

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

4-5-97

March 21, 1997

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RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO:

Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Meeting.

DATE:

Saturday, March 22, 1997

Meeting scheduled between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. (Could run as late as 4pm).

If you are unable to call during this time, we will submit another phone call request for you to call Gil Gallegos sometime next week.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Rahm Emanuel
Bruce Reed

PURPOSE:

To demonstrate the President's commitment to law enforcement and to thank the FOP for their continued support -- particularly for their recent support of your juvenile justice proposals.

BACKGROUND:

The FOP State President's and Trustees will be meeting at their bi-annual conference in St. Louis on March 21-22. There are approximately 300 people attending this meeting. At this meeting they will be voting on whether to support the certification of Mexico. They will also be discussing trigger locks, cop-killer bullet legislation and other criminal justice issues. Andy Fois, Director of Legislative Affairs at the Department of Justice, and Joe Brann, Director of the COPS office, will be representing the Administration at this meeting. This would be your first contact with the FOP in your second term. You last met with Gil and the Executive Board in September in the Roosevelt Room and in Columbus, Ohio for their endorsement.

REMARKS:

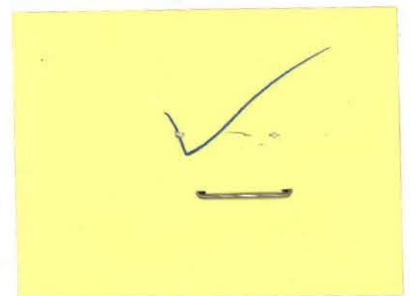
See attached talking points.

CONTACT PERSON:

Jim Pasco, Executive Director (PAGER: 1-800-381-5611)
Gil Gallegos, FOP President

DATE OF SUBMISSION: March 21, 1997

Copied to
COS
Rahm E.
Bruce R.



Phone Call to the Fraternal Order of Police Trustees
Talking Points
March 22, 1997

- I am sorry that I am not able to be with you in St. Louis. But I am glad that we have the opportunity to speak with each other once again. As you know, I am very proud of the relationship we have established over the last four years. And I want to especially thank you for your support of me and my Administration's initiatives. We greatly appreciate it.
- You know that over last four years, we have advanced the cause of law enforcement in so many areas. Working together, we have restored the American people's confidence that crime can indeed be reduced. Last year, violent crime dropped for the fifth year in a row, marking the longest period of decline in 25 years.
- But you know better than anyone that we cannot declare victory. We must continue to move in the right direction by finishing our work to put more police officers on our streets and taking guns, gangs, and drugs off our streets.
- I also want to thank you for your support of our anti-gang and youth violence strategy. I have told Congress this is one of my top priorities and I see no reason why they can't move on this legislation this year. I have also sent to Congress legislation that will ban cop-killer bullets -- there should be no more stalling on this issue. My budget contains funding for 17,000 more officers and the largest drug budget ever. We should achieve all these objectives by the end of the year.
- We also need to continue to ensure that public employees are given the rights and protections that they deserve. As I have said to you before, I strongly believe that the men and women of law enforcement should be afforded adequate and meaningful employment rights. And I want to continue to work with you towards that shared goal.
- I greatly appreciate your strong support for my Administration's initiatives. I look forward to building upon our relationship and continuing to work together with you to reduce crime further in America. God bless you.

Rahm E.
Lanny Davis
Bruce Lindsey
Ann Lewis
COS

April 3, 1997
Submitted to: The Los Angeles Times
By: Bill Press

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
4-5-97

NO MINUTE TO PREP
Cc Rahm / L Davis / BL
Runt

HELPING FRIEND GETS FRIENDS IN TROUBLE

Evil never dies in Washington. Joe McCarthy returned from the grave this week, this time with a new refrain: "Are you now or have you ever been a friend of Webster Hubbell?"

It's character assassination on the Potomac. That's the only fitting word for charges of "hush money" now leveled by Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr at Webb Hubbell and friends. A web of supposed intrigue that reaches all the way from Washington to the Los Angeles Mayor's Office.

Starr's theory - reported as fact by every major newspaper in the nation, including the Los Angeles Times - is that Clinton aides Mack McClarty, Mickey Kantor and Erskine Bowles helped find work for Hubbell, when he resigned as Deputy Attorney General in March 1994, in return for Hubbell's agreement to remain silent and not tell what he knows about Whitewater. Nonsense!

Based on the facts and the chronology, Starr's charge is totally without foundation. First, the chronology.

Yes, McClarty and Bowles both admit to making calls on Hubbell's behalf. Mickey Kantor helped find a job for his son. One call landed Hubbell a consulting contract with the City of Los Angeles. But those solicitations for legal work for Hubbell all occurred in early Spring 1994, months before Hubbell pleaded guilty to defrauding his former Little Rock law partners.

In an interview taped for "60 Minutes" scheduled to air tonight, Hubbell admits he knew even before coming to Washington he had cheated his law partners - and lied to his friends, including the President and First Lady, about it.

But, in March 1994, all anyone knew was that Hubbell was in a dispute with his former law partners over billing records - and had to quit his job at Justice to sort out his problems. No one knew Hubbell would later plead guilty, nor go to prison. It wasn't until late summer 1994 (?) that reports first named Hubbell as subject of a criminal investigation by Special Prosecutor Kenneth Starr.

Now, the facts. McClarty had been Hubbell's friend from Little Rock for over twenty years. Kantor had known Hubbell for over ten years, since trying insurance cases with

JIM DORSKIND:

Please coordinate
the reply.

him. They and other friends knew that Hubbell - with a big mortgage in Washington, three tuition payments and huge legal bills - was out of a job and broke. They did what their mothers taught them to do. They tried to help a friend, even a friend in trouble.

Make no mistake about it. The Webb Hubbell controversy is not about hush money. It's about a failed Whitewater investigation.

For over three years, Kenneth Starr has sought to connect Whitewater illegalities to Bill and Hillary Clinton. He's failed miserably. He's frustrated. He's in a hurry to get to Malibu. He's running out of steam. He can't depend on Jim or Susan McDougal, since nobody believes either one of them. Starr's last, feeble hope to make the Clinton connection is to prove that Hubbell shut up because he was paid off. There's no way he can prove it, because it just didn't happen.

McClarty and Bowles didn't make calls to interfere with a criminal investigation - an investigation that wouldn't even begin until several months later. They made calls to help a friend. It wasn't conspiracy. It was charity.

And that's the real scandal. That friends helping friends should become such a scandal in Washington. Why? Because it's so rare.

Now, full confession.

When my wife and I moved to Washington last Spring and started looking for a place to live, a friend in the Clinton Administration said he knew of a great buy in the Northwest area: a house that belonged to Webb and Susie Hubbell. Since Webb was already in federal prison, his family really needed the money and Susie, we were told, might be willing to lower the price significantly.

We didn't buy the house. Even at a reduced price, it was still too expensive for us. But, full confession: we did consider it. Yes, at the suggestion of a Clinton employee, we did actually contemplate putting money into the Hubbell family pockets. Quick, call Kenneth Starr! Arrest me! I'm part of a global conspiracy - to help a friend!

Bill Press is Co-Host of CNN's "Crossfire".