOR NON-VIOLENT OFFENDERS

Cover letter to Ms. Betty Curry

Cover letter to President Clinton

Mission Statement

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3/5/97
Send to Dorskind?
Yes ☒
no

C.

FOCUS ON YOUTH SOCIETY INC.

26B DEBS PLACE
BRONX, NEW YORK 10475

THE REVEREND DR. ADOLPH ROBERTS
PRESIDENT

PHONE 718-671-7848 FAX 718-671-7243

Ms. Betty Curry
Executive Personal Secretary
Office of the President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

February 28, 1997

Dear Ms. Curry:

My attendance at last week's Riverside Church summit on welfare reform with President Clinton, prompts this letter.

Enclosed you will find a proposal offering alternatives to our current judicial system. At the President's request, I'm forwarding this package to your attention with his commitment that he will give this proposal every consideration.

If you require additional documentation or information regarding this proposal, please advise me directly. I appreciate your time and attention to this critical matter. May God bless you.

Sincerely,


The Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts
President and C.E.O.

cc: Congressman Charles Rangle

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THE REVEREND DR. ADOLPH ROBERTS
PRESIDENT

PHONE 718-671-7848 FAX 718-671-7243

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President Of The United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

February 28, 1997

Dear President Clinton:

First, let me say that I was truly honored to shake your hand at The Riverside Church on Tuesday February 19, 1997 and speak to you briefly about our failing prison system.

Secondly, I felt from the tone of your voice, you were listening. When I stated that I had a proposal to submit that would improve the system, you directed my request to your personal Secretary Ms. Betty Curry.

So, let me begin by saying thank you for caring and giving me the opportunity to vent my concern. Attached, is a copy of a plan designed to give some insight on the problems of our penal institutions and some of the possible solutions. However, this is only a outline as to what can and should be done.

I am also asking for a hearing with those who are able to do something about this most urgent and important matter, because everyday more and more people are dying in these so-called correctional facilities, which are no more than cesspools of ignorance and decay.

Moreover, I want you to focus only on the non-violent offenders who are in most cases the victims of their own low-self esteem and need to be given an opportunity to become useful and productive citizens. I emphasize Non-violent, because we cannot and will not condone violence in anyway.

Please, let me know your feelings as it relates to this matter and I can be reached at the above telephone number.

Once again, Thank You for listening and May God continue to Bless you, your family and your service to our country.

Sincerely,


Reverend Dr. Adolph Roberts
President and C.E.O

cc: Congressman Charles Rangle

Mission Statement

Significant portions of the public are currently in a state of heightened anxiety about how we as a society are to approach criminal activity and the overcrowding of prisons in the decade ahead. The combined impact of warehousing non-violent offenders with extensive sentences result in astronomical costs to the public. We know that criminal activity is concentrated in neighborhoods where there are high rates of unemployment, poverty, inadequate educational experiences, homelessness, domestic and youth violence, child abuse, recidivism and general community decay.

We learned from studies that approximately seventy to seventy five percent of the adult prison population in New York State prisons come from seven New York City areas. These are Harlem, Lower Eastside Manhattan, South Bronx, South Jamaica in Queens, Bedford Stuyvesant, Brownsville and East New York in Brooklyn.

Further statistics reveals that sixty percent of those incarcerated adults are non-violent offenders. Continuing research has indicated that many prisoners receive sentences of four and one half years to nine years for a non-violent offense such as selling a \$10.00, vial of crack. Please, be reminded that the law stipulates that a person must be confined for this \$10.00 crime. All of this has caused the prison population to increase in this country; for example in 1974 New York State had 12,500 inmates in 1997 New York State has more than 70,000 inmates in it's system plus, 25,000 more

in City and County Jails. Of the total inmate population, ninety five percent are African American and Hispanic and 75% of those, are non-violent offenders. More importantly the majority of the jails are located in upstate New York, in predominantly white rural areas; which poses the question is this a re-enactment of slavery. Together with this we find that the economy in the rural areas are escalated, hundreds of jobs are created in numerous ways.

Constituents, in the City have raised several questions, for example, why are men required to serve four and one half to nine years for a non-violent crime? Why are so many African American and Hispanics arrested for non-violent crimes? Why is the ethnic staffing patterns in prisons and courts predominantly white, while the prisoners are predominantly African American and Hispanic? Why are prisons located in the rural areas rather than in the City? Why are we not spending more money on education, creating jobs, and vocational training, rather than expanding jails?

To respond to some of these questions I am proposing a three tiered alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

1. Community Supervision for non-violent offenders
2. Half-way Houses for daily supervision of non-violent offenders
3. Prisons with specialized trades for non-violent offenders.

Alternative ways of sentencing Non-Violent Offenders

Currently statistics indicate that seventy percent of the inmates who are released from prison will return to penal institutions. Further studies have revealed that the so-called correctional facilities are incapable of providing the appropriate treatment that will correct behavior and as such could be viewed as institutions which perpetuate illiteracy and apathy.

Should we expanded the existing prisons ? Faced with these indictment of our criminal justice system, critical questions arise. Specifically, should we build more prisons?... The answer is clear: we need to provide alternatives to incarceration: once implemented, we project eliminating the need for additional prison space after only two years.

Historical Perspective

First we must understand how we got into this predicament in the first place. In New York, it officially started with the end of WWII when the returning veterans bought one family homes in suburbia, and thus the exodus began. The schools that once educated integrated classes were now becoming predominantly African and Hispanic Americans. When the move was completed in 1950, the elementary schools in most of the South Bronx contained only a small percentage of Caucasians. More importantly, quality education became the exception, not the rule. That was due to the fact that those left behind were too impoverished to

join the rest. Included in the exodus were the best educators, counselors and administrators, leaving behind those who did, not or could not meet the prerequisite required by the school boards of suburbia. Only the specialized high schools in the more affluent parts of New York City, with a predominantly white population were left. Subsequently, for those who were left behind in the elementary grades the standard of education grew progressively worse.

The Result: A Case Study

A case in point: After receiving honors in mathematics as a ninth grader in junior high school, a young man from a family of eight entered into the tenth grade in a specialized high school and was totally surprised that he couldn't understand the math they were teaching at this advanced level. The basic fundamentals of algebra and geometry were not taught in the ghetto school he attended.

Frustrated and demoralized by his situation, the young man challenged the educational system. He met resistance and stereotyping, landing him eventually in a non-academic matriculating program. His original ambitions to pursue dentistry appeared hopelessly dashed by an uncaring system. Labeled incorrigible and an under achiever, he met the administration's low expectations with rebellious behavior.

He departed high school without fulfilling his degree requirements, and was unleashed on his community with a negative attitude toward authority and all institutions. He

entered the world surrounded by others like himself:
uneducated, debilitated and lacking a positive direction.

He was lucky, he ended up enlisted in the military unlike many of his peers. Arrested for drug possession and numerous other violations, placed in so-called correctional institutions, over 70% became career criminals.

Multiply this case history by forty years of urban decay, the increasing technological demands of entry-level employment, the infiltration of illegal drugs into urban centers and you're viewing the world of the non-violent offender over-populating today's prisons. It was only by the grace of God this young man was not one of those statistics which brings me to the main reason for this proposal.

Current Situation: Recidivism vs. Rehabilitation

It is my understanding that when a person is arrested for a crime against humanity, that person is supposed to be sentence to a correctional institution so that he or she can be rehabilitated. However, as statistics have proven, with the recidivism rate of over seventy percent, it is obvious that these so called correctional institutions are not what they claim to be, but in fact are havens for the teaching of anti-social behavior to perpetuate it's own self interest.

Given the high recidivism rate, and those daily arrested we will need twice as many prisons during the next twenty years to house our inner city African and Latino American youths between the ages of sixteen and twenty four. At this

rate we can be assured that this will eventually lead to the demise of our society as we know it today. I base this theory on the fact that by perpetuating an underclass with little or no skills, that those who are productive will have to ultimately take care of these ineffectuals of society.

Why, many may ask, do they continue to practice this way of life? The answer is, " it's the only life they know." The drug dealer is an equal opportunity employer, plus pays well above the minimum wage.

To illustrate what happens in our courts, picture the following paradigm. John Doe is convicted of a felony for car theft which carries a maximum sentence of up to ten years in the State penitentiary. According to the present court system, Mr. Doe is required to serve his time. In doing so, Mr. Doe is exposed to the more negative behaviors that accentuate his already negative approach to life, all of this at the tax payers expense.

Try, if you can, to put yourself in his place. The average profile of the common criminal is as follows: Black or Hispanic, sixteen to twenty four, high school drop out with no skills, raised by a single parent, and has no meaningful trade or skill that is needed in today's market place. To add to this disastrous profile, he or she is also a convicted felon, and in most cases unemployable, thereby a burden to society. This burden of over a million prisoners is taxing the American public to the tune of over 18 billion dollars annually with no end in sight, and rising at the rate

of over a million dollars a day giving the tax payers no return on their investment.

An Alternative to Long and Meaningless Sentences.

It would seem to me that in order to give these anti-social members of society an incentive either to acquire an education in academia, the trades, or the performing arts, while earning a certificate, a diploma or degree, we must afford them the opportunity to make the choice for themselves. Our courts should have the option to present this as an alternative to mandatory sentencing and non-violent offenders be mandated to participate in an academic, vocational or employment program under the supervision of an appointed community program approved by the court.

The reality of our present situation as it relates to our prison systems substantiate that those incarcerated come out worse than they were when they entered, and in many cases, their next offense will be one of violence. This is due to the fact that we take non-violent men and women and put them in the same situation with those who are violent, thereby creating a volatile situation. In order for the non-violent offender to co-exist he/she must now concentrate on surviving, and in many cases can and will become more violent than those who are known violent offenders due to fear. Therefore, our judicial system must no longer integrate the violent and non-violent offenders in the same circumstances.

As you are aware the majority of those incarcerated do not have a high school diploma and those who have, make up less than twenty percent of the prison population. The fact is that the majority of offenders are not trained to earn a decent living and are, in most instances considered better off in jail.

My plan involve all non-violent offenders in trades and in training programs that will provide marketable skills to enable them to enter the work-force.

For example, In New York a prison located in Albany would specialize in auto-mechanic and auto body repair, while another prison in Buffalo would specialize in electrical maintenance, and while another prison will specialize in computer programming and still another will specialize in other disciplines, etc. Subsequently, the proposed alternative to incarceration combined with up grading existing prisons would allow the judicial system to re-route offenders. After evaluating offenders, the system would appropriate the discipline for which they are best suited. This approach will require a change in the current laws.

The Proposal

I am therefore recommending the following alternative to the present sentencing process of non-violent convicted offenders. Our courts should be given the authority of sentencing our non-violent convicted offenders as follows:

1. Sentence first offenders, to a Community Supervised Center, that provides training leading to marketable skills.

Placement assistance is also provided including, but not limited to, resume/application preparation, conflict resolution, job interview training, and life skills. Once this discipline is acquired and he\she lands a job, he/she should continue to be monitored at home. While, on parole and employed he/she must report semi-weekly to his/her supervisor for drug testing and counseling for the remainder of his/her sentence.

2. Sentence the non-violent offender who as a prior non-violent conviction to a half-way house (work site) where he/she is taught a marketable skill and supervised on a daily basis. Once that trade, degree or marketable skill is earned and he/she is working for a period of two years, and is functioning in a proper manner without incident he/she can be paroled for the remainder of his/her sentence.

3. The non-violent offender who is a multiple offender, should be assigned to a minimum security prison which specializes in trades that are suitable for employment. There he/she is to remain in confinement until he/she has mastered a marketable trade and if he/she is offered a job in the last two years of his/her confinement: then he/she can be released into half-way house (work-site) where he/she can be supervised on a daily basis and tested for drugs.

- * Enact a law that focus on rehabilitation as opposed to simply confinement.
- * Enable the courts to elect this option as an alternative to mandatory sentencing.

However, if there are any infractions of the rules of this program the offender can be returned to confinement in a non-violent minimum security institution.

Quality of Life Issues:

Our non-violent offenders should be housed in an area where family members are able to visit them without getting up at four a.m. in the morning to take a bus for 4-5 hours to see their relatives and once they arrive, after this long ride, are treated like common criminals. Inner City youths should be housed in their community or close by.

As you know, this country was founded by those who had difficulty making it in the old world. Many of them were ex-offenders and many had been accused of anti-social behavior. Yet, given the opportunity they proved that they could make a meaningful contribution to society.

This approach may seem somewhat radical, however, when we look back into our history we find that these present day offenders are the great -great-great grand children of slaves brought here against their will, and who were raped, beaten, abused, lynched, degraded, dehumanized, discriminated against and forced to help build this country to what it is today. Through it all, they never received any reparations for their service. This new and progressive approach to the problem of the career criminal may be America's chance to redeem herself and give these mis-educated and misguided individuals a real chance to make a significant contribution to society by offering offenders viable trades that are needed in order to

re-vitalize the infrastructure of this country. Thus, giving these non-violent offenders a second chance at life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Such trades as auto-mechanics, brick-layers, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, air conditioning and refrigeration technicians, opticians, nurses, sanitation engineers, word processors, computer operators, programmer and technicians, etc. will continue to be in demand well into the 21st Century. These are the trades that are needed to assist in repairing and cleaning up the infrastructure of our cities at a minimal cost to the government.

Cost And Benefits:

Within the City of New York, there are presently six state penal institutions (Parkside, Bayview, Edgecombe, Lincoln, Fulton and Queensboro) that could become work-sites for these trained persons to assist in supporting and refurbishing our community. In addition, if the prison system presently can build modular homes for under twenty thousand dollars, it can also build transitional trade and housing centers to house and educate it's own in areas where there are no established work-sites. I feel this will give these trained offenders a feeling of self pride thus creating a life free from career criminal activities, and placing them back into the working society. Thereby giving to the employers who hire them, skill personnel at a minimum wage, plus the benefit of tax credits. Furthermore, those employers who have augmented the skills of these offenders to

suit their situation, would want to keep them subsequently, offering them better salaries and fringe benefits.

Also, the government can charge the working offender a portion of his/her pay to contribute to the support and upkeep of the offender during his/her supervision and confinement. In addition this type of program will allow these offenders to see their families in a non-threatening environment, thereby making them more acceptable to their children and society when they are released. Since, we have to pay their way, why not do it in a fashion that produces a return on our investment.

Presently, we offer these offenders three square meals a day, a place to live, clothes to wear, television, and telephone privileges, (where he\she can run up his parents or love ones telephone bill) and for those who are married conjugal visits. One would not have to be a rocket scientist to know that without a job it would be rather difficult, or in most cases impossible for a person with the aforementioned profile to duplicate that style of living outside of the present prison system. Therefore, it appears to this writer that the penal system is perpetuating its right to exist by being in control of a great segment of the population which if one would examine closely, could find evidence of self-interest at the expense of others.

Summary:

Therefore, I am presenting the following proposal in hope that it will assist in remedying this volatile situation. Presently, our prisons are such that they are havens for offenders to become violent, vicious and powerful criminals, with little or no regard for human life. This, brought about by the very fact that once an individual commits a felony, society seems to turn its back on them thereby giving them no alternative but to retaliate. Since it is a known fact that "an idle mind is the devil's workshop," both young men and women who have been convicted of a crime and sentenced to prison have been given little or no incentive to take advantage of acquiring an education, trade or skill. They tend to spend their time away listening to better ways to become more effective criminals. Once they have paid their debt to society, they return to a life of crime, only this time they are better prepared and harder to catch, thereby giving them more time to commit more and greater offenses.

As for what happened to the young man who was asked to leave school back in the early 1950's, well, he enlisted in the Army paratroopers during the Korean War, learned to drive heavy vehicles and received an honorable discharge. After, a few temporary jobs he became a City bus driver and worked his way up through the ranks, to become an Administrative Manager of The New York City Transit Authority. He retired in 1985 to become the Pastor of The Mt. Calvary Baptist

Church and President and C.E.O of Focus On Youth Inc.

After reading somewhere that "life begins at 40," at the age of 40, because of his entitlement to the benefits of the G.I. Bill, he returned to school with a General Equivalency Diploma. Subsequently, he acquired an Associate Degree, (Bronx Community College) , Baccalaureate, (College of New Rochelle) Master of Divinity (New Brunswick Theological Seminary and a Doctor's of Ministry (Drew University). I am he, and in my case God gave me a alternative, an education or jail? As you can see I choose the former, because it is never too late to acquire an education. Nor is it ever too late to get right with God, your fellow man and your country.