

Chron



Send to Derskind?

Yes ☒

No ☐

coordinate w/WSC - yes

Per Phil Caplan - This
is a BC Signature.

C. Cleveland

June 16, 1997

Staff Sec.

Lehman Fowler
819 N. Charlyne
Brinkley, AR 72021
870-734-1945

'97 JUN 24 AM8:51

Bill Clinton, President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Clinton,

I have just spent from May 23 to June 9 in Iraq.

I was asked to go with four Iraq born Americans to help sell Iraq American rice on the UN Resolution 986, Oil for Food Program. I believe the trip was successful.

I made presentations to Zahair Drusood, Director of the Iraq Grain Board, Mahammad Mahdi, Minister of Trade, and Trik Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister. All of the meetings were positive with promises to buy American rice on this go round.

Following are a few comments on my observations while in Iraq:

1. Ninety(90) per cent of the people dislike Saddam Hussein but while in Iraq there was no evidence of any hatred. I felt that they accept him as I accept allergies - I just put up with them.
2. The Embargo is not working, because it makes them work harder. I saw large acreage of wheat and more rice than expected. The people of Iraq get six pounds of rice per month per person which is 60% of their needs.
3. Most of the cars are seven to ten years old. They keep them going by junking the older ones. Detroit will have a better market than we rice farmers.
4. The military bases I saw look like junk yards. I don't think they could fight.

5. Trucks of oil are leaving and truck loads of products entering the country - Black Market, I suppose.

We stayed in the El Rasheed Hotel where I met many people from other countries. They thought the embargo had been long enough. The U.S. Government, Department of State, is being blamed for their problems.

Trik Aziz has invited me to bring two rice leaders to a luncheon in New York between June 20 and June 25. Their goal is to get support discouraging the continuation of the embargo for all non military items.

My recommendation is that we do all we can to prevent Military buildup of any amount. I believe that the agricultural and medical supplies embargo should be eliminated.

I would be happy to be debriefed by a designated government employee.

When possible, I need a fifteen minute visit with you. I believe it would make the sale of rice go easier.

With kindest regards,


Lehman Fowler

*I believe that you are the
Most effective President that
we have had.*



Specialty Rice Marketing, Inc.

Growers and Processors of Della® Gourmet Rice

P. O. Box 880

Brinkley, Arkansas 72021



Della® is a Registered Trademark of Specialty Rice Marketing, Inc.

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D.C. 20500



DR. MARIA "CUCA" ROBLEDO MONTECEL
Executive Director

June 20, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

'97 JUN 23 AM 11:55

6/28/97

Dear President Clinton:

The U.S. Department of Education is in reading for fourth graders and math test will be developed in both 1 fourth grade reading test in English Research Association (IDRA), an in every child to a quality education, I.

Spanish-speaking students who are more than 3 million limited-English rapidly - particularly in certain areas.

that the program is not really national. A significant number of children across the country would not be represented in the test results.

Testing limited-English-proficient children through an English-language test penalizes those children. Although they may be reading at grade level in their home language, the test results will not show their achievement. Furthermore, the affects could be detrimental to children if the results are used to determine school grades, retention or assignment to special programs.

The 1994 reauthorization of the ESEA brought about significant improvements that incorporated years of research findings on what constitutes best teaching practices and supports the educational development of children. For language-minority children, the redesigned educational programs acknowledge the U.S. Department of Education's perspective of the importance of developing competencies in the child's native language. For many limited-English-proficient students, fourth grade is still primarily a Spanish-language reading grade.

At a time in which increasing numbers of schools are making improvements to their instructional programs for language-minority students, the lack of a national test in Spanish will send a confusing message to state agency and local district educators. Title I of the ESEA, in particular, requires that states develop assessments for their students who cannot be appropriately tested in English. Your initiative for national testing should remain consistent with the laws that govern public schools.

In addition to including limited-English-proficient children in this testing initiative, we should ensure that parents are provided meaningful information in a language and format that they understand so

Send to Donskind

Yes ☒

No ☐

Coordinates with Mike Cohen

Yes ☒

No ☐

C



DR. MARIA "CUCA" ROBLEDO MONTECEL
Executive Director

June 20, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States of America
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

'97 JUN 23 AM 11:55

Dear President Clinton:

The U.S. Department of Education is working to implement your initiative to develop a national test in reading for fourth graders and math for eighth graders. I understand that while the eighth grade math test will be developed in both English and Spanish, the department is planning to develop the fourth grade reading test in English only. As executive director of the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA), an independent, non-profit organization that advocates the right of every child to a quality education, I am deeply concerned about this.

Spanish-speaking students who are limited-English-proficient need to be tested in Spanish. There are more than 3 million limited-English-proficient students in the country, and that number is growing rapidly – particularly in certain areas. Excluding them from your national testing program would mean that the program is not really national. A significant number of children across the country would not be represented in the test results.

Testing limited-English-proficient children through an English-language test penalizes those children. Although they may be reading at grade level in their home language, the test results will not show their achievement. Furthermore, the affects could be detrimental to children if the results are used to determine school grades, retention or assignment to special programs.

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At a time in which increasing numbers of schools are making improvements to their instructional programs for language-minority students, the lack of a national test in Spanish will send a confusing message to state agency and local district educators. Title I of the ESEA, in particular, *requires* that states develop assessments for their students who cannot be appropriately tested in English. Your initiative for national testing should remain consistent with the laws that govern public schools.

In addition to including limited-English-proficient children in this testing initiative, we should ensure that parents are provided meaningful information in a language and format that they understand so

they can hold schools accountable for the education of their children. Other national leaders on the whole agree that students should be tested in the appropriate language. This includes the Council of Chief State School Officers that specifically proposed: "Educators should develop tests and assessments in non-English languages to test a student's understanding of content in his or her native language... Without native, non-English language testing or assessment in content areas, it is difficult to determine the extent of content knowledge of children with limited English proficiency."

The U.S. Department of Education has laid a firm foundation to promote high standards for all children. It must now ensure that as it embarks on new initiatives, they remain consistent with statutes and policies that advocate the meaningful inclusion of limited-English-proficient children, including their participation in national assessment programs.

- The current initiative perpetuates the educational marginalization of a sizable portion of students and parents, most of them Hispanic.
- The national test in reading is at best an English proficiency test and at worst a separate and unequal reading test that discriminates based on language and national origin.
- Official documents reflect minimal analyses and regard for the educational needs of language-minority students.

It is entirely feasible to create a national fourth grade reading test in Spanish. We also have the ability to administer such an exam so that limited-English-proficient children are held to the same high standards expected of English-proficient children.

Concerns regarding limited time available should not preclude commitment of a Spanish-language measure by the year 2000. This commitment should not only include the department's intent but also should specify a time line for completion and procedures for integration of the results in the national data collection and reporting systems.

At IDRA, we are working to create schools that work for all children, families and communities. Help us make this goal a reality for every child; we simply cannot afford the alternatives. I thank the U.S. Department of Education for its work in assuring excellent education for all students.

Sincerely,



María "Cuca" Robledo Montecel, Ph.D.
Executive Director

cc: Richard Riley, Secretary of Education
Ramon Cortines, Acting Assistant Secretary
Mike Cohen, Domestic Policy Council

IDRA is an independent, non-profit organization that advocates the right of every child to a quality education. For more than 20 years, IDRA has worked for excellence and equity in education in Texas and across the United States. IDRA conducts research and development activities, creates, implements and administers innovative education programs and provides teacher, administrator, and parent training and technical assistance.



Staff Sec

Frank Arnold
County Judge
Sharp County
Ash Flat, Arkansas 72513
(501) 994-7338

Shelia Titus
Administrative
Assistant

6/16/97

'97 JUN 24 AM 8:51

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear President Clinton:

Enclosed is a letter from Berit Bjork, who is residing in Sherwood, AR.

Berit has applied for her green card and has been working toward receiving it for the last ten years. The application has already been approved by the Labor Department and her A# is 74-653-685; however she has yet to receive the green card.

On behalf of Berit, could you please help her with her endeavor to obtain a green card.

Any help you could give Berit will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Frank Arnold
Frank Arnold
Sharp County Judge

FA/st
c/files

6/24/97
Send to Denskind?

Yes ☒
No ☐

*Agency
Unison C.*

Sherwood, AR 6-12-97

Re: Berit Bjork's Green Card status.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Berit Bjork and I am a Swedish Citizen. I was recruited in 1983 to come to Little Rock and UALR to play tennis on a Scholarship. I played tennis for four years and won a total of nine NAIA National Championships for UALR and Arkansas. I am proud of being an All American and a recipient of many awards. I graduated from UALR with a B.S. degree in Physical Education in 1988.

After UALR and tennis, I decided to try to become an Occupational Therapist. I continued to study pre-requisite classes at UALR and taught Tennis to adults and children at Little Rock Racquet Club for a few years. In 1992, I got accepted to Occupational Therapy School in Conway, AR. In 1994 I graduated with a B.S. degree in O.T. and a 3.3 GPA.

I have since then worked as an O.T. at JRMC in Pine Bluff and for the last year and a half I have worked at Rebsamen Rehabilitation in Jacksonville, AR. I have a H1-B Visa for temporary employment.

I have been working toward receiving a Green Card for the last ten years. My application for Adjustment of Status was taken in person to INS in Memphis on 9-27-96. The application has already been approved by the Labor Department and my A# is 74-653-685.

I sent new fingerprints in November of 1996 but have had no communication from INS since. I have learned that new legislation is in progress and that all Adjustment of Status applications for Green Cards are on hold until an English Proficiency Exam is implemented. I am not a foreign-educated Health-Care worker and I hope that this legislation will not affect my application.

After numerous letters and phone-calls to INS in Memphis with no response, I would greatly appreciate any help with this matter.

Sincerely, Berit Bjork



127 Jessica Lane
Sherwood, AR 72120
H 501-833-8535
W 501-985-7393



Frank Arnold
County Judge
Sharp County
Ash Flat, Arkansas 72513

RECEIVED

JUN 20 10:13

WHITE HOUSE MAIL
ROOM 5000



The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20500-2000

20500-2000



PAUL WILLIAM CAIN
POST OFFICE BOX 7807
SHAWNEE MISSION, KANSAS 66207

97 JUN 24 4:30

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to ask for your help, and to commend to you David and Lin Saunders. Earlier this year, they and their family moved from England to Kansas City, to help me establish a new Prophetic Training Center called "Shiloh".

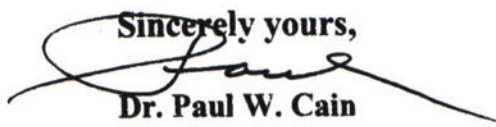
David and his wife Lin, have ministered in the Church of England for nearly 20 years. His last post was as Senior Pastor to the historic, prestigious St. Andrew's in the West of England where, amongst other responsibilities, David trained Associate Pastors, appointed Pastors to new positions, and in recent years has traveled widely encouraging spiritual growth and development in Europe and further afield. He has become a good friend to churches of many traditions within the United States. He and I have been friends for some little while and, together with the church staff here in Kansas City, we unanimously think that these two dear folk are both eminently qualified, and called by God to direct and lead this new ministry.

As I am sure you are well aware, obtaining immigration documentation can be extremely difficult, and although David and Lin have impeccable references and history in the UK, he was only given a 3 year temporary visa. Lin and the family, on the other hand, have dependent's visas and cannot work, either with David or in any other capacity; obtain Social Security cards; or indeed become integrated into our way of life which they long to do. Their commitment to this vision is long term. They have literally sold everything to come here. They have a little money, sufficient to buy a house outright; they have three lovely daughters one of whom has just married a US citizen. There is no way that this family would be a drain on our Country's resources, but an asset as we pray and work for revival in our land.

They have been informed that to obtain a Green Card will cost them about \$5,000 in legal fees, a considerable amount of time, and of course the possibility that the Green Card will not be granted at the end of it anyway.

I would regard it as the most gracious privilege if you would exercise your authority and grant David and Lin Saunders a Green Card in order that they may continue to help me in this important ministry.

Sincerely yours,


Dr. Paul W. Cain
June 29, 1997

Send to Donsknid?

Yes ☒

No ☐

6124197

Agency
Liaison