

MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD
1ST DISTRICT
SOUTH CAROLINA



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FAX COVER PAGE
From 202/225-3407

Date: Jan. 26, 1998
To: Mr. Erskine Bowles
202/456-2883
From: ☐ Greg Engeman ☐ David John
☐ Scott English ☐ Eaddy Roe
☒ Jessica Gonzales ☐ Holly Swanson
☐ Mary Green ☐
☐ Paige Henin ☐

Number of pages (including cover sheet) 3

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MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD
1ST DISTRICT
SOUTH CAROLINA

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4001

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
JOINT ECONOMIC

January 26, 1998

Mr. Erskine Bowles
Chief of Staff
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Bowles:

I just wanted to make you aware of an eighth grade student who will be arriving tomorrow from my Congressional District to attend the State of the Union Address. Jennifer Duncan won a community service essay contest and was awarded a trip to Washington to be my guest tomorrow evening.

I am aware that the President is currently focusing on after school programs and will probably mention these initiatives tomorrow evening, so I thought he may find Jennifer's story of interest. In her winning essay, she talks about helping students after school with their homework and working to keep the neighborhood clean.

Jennifer sets a fine example of young people taking a leadership role to do good in their community. If the President is interested in recognizing her in his address or would like to meet her during her 2 day visit in Washington, please contact me or Jessica Gonzales, who is handling her visit, for more information.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark Sanford
U.S. Representative

MS/jag

01/28/98

Phil Caplan
let's send her
a POTUS letter.
What do you think?
Jmat

Den Burkhardt
for nice reply
Phil

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MARSHALL "MARK" SANFORD
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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4001

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
JOINT ECONOMIC

MEMO

To: Mr. Erskine Bowles
From: Jessica Gonzales
Date: Jan. 26, 1998
Re: State of the Union Address Human Interest Story

- Whether it's building houses for the homeless or delivering food to senior citizens, volunteers provide a valuable service to our community. Most folks would like to help, but cannot commit a lot of time to such noble deeds.
- As 8th grade community service essay winner Jennifer Duncan will tell you, serving the community does not have to take a lot of time or effort.
- Jennifer will attend the President's State of the Union Address on January 27 as the guest of Cong. Mark Sanford (R-SC). Her essay titled *How I Help My Community* was selected among Charleston and Myrtle Beach area 8th graders, as part of the Congressman's essay contest. This will be the first time anyone in her family has had the opportunity to visit Washington.
- Jennifer's winning essay details how she tries to make a difference in her neighborhood by helping younger children with their homework or simply picking up trash. In her piece she challenges others to join her no matter how small the effort: "I think if everyone did something to benefit their community, it would be a cleaner and better place to raise a family."
- Jennifer attends Birney Middle School in N. Charleston, S.C. Her father works two jobs (as a cook and an evening security guard), and her mother was recently laid off from a manufacturing plant.
- Cong. Sanford hopes to make Jennifer's first trip to Washington a most memorable experience. In addition to the State of the Union Address, highlights of her 2 day visit include a tour of the White House and the Capitol and a meeting with Senator Strom Thurmond.

If you would like more information about Jennifer's visit, please call me at 202-225-3176. Thanks!

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Divine Infant School
1640 Newcastle Avenue
Westchester, Illinois 60154

*Good
Zu*

'98 JAN 28 AM 7:39

January 20, 1998

President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear President Clinton:

The Divine Infant Class of 1998 Memory Book Committee is in the process of compiling written and photographic recollections which will become part of the book presented to the graduates in May. Divine Infant is a Chicago Archdiocese Elementary School located in the western suburbs.

The committee realizes that many demands are made on your valuable time, however, if a few words of encouragement would be possible, we would be very grateful. Your comments may be sent to my attention at the above address. We anticipate a printing deadline of approximately April 30.

On behalf of the Divine Infant Class of 1998, I thank you for every effort you are able to make.

Sincerely,

Colleen Hayes

Colleen Hayes
Memory Book Committee
Divine Infant School, Class of 1998
Westchester, IL 60154

Send to Burkhardt

Yes ☒
No ☐

1/28/98

C.

D Divine Infant School
1640 Newcastle Avenue
Westchester, Illinois 60154



President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500-2000



Nuclear Age Peace Foundation

January 8, 1998

Frank K. Kelly
Senior Vice President

✓
✓
JP 2/8/88
p 2/8/88

18 JAN 28 AM 7:39

Dear President Clinton —

Thanks very much for your letter of December 29, expressing your willingness to read my book about Harry Truman and the Human Family. I'm sending you a copy under separate cover.

I'm dedicating the book to you, because you have many of the qualities that made Truman such a fine person. You have a fundamental kindness that shows in your gentle responses to the needs of people.

I've never met you, but I've heard about your wonderful qualities from Walter Capps, Barney Rapoport, and others who do know you.

Thanks again for the devoted service you are giving to the people of this country and to the whole human family.

Cordially,
Frank Kelly

P.S. — I'm enclosing a copy of my article about "Long-Range Thinking" and a copy of a letter sent to me about it by B. Rapoport.

1/28/98

Send to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

LONG-RANGE THINKING IN THE INFORMATION AGE

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
by Frank K. Kelly



The new information technologies available to people all over the world are producing rapid changes in international relations and presenting new possibilities for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts — and new institutions must be developed to cope with these challenges. The need for long-range thinking is greater than ever, but few leaders are prepared for what is coming over the horizon.

Those points were made by speakers at a conference on **Virtual Diplomacy** sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace in Washington D.C. in April 1997. Richard Solomon, president of the Institute, said the meeting had been designed "to catalyze new thinking about the way new technologies are changing the character of the international system."

Because the new technologies deliver information rapidly, provide easy access to it, and enable quick responses, they have opened ways for greater participation by all members of organizations in developing new policies. They have increasingly compelled leaders to take many factors into account in making decisions. The power to affect public opinion on many issues has been distributed widely, lessening the ability of people on top levels to operate on a hierarchical basis.

Walter Wriston, former chairman of Citicorp and author of *The Twilight of Sovereignty: How the Information Revolution is Transforming our World*, declared that the revolution in communications had given people everywhere an awareness of what was going on and had awakened millions of human beings to their ability to have an impact on shaping the future.

"Instead of merely invalidating George Orwell's vision of 'Big Brother' watching the citizen, information technology has allowed the reverse to happen," Wriston said. "The average citizen is able to watch Big Brother. Individuals anywhere in the world with a computer and modem can access thousands of databases internationally. And these individuals, who communicate with each other electronically regardless of race, gender, or color, are spreading the spirit of personal expression

— of freedom — to the four corners of the Earth."

Wriston asserted that millions of people are now living in what can be called "a global village" and "the implications of this global conversation are enormous."

In this global village, we must encourage people everywhere to engage in long-range thinking and to share their ideas on the widest possible scale. I believe that Centers for Long-Range Thinking should be established in every country. Such Centers could gather the ideas being transmitted electronically by people around the earth — and bring the best ideas to bear upon the ways to create the new organizations needed for the coming century.

An example of what can be done in this field is the UN's Department of Humanitarian Affairs which provides extensive and reliable information to a broad range of humanitarian relief workers around the world, to help them respond to unfolding crises and to coordinate their efforts. The Relief Web, an Internet web site, is now accessed by 10,000 persons daily. It provides daily updates on disasters and consolidates information from a wide variety of sources. The availability of this information helps agencies and governments respond to urgent needs. The Relief Web is an example of what can emerge from long-range thinking. Such thinking can be applied to all of the problems facing the world community in the coming century.

The late Captain Jacques Cousteau once proposed that each nation should place in its Constitution provisions to protect the rights of coming generations. Those rights must include freedom from nuclear threats; freedom to have access to the knowledge required to develop solutions to global dangers to the environment; and freedom to enable people to work together for justice and peace everywhere.

The communication channels which have developed in the Information Age can be used by the Centers for Long-Range Thinking to bring everyone into the global conversation on the best ways to create a productive and joyful life for everyone.

"In this global village, we must encourage people everywhere to engage in long-range thinking and to share their ideas on the widest possible scale. I believe that Centers for Long-Range Thinking should be established in every country."

Frank Kelly is senior vice-president of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

"We Owe An Allegiance To Humanity"

This interview was held with Joseph Rotblat, the 1995 Nobel Peace Laureate, when he visited Santa Barbara to receive the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's 1997 Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Peace Leadership. Professor Rotblat was interviewed on October 29, 1997 by Foundation President David Krieger.



Photo by Rick Carter

An Interview with Joseph Rotblat

Joseph Rotblat, a Manhattan Project scientist, was Professor of Physics at the University of London at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College and the hospital's Chief Physicist from 1950 to 1976. In 1955 Rotblat was one of the 11 signatories of the Russell-Einstein Manifesto. The manifesto invited scientists from around the world to ward off the danger of nuclear weapons being used again. In 1957 he founded the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. He served as its president until 1997. In 1995, fifty years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Joseph Rotblat and Pugwash received the Nobel Prize for Peace. He is the author of over 300 publications.

Krieger: Having worked for more than 50 years for the elimination of nuclear weapons, how would you assess the progress that's been made toward achieving a nuclear weapons free world?

Rotblat: I believe that we have made significant progress. Perhaps hopes were a bit too optimistic that, with the end of the Cold War, very quickly we could get rid of all nuclear weapons because their purpose, if there was any purpose, certainly ceased to exist. We hoped that particularly the United States would then take drastic steps to get rid of the weapons. Steps have been taken, a certain amount of the dismantlement of weapons has taken place with a number of treaties, stopping testing, etc. But I am disappointed that the progress is not greater, particularly that the nuclear powers still stick to the same way of thinking as they did during the Cold War — that nuclear weapons are needed for security. As long as this thinking exists there is not much hope that there will be an agreement by the nuclear powers to get rid of the weapons. I believe, however, that we're gradually winning the logical argument against the retention of nuclear weapons. What is needed at the present is a push from the mass media and from mass movements to support the suggestions made in a number of recent studies. I believe that if this is done and specific ideas put forward which could easily be implemented, it will start the process of elimination of nuclear weapons which could be achieved in about two decades.

Krieger: What do you think is needed to achieve the sort of mass movement for abolition that you are calling for?

Rotblat: I think two things — a positive and a negative. The negative one is to point out that the problem with nuclear weapons has not been solved — that the progress which started the world toward disarmament has come to a halt. There is now a real danger that the nuclear arms race will start again and more nations will acquire nuclear weapons. People must realize that the nuclear issue should be put on the agenda because of the real threat that we will go back to the dangers that existed during the Cold War. People should be aware there is a danger

And then, following out of this, we must put forth specific proposals which will start the whole disarmament process over again. In my opinion, among several proposals like de-alerting of nuclear weapons, separating warheads from the missiles, all of which will make the world safer, we also need something which will enable us to go ahead to the actual elimination of nuclear weapons. One such step is a No First Use Treaty, providing that the nuclear weapons states will agree among themselves that the only purpose of nuclear weapons is to deter a nuclear attack and nothing else. Once they've agreed to this, if they agree to such a treaty, then I see the way directly open to the final step to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Krieger: What will have to happen for the nuclear weapons states to take such a significant step?

Rotblat: They will have to be pushed towards it. And I said there are two things. One is to present the logical argument which is really unassailable. There's no need for nuclear weapons today. It's been shown that the world can live in better safety



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BERNARD RAPOPORT
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer

Copy to President Clinton

December 4, 1997

Mr. Frank Kelly
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
1187 Coast Village Road
Suite 123
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2794

... I really enjoyed your essay on long-range thinking, Frank. You always were a great thinker. You are really one of the most wonderful people I have ever known. I want a copy of everything you write because I enjoy reading what you write because I appreciate so much the way in which you think.

I miss the Center.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Rapoport

BR pn



Frank Kelly
Age Peace Foundation
21st Village Road, Suite 123
Irvine, California 93108-2794

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President Bill Clinton
% Ms. Betty Curry
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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Department of History

January 19, 1998

98 JAN 28 AM 7:38

President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton,

I am writing to you to express my deepest concern regarding the sentencing of protesters at Fort Benning, Georgia last November who were seeking to draw public attention to the U.S. School of the Americas. While the majority of those arrested were immediately released, certain offenders charged with defacing of government property -- changing the sign to the entrance of the military compound -- now face maximum sentences of up to 15 year imprisonment simply for protesting with their consciences. Trial date is set for March 2 in the 11th District Federal Court in Columbus.

While it has been faithfully argued by the U.S. Government that the School of the Americas cannot be held accountable for what trainees do upon returning to their countries of origin in Latin America, the direct evidence linking such trainees with flagrant human rights violations is far too compelling to overlook. Most recently, this applies to U.S.-trained Mexican military officials leading the campaign against the Zapatistas in Chiapas. These counter-insurgency strategies taught by the School of the Americas represent an out-dated approach to resolving problems linked more with underdevelopment than communist-inspired subversion in Latin America. U.S. sponsorship of such training is not only counterproductive, it also severely tarnishes U.S. moral credibility throughout the Americas and elsewhere.

I urge you to please support Joseph Kennedy's HR 611 effort to close down the School of the Americas. Furthermore, I hope you will use your good office to prevent a mishap of justice in allowing conscientious objectors to be sentenced to unwarranted jail terms simply for protesting this past November at Fort Benning.

Thank you very much for your interest.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric Zolov
Visiting Assistant Professor
Latin American History

Intercultural Center 601
Box 571035
Washington DC 20057-1035



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

*Department of History
Intercultural Center 601
Box 571035
Washington DC 20557-1035*

E. Zolov



President William Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500



Joshi, M. Kay

From: Boone, Sherman G.
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 1998 3:22 PM
To: @EXECSEC - Executive Secretary
Cc: @INTECON - Economic Affairs
Subject: Package # 8622 - Presidential Determination [UNCLASSIFIED]

Importance: High

I understand that package # 8622 has been with the President since early yesterday morning for signature. Although this may well occur in due course, it is extremely important that we ensure that this now routine determination be executed as expeditiously as possible.

The Treasury Department needs to send letters of credit to the various multilateral development banks in accordance with replenishment (funding) agreements between the U.S. and these banks. Treasury needs two days to process and deliver these letters of credit after the waiver is signed; the letters of credit cannot be sent without the pending Presidential waiver. If the letters of credit are not received by the Inter-American Development Bank (D.C.) and the Asian Development Bank (Manila) by Friday, January 30, the banks are required to notify other shareholding countries which then have the right to stop their payments. U.S. voting power in these institutions could be adversely affected and the banks' financial operations could be endangered by an embarrassing delay.

Whatever steps you can take to get this package signed and moving back to State/Treasury would alleviate these real concerns.

Don/Glyn/Ed -
This is the sort of thing that
drives me crazy. The President has had
no signing / office time this week, which is when
we would normally do these sort of fairly routine things. I fully
intended to send it to him tomorrow / his first office time of tomorrow. Now I'm given this urgent e-mail
implying that the whole banking system will collapse if this isn't done by
today (I'm being only a little sarcastic here). If I was informed of the urgency
of this or the front end, I wouldn't easily been able to get the President
to focus on it, just as I did the Drag memo executed on the President's behalf and
then inform him after the fact. I'd prefer to handle these things
differently in the future.

Phil Caglin
1/28

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 26, 1998

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: THE EXECUTIVE CLERK *[Handwritten signature]*

'98 JAN 26 AM 9:48

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER *(K) For*
GENE SPERLING *RH for*
DANIEL K. TARULLO *DK*
JOHN HILLEY *John Hilley*SUBJECT: Presidential Determination Authorizing Payments to
International Financial Institutions and
International OrganizationsPurpose

To sign a certification that waives the restriction in Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998.

Background

Section 523 prohibits the obligation of appropriated funds to finance indirectly any assistance to Cuba, Iraq, Libya, Iran, Syria, North Korea or the People's Republic of China unless you certify that withholding such funds is not in the national interest. Section 523 applies to assistance provided through international financial institutions and other international organizations. Certifications to waive Section 523 have been made for fiscal years 1987 through 1997.

Authorizing the waiver allows the United States to continue assistance to international financial institutions and international organizations that might otherwise be withheld because certain countries might receive indirect assistance. The State Department recommends that you certify again this year so that the United States can proceed to meet its commitments to international financial institutions and provide voluntary contributions to programs such as United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Presidential Determination at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A	Presidential Determination
Tab B	Incoming Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 28, 1998

Presidential Determination
No. 98-12

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Determination Pursuant to Section 523 of the
Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and
Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998
(Public Law 105-118)

Pursuant to section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105-118), I hereby certify that withholding from international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to that Act is contrary to the national interest of the United States.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the Federal Register.

William J. Clinton

8622

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 24, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Strobe Talbott, Acting (ST)

SUBJECT: Presidential Certification Required to Authorize
Payments to International Financial Institutions and
International Organizations and ProgramsESSENTIAL FACTORS

Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (as enacted in P.L. 105-118) prohibits the obligation of appropriated funds to finance indirectly any assistance or reparations to Cuba, Iraq, Libya, Iran, Syria, North Korea, or the People's Republic of China unless you certify that withholding such funds is contrary to the national interest. Section 523 affects assistance provided through international financial institutions (IFIs) and other international organizations and programs.

Such certifications were made for FY 1987 (the first year such a statutory provision was in force) through FY 1997. The exact amounts of any indirect U.S. assistance that might reach the above-mentioned countries through international financial institutions or other international organizations and programs in FY 1998, should you choose to provide certification under Section 523, cannot be determined in advance. A very small percentage of funds appropriated under the FY 1997 Act was contributed to entities that provided assistance to Syria, China, and North Korea.

Implementation of Section 523 would seriously interfere with U.S. involvement in and support of international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs. If you do not make the required certification, the United States will not be able to obligate funds for contributions to international financial institutions without an "earmark" conditioning their use to other than the listed countries. International financial institutions and other international organizations and programs generally have determined that the acceptance of contributions subject to conditions is contrary to their charters and that such conditions would cause serious problems to their programs and program implementation.

DEC 29 7:03

Absent your certification, Section 523 would prevent payments to international financial institutions under commitments that the United States undertook in good faith after close consultation with Congress. A failure to meet U.S. commitments to international financial institutions could lead to reduced contributions by others who are concerned with equitable burden-sharing. It also could undermine the position of multilateral development banks in the international credit markets where the banks raise capital. Thus, the financial viability of such international financial institutions could be placed in jeopardy, an especially undesirable event in light of our efforts to garner IFI support for Asian and other financial markets.

The provision also applies to U.S. voluntary contributions to various international organizations and programs that provide assistance to listed countries. For example, during FY 1998, U.S. voluntary contributions will fund UN activities including programs such as the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Contributions to these and other multilateral programs are a powerful and effective means of serving U.S. foreign policy objectives, such as promoting and maintaining peace, strengthening democratic institutions and fostering economic prosperity and sustainable development. These organizations will provide limited assistance to some of the listed countries in FY 1998.

Moreover, programs of international financial institutions and other affected international organizations primarily assist countries we believe are important to the conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Some of these countries receive little or no bilateral assistance. It is unsound policy, and contrary to the national interest, to hold programs for friendly and deserving countries hostage to the limited amount of indirect assistance that may reach the countries listed in Section 523.

RECOMMENDATION

That you certify, as was done in FY 1987 through FY 1997, that withholding funds from international financial institutions and international organizations and programs pursuant to the limitation in Section 523 of the Act is contrary to the national interest. A draft certification is attached at Tab 1. The justification that we will provide to Congress in support of this certification is attached at Tab 2.

Attachments:

- Tab 1 - Draft Certification
- Tab 2 - Justification

Presidential Determination No.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Determination Pursuant to Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (as enacted in P.L. 105-118)

Pursuant to Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (as enacted in P.L. 105-118), I hereby certify that withholding from international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to that Act is contrary to the national interest.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the Federal Register.

William J. Clinton

The White House

JUSTIFICATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION
CERTIFYING THAT APPLICATION OF THE INDIRECT
FINANCING LIMITATION CONTAINED IN SECTION 523
OF THE FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING,
AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998,
AS ENACTED IN PUBLIC LAW 105-118, IS CONTRARY
TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES

Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1998 (as enacted in P.L. 105-118), prohibits the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to that Act to finance indirectly any assistance or reparations to Cuba, Iraq, Libya, Iran, Syria, North Korea, or the People's Republic of China. The statute provides, however, that funds may be made available if the President certifies that the withholding of funds pursuant thereto is contrary to the national interest.

If implemented, the prohibitions set forth in Section 523 would do serious harm to international institutions in which the United States has significant financial and foreign policy interests. The limitation would effectively prevent payment of U.S. contributions to these institutions, since most such institutions have determined that they cannot accept the conditioned payments that Section 523 would otherwise require.

Implementation of the Section 523 prohibitions would cause sharp reductions in important programs of international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs because of the elimination of a U.S. contribution. These programs provide assistance to many deserving countries and promote ideals supported by the United States, such as promoting and maintaining peace, strengthening democratic institutions and fostering economic prosperity and sustainable development. It could impair our ongoing efforts to have these organizations play a strong role in encouraging the adoption of market-oriented economic policies in developing countries. It is unsound policy, and contrary to the national interest, to hold programs for friendly and deserving countries hostage to the limited amount of indirect assistance that may reach the countries listed in Section 523. In addition, the elimination of a U.S. contribution could lead to reduced payments by other nations concerned about equitable burdensharing. The United States undertook to make such contributions in negotiations with other members of the international financial institutions, following close consultation with Congress.

For the foregoing reasons, withholding of funds to affected international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs would be contrary to the national interest of the United States.

NOW Hiring! If You're Young

By Norman Matloff

DAVIS, Calif.

Readers of recent reports about a shortage of computer programmers would be baffled if they also knew that Microsoft hires only 2 percent of its applicants for software positions. Even among those applicants whom Microsoft invites to its headquarters for interviews, according to David Pritchard, the director of recruiting, the company makes offers to only one in four.

You don't have to be a "techie" to see that such a low ratio, typical for the industry, contradicts the claims of a software labor shortage. If companies were that desperate, they simply could not be so picky.

The real story here is more profound: the rampant age discrimination in the industry. High-tech companies save money by shunning most midcareer programmers and focusing their hiring on new or recent college graduates, who are cheaper and can work lots of overtime.

As a result, careers in the programming field tend to be short-lived. According to a survey conducted by the National Science Foundation and the Census Bureau, six years after finishing college, 57 percent of computer science graduates are working as programmers; at 15 years the figure drops to 34 percent, and at 20 years — when most are still only in their early 40's — it is down to 19 percent. In contrast, the figures for civil engineering are 61 percent, 52 percent and 52 percent. As one industry executive stated a few years ago at a stockholders' meeting when asked about corporate downsizing, "The half-life of an engineer, software or hardware, is only a few years."

Those claiming a software labor shortage point to low unemployment rates, but such data have little relevance.

Norman Matloff is a professor of computer science at the University of California at Davis.



vance. A programmer who becomes, say, an insurance agent after failing to find programming work counts in the statistics as an employed insurance seller, not an unemployed software worker.

Nor do salary trends indicate a shortage. The average increase in wages for programmers in the past year was only 7 percent — and that figure is skewed upward by the lucky few with hot new software skills who command higher pay.

Employers justify shunting aside midcareer programmers on the ground that they lack skills in the latest software languages. Yet even if a programmer takes a course in, say, the new Java language, employers will still tend not hire him or her for a Java project. "Taking a course is just not going to work for a senior

Age discrimination in the computer industry.

person, given his salary," said Maryann Rousseau, an employment agent. Why hire a retrained but more expensive 40-year-old when a cheaper new graduate is available?

And the skills issue is a red herring; any competent programmer, if given a chance to learn on the job, can become productive in a new software technology within a few weeks.

Nevertheless, the Information Technology Association of America,

an industry trade group, is asking the Federal Government for financing to increase the number of students enrolled as computer science majors. The trade group also wants an increased quota of temporary work visas for foreign programmers, in spite of a Labor Department finding that abuse in the program like paying foreign workers lower salaries, is rampant. From 1990 to 1996, employer applications for visa for foreign programmers mushroomed by 300 percent, even though software jobs increased by only 4 percent in this period.

College computer science enrollments exploded by 40 percent last year. But once word gets out that the half-life of a techie is only a few years, how many will see it as the fast track to money and success? [

When the Truth Hurts

TO BILL
NASON FOR
REPLY
JA

Mrs. Mary Patricia S. Brown
Number Two School
One Donahue Avenue
Inwood, NY 11096

December 15, 1997

Dear Vice President and Mrs. Gore,

If you could teach every person in the world just one lesson, and they would *learn it*, what would you teach?

This is probably the most difficult letter I have had to write, not because I have some heartbreaking story to share, but because I am so deeply passionate about its subject matter that I want it to refresh and encourage you. I want it to infect you and incite you to act.

I am writing for two reasons. The first is for my class. Attached you will find a letter written by my third grade class here on Long Island requesting you both to make a peace pledge and join our wall for peace. Lawrence Public School Number Two has been steadfast in its work to teach young people to find creative and nonviolent resolutions to conflict, and this year we have been making and keeping promises (small, realistic promises) to do one thing each day to help peace grow and spread. Our theme, Number Two School Reaches For Peace, is an invitation to every person connected to our community to make and post a pledge on our peace walls. Our goal is to reach around the interior school perimeter with pledges until they connect on "Peace Begins With Me Day," February 13, 1998. I want you to know that it was the idea of my students to write to you. It is their idea to want you to join in their work. And the words in their letter are their own beautiful words.

The second reason I am writing is personal. I believe more in the importance of this work than I believe in anything. I have been a teacher for nine years and I love my work. Four years ago, I was fortunate to be selected to participate in a training for the Resolving Conflict Creatively Program, a New York City Board of Education and Educators for Social Responsibility collaborative. This training has had the most profound impact on me. If you could see the looks on the faces of children who find win-win solutions or interrupt prejudice you would see affirmation and thanks. It has significantly changed my life by empowering me to actually create peace. I spread peace to people young and old every day.

Besides being a teacher by profession, I am a first-time-mother with a thirteen-month-old son. My wishes for my son are no different from any other parent's, but the more I do this work, the more impassioned I become. The way he pulls his wagon and plays telephone, his belly laughs, his tender pats and his eagerness to be with people; with every gracious moment my son teaches me peace. He *is* peace. I teach my son

through my interactions with people, my husband, siblings, parents, colleagues, friends, et al. Whatever, I do he watches and learns and understands.

What would I teach everyone in the world? Understanding. That is *my* pledge, to teach understanding by being understanding every day.

It is because I believe that with your support our community will grow in its understanding that I hope you will make a peace pledge.

I wish your family a merry and peaceable Christmas. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Patricia S. Brown

Mrs Brown's Third Grade
Number Two School
Donahue Avenue
Inwood, NY 11096

Dear Vice President and Mrs. Gore
We are making "Peace Pledges" at
Number Two School. A peace pledge is a
promise to do one small thing every
day to create peace in our school and
community.

Chris R promises not to fight with
his sister. Samantha promises to help
her mom with the baby without
having to be asked. Shante promises
to hold the door open for others.
Fernando pledges to think before
he speaks in anger. Malik promises
not to use put-downs.

Some promises are harder to keep
than others, but we are gathering
our hands to reach for peace around
the world. We strongly believe in our
community. We strongly believe in peace.
If we all keep our promises the world
will overflow with care and love. We
would like to invite both of you to join
our whole school and community by

making peace pledges. If you would like to participate, please write your pledge on the yellow of peace enclosed. Please remember to include your name. Thank you very much for helping reach a little farther in our work for peace.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Brown's Third Grade Class

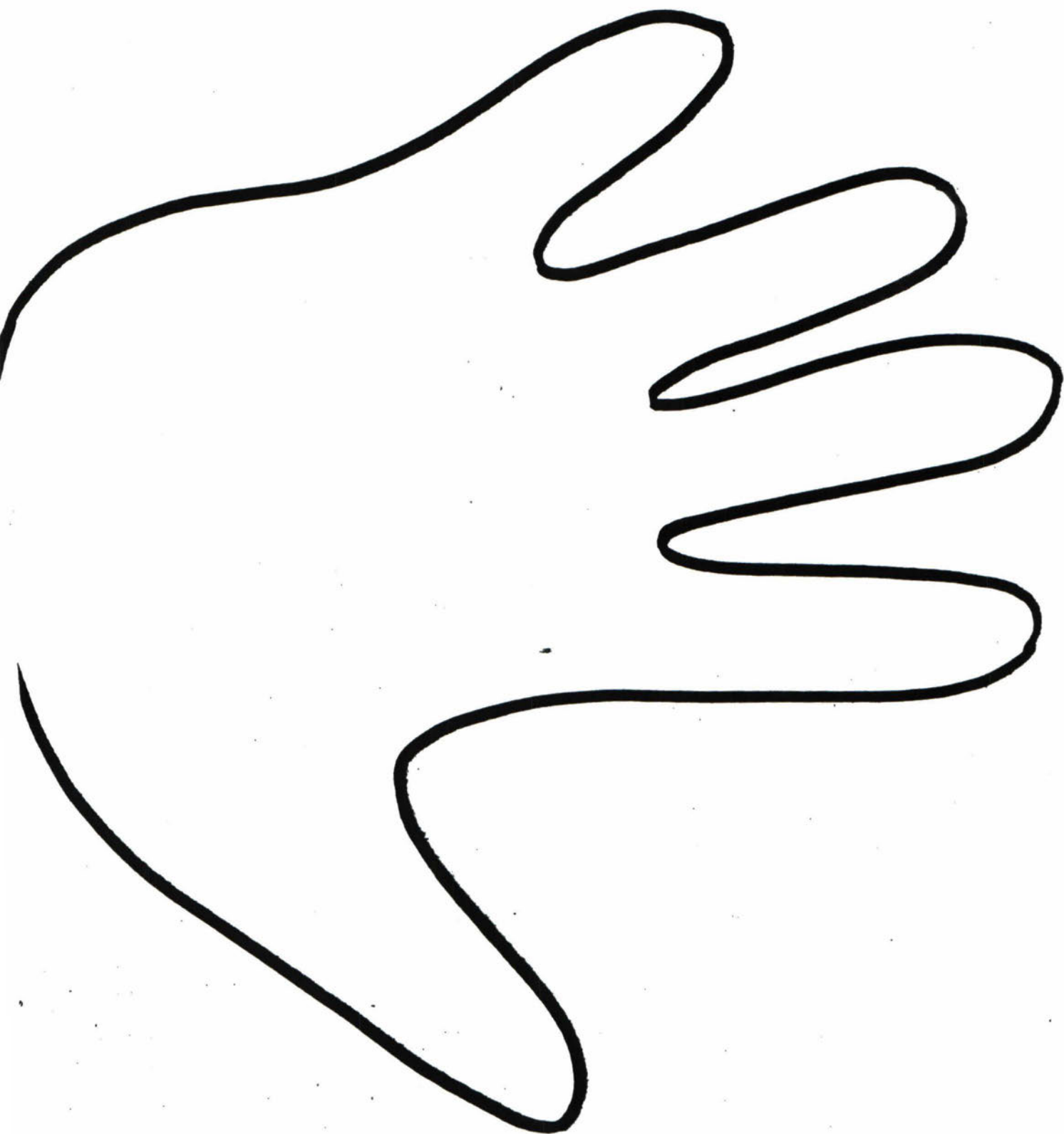
Ivana, Chris R., [unclear], Andrew

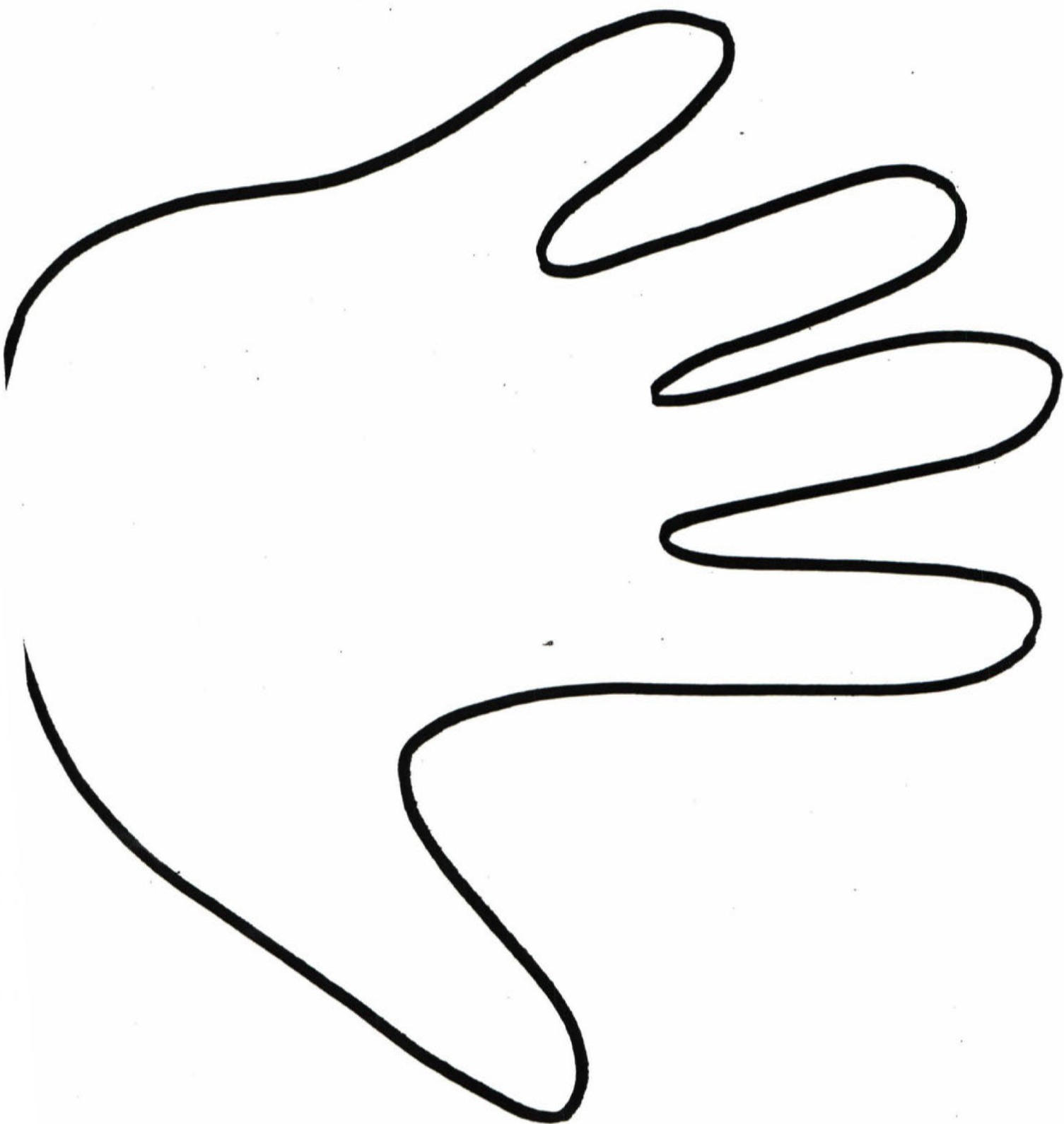
Ashley, Lashan, Malik, [unclear]

Samantha, Bryan, Shante, Sebastian, Allison,

Fernando, Katelyn, Alex, Nicole

Windell





✓ 1/15/98

12-5

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 15, 1998

William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

98 JAN 28 1998

Dear Mr. President:

Your upcoming meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat mark a critical juncture in the Middle East peace process. Despite the many difficulties, this process -- which has proceeded with bipartisan support through six administrations -- continues to be vital to U.S. interests in the region, in particular, to the long-term security of our close ally, Israel.

U.S. diplomatic leadership -- of this process. the principles that have guided

First and foremost, the deterrent strength and qualitative threats to Israel and to regional destruction, accompanied by remain a goal of highest priority

On the Israeli-Palestinian in both unilateral action and of the peace process. Failure

Furthermore, the peace take the substantive steps necessary for resolving their differences. Indeed, the peace talks cannot succeed unless both sides refrain from actions that undermine their joint pledge to strengthen security and accept responsibility for creating a climate that is conducive to negotiations.

American diplomacy is critical in this regard. Only the U.S. has the credibility and open communication with all parties to the conflict necessary to serve as an honest broker. We must continue to remind the parties of the urgency of the task, encouraging them to set realistic goals; take confidence-building steps and make the hard decisions needed to reach an agreement.

Perhaps more than anything, the U.S. can bring a measure of constancy, pragmatism and

1/28/98
Send to Legislative Affairs?

to Chris Walker

Yes

1-28-98

Sent to Burkhardt for reply.

(Coord. w/ NSC)

✓ 1000
1000

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 15, 1998

William J. Clinton
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1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

98 JAN 28 1998

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U.S. diplomatic leadership is once again crucial to the success -- perhaps the very survival -- of this process. As you enter these negotiations, we urge you to continue to uphold the principles that have guided American policy on this issue for twenty-five years.

First and foremost, America must reaffirm its commitment to maintaining Israel's deterrent strength and qualitative edge over its foes. We must also remember that the gravest threats to Israel and to regional stability stem from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, accompanied by the spread of extreme ideologies. Containing these threats must remain a goal of highest priority.

On the Israeli-Palestinian track, verifiable, 100 percent effort by the Palestinian Authority in both unilateral action and security cooperation with Israel against terrorism is a *sine qua non* of the peace process. Failure to achieve such a sustained effort will undermine everything else.

Furthermore, the peace process will most certainly falter if both parties are unwilling to take the substantive steps necessary for resolving their differences. Indeed, the peace talks cannot succeed unless both sides refrain from actions that undermine their joint pledge to strengthen security and accept responsibility for creating a climate that is conducive to negotiations.

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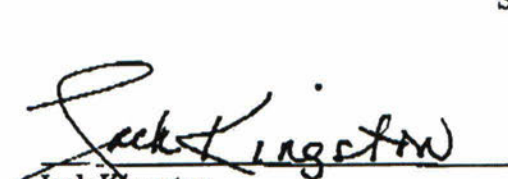
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President William Clinton
January 15, 1998
Page 2

optimism to a conflict that breeds chronic despair.

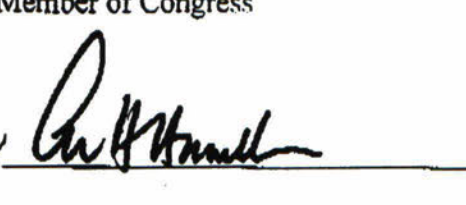
We commend you, Mr. President, for holding this important round of meetings and wish you success in moving the peace process forward.

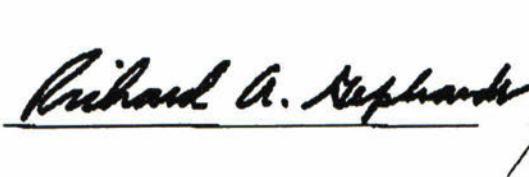
Sincerely,


Jack Kingston
Member of Congress

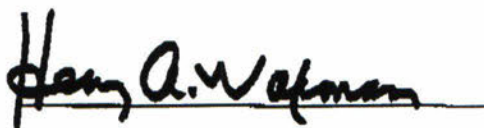

Sam Gejdenson
Member of Congress


Henry Ros-Lehtinen


G. W. H. Hamilton

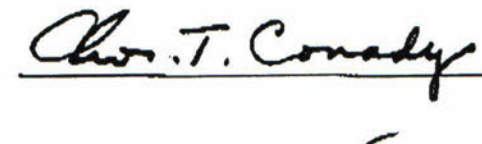

Richard A. Neuhardt

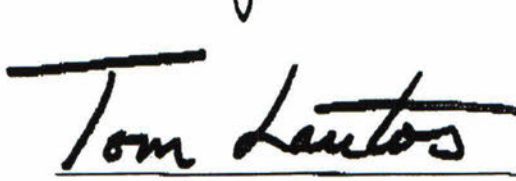

Howard D. Berman


Henry A. Waxman


Max Fross


Nancy Pelosi


Chris T. Conady


Tom Lantos


Bob Menendez

Art H. H. H. H.

Frank B. B.

Brad Sh.

Jim Moloney

John W. Oher

Joe J. J.

Mary M.

W. A. W.

P. A. P.

Sam L. A.

Barney Frank

Eric L. Engel

Bob Clement

Arnold K.

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Paul L. J. L.

Barbara B. Kennedy

Frank A. Lombardo

John F. Tier

Steve T. T.

Bart Gypsel

Rick Lajoie

Ben Cardin

House Letter

Signators to House Letter

Jack Kingston (R-GA)
Sam Gejdenson (D-CT)
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)
Lee Hamilton (D-IN)
Richard Gephardt (D-MO)
Howard Berman (D-CA)
Henry Waxman (D-CA)
Martin Frost (D-TX)
Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)
Charles Canady (R-FL)
Tom Lantos (D-CA)
Robert Menendez (D-NY)
Asa Hutchinson (R-AR)
Barney Frank (D-MA)
Kevin Brady (R-TX)
Eliot Engel (D-NY)
Brad Sherman (D-CA)
Bob Clement (D-TN)
Jim Maloney (D-CT)
Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
John Olver (D-MA)
Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ)
John Duncan Jr. (R-TN)
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Marty Meehan (D-MA)
Barbara Kennelly (D-CT)
Maurice Hinchey (D-NY)
Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ)
Edolphus Towns (D-NY)
John Tierney (D-MA)
Gary Ackerman (D-NY)
Steven Rothman (D-NJ)
Bart Stupak (D-MI)
Ben Cardin (D-MD)
Rick Lazio (R-NY)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 16, 1997

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your upcoming meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat mark a critical juncture in the Middle East peace process. Despite many difficulties, this process -- which has proceeded with bipartisan support through six administrations -- continues to be of vital importance to U.S. interests in the region, in particular, to the long-term security of our closest ally, Israel.

U.S. diplomatic leadership is once again crucial to the success -- perhaps the very survival -- of this process. As you enter these negotiations, we urge you to continue to uphold the principles that have guided American policy on this issue for twenty-five years.

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American diplomacy is critical in this regard. Only the U.S. has the credibility and open communication with all parties to the conflict necessary to serve as an honest broker. We must continue to remind the parties of the urgency of the task -- encouraging them to set realistic goals, take confidence-building steps and make the hard decisions needed to reach an agreement.

Perhaps more than anything, the U.S. can bring a measure of constancy, pragmatism and optimism to a conflict that breeds chronic despair.

We commend Prime Minister Netanyahu and Chairman Arafat for coming to Washington for this important round of meetings, and we wish you success in your historic endeavor.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin

J. Biden

Frank R. Lautenberg

Barack P. Ober

Jim Jeffords

Don Weyer

Cardinal Bernard

Allen Smith

Patrick Leahy

Robt. D.

Barbara A. Mikulski

W. J. Proxmire

Jim Vascillo

Senate Letter

Signators to Senate Letter

Carl Levin

Joe Lieberman

Frank Lautenberg

Barabara Boxer

Jim Jeffords

Ron Wyden

Jack Reed

Arlen Specter

Patrick Leahy

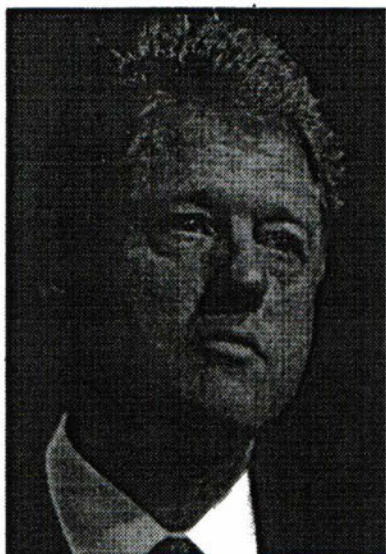
Robert Torricelli

Barbara Mikulski

Patrick Moynihan

Tom Daschle

"The only prize in the end that really matters is the prize of peace we must give to the children of the Middle East."



— President Bill Clinton upon receiving the Rabin-Peres Peace Award November 21, 1997

Dear President Clinton:

Throughout your Presidency, you have spoken strongly and courageously on the Middle East peace process. You are the only world leader who has the full trust of the Israeli and Palestinian people. Your personal leadership is essential for bringing the sides together. Too much innocent blood has already been shed. It is time to put an end to this conflict.

At your personal invitation, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Chairman Yasser Arafat will visit the White House this week. We stand firmly behind your efforts to advance the peace process, to help both sides meet their commitments, and to move strongly toward a permanent peace. For the last five years, your Administration has repeatedly demonstrated thoughtful leadership in the Middle East. At this crucial stage, all leaders must take the tough decisions and the bold steps necessary to achieve peace. You have our unshakable support to help make this dream of peace at long last a reality.

Karen R. Adler, New York, NY
Michael Adler, Miami, FL
Eric Alon, Los Angeles, CA
Dwayne Andreas, Decatur, IL
David Arnow, New York, NY
Carol Auerbach, Narberth, PA
Aya Azrielant, New York, NY
Patricia A. Barr, Shaftsbury, VT
Jack C. Bendheim, Riverdale, NY
Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Los Angeles, CA
Hyman Bookbinder, Bethesda, MD
Eli Broad, Los Angeles, CA
Bob Burkett, New York, NY
Stanley M. Chesley, Cincinnati, OH
Sheldon S. Cohen, Chevy Chase, MD
Debra DeLee, Washington, DC
Barbara Dobkin, New York, NY
William B. Dockser, Bethesda, MD
Richard Dreyfuss, West Hollywood, CA
Richard A. Eisner, New York, NY
Bonnie Englehardt, New York, NY
Edith B. Everett, New York, NY
Henry J. Everett, New York, NY
Leonard Fein, Boston, MA
Monte Friedkin, Boca Raton, FL
Andrew Friedman, Los Angeles, CA
Ellen Friedman, Los Angeles, CA
Sidney Friedman, Los Angeles, CA
Cynthia Friedman, Chevy Chase, MD
Nathan Ganicher, New York, NY
Allen S. Garner, Rutland, VT
Stanley P. Gold, Burbank, CA
Danny Goldberg, New York, NY
Bram Goldsmith, Beverly Hills, CA
Edward Goldstein, Newton Centre, MA
F. Robert Goodkind, Rye, NY
Richard S. Gunther, Los Angeles, CA

Jeffrey Hirschberg, Bethesda, MD
Stanley Hirsch, Los Angeles, CA
Leroy E. Hoffberger, Baltimore, MD
Fred Howard, New York, NY
Alan E. Kligerman, Pleasantville, NJ
Murray Koppelman, New York, NY
Victor A. Kovner, New York, NY
Brad Krevoy, Los Angeles, CA
Susie Krevoy, Los Angeles, CA
Marvin Lender, Woodbridge, CT
Jacqueline K. Levine, West Orange, NJ
Geoffrey H. Lewis, Boston, MA
Robert K. Lifton, New York, NY
Jay K.R. Lunzer, New York, NY
Rabbi Brian Lurie, Ross, CA
Dr. Carl Lyss, St. Louis, MO
Lynn Lyss, St. Louis, MO
Freddie H. Mack, New York, NY
Frank Mankiewicz, Washington, DC
Theodore R. Mann, Philadelphia, PA
Michael Medavoy, Culver City, CA
David N. Minkin, Atlanta, GA
Glenda B. Minkin, Atlanta, GA
Harriet Mouchly-Weiss, New York, NY
Alan Patrick, New York, NY
Judith Stern Peck, New York, NY
Michael Pelavin, Flint, MI
Carol Pensky, Potomac, MD
David Pensky, Potomac, MD
Marc E. Platt, Los Angeles, CA
Beri Pogrebin, New York, NY
Letty Cottin Pogrebin, New York, NY
Fisher Leah Ritz, Milwaukee, WI
Jack Rosen, Englewood Cliffs, NJ
Florence and Noel Rothman Family, Chicago, IL
Howard J. Rubenstein, New York, NY
Miles Rubin, Washington, DC

David M. Sabie, Fort Lee, NJ
Edward Sanders, Los Angeles, CA
Andre G. Sassoon, New York, NY
Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, New York, NY
Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, New York, NY
Jodi J. Schwartz, New York, NY
Emmanuel Sella, New York, NY
Stanley K. Sheinbaum, Beverly Hills, CA
Walter Shorestein, San Francisco, CA
Seth M. Siegel, New York, NY
Henry Siegman, New York, NY
William S. Singer, Chicago, IL
Michael W. Sonnenfeldt, New York, NY
Maurice S. Spanbock, New York, NY
Jack Spitzer, Mercer Island, WA
Dr. Edward L. Steinberg, Palm Beach, FL
Judith Steinberg, Palm Beach, FL
David Steiner, Roseland, NJ
Susan K. Stern, Scarsdale, NY
Jeffrey M. Stern, Scarsdale, NY
Arlene R. Stone, New York, NY
David P. Stone, New York, NY
Daniel E. Straus, Hackensack, NJ
Jonathan D. Strum, Washington, DC
Joel D. Tauber, Southfield, MI
Peggy W. Tishman, New York, NY
William A.K. Tietelman, Harrisburg, PA
Beri W. Wasserman, Old Westbury, NY
Sandra Wasserman, Old Westbury, NY
Melvin I. Weiss, Oyster Bay Cove, NY
Morris Weiss, Cleveland, OH
Walter H. Wiener, New York, NY
David Wilstein, Beverly Hills, CA
Diane Wohl, New York, NY
Howard Wohl, Mill Neck, NY
Alan I. Wurzel, Richmond, VA
Aaron Ziegelman, New York, NY

"Let there be no doubt, the United States will continue to do all it can to promote peace between Israelis and Palestinians and throughout the Middle East. We will do so because progress towards peace serves our vital interests, helps protect our friends, reflects our values and because it is right."

— Secretary of State
Madeleine Albright, August 6, 1997

This message is sponsored by:
Center for Middle East Peace and Cooperation
633 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004

S. Daniel Abraham, Chairman • Hon. Wayne Owens, President
Stephen P. Cohen, Vice Chairman • Sara Ehrman, Senior Advisor • Jim Gerstein, Executive Director

The Washington Post

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1998

An Ex-Security Chief's Message: Set 'Reasonable' Conditions for Arafat

By Carmi Gillon

In 1995, while I was running Israel's internal security service (the Shin Bet), my officers presented strong evidence that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat would never agree to extradite terrorists wanted by Israel and risk being tagged as a collaborator.

So I advised then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that the extradition clause being discussed by negotiators of the second Oslo peace accord was unrealistic. Rabin said he agreed with me, but that Israel's negotiating strategy required that the clause be included in that accord.

Now, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu prepares to meet Tuesday with President Clinton, the Israeli government says that Palestinian compliance with this same unworkable clause will help determine whether the peace process continues.

The Israeli government apparently will agree to further redeployment from the West Bank—as the United States has urged—but only if the Palestinian Authority fulfills its signed obligations to Israel. On its face, this seems sensible. But in practical terms, it will be impossible for the Palestinians to meet some of the most prominent Israeli demands—especially extradition of accused terrorists and the redrafting of the Palestinian Covenant in the near future.

Israel now has a chance to set tough but reasonable conditions, based on the hard lessons both sides have learned during the unnerving but necessary experiment we have been conducting since Oslo II. Instead, Israel's government is basing its conditions on a legalistic reading of provisions of the Oslo compact that we now know are both impractical and non-essential.

This will confirm Palestinian fears that the current Israeli government will not meet even their most minimal aspirations. It may well spell the end of the peace process and prompt the kind of angry Palestinian violence that will make the intifada seem like a tea party.

Automatic extradition is something most nations refuse to do. It took Israel seven years

to return American gangster Meyer Lansky to the United States, our strongest ally. And today, Israel is having a hard time complying with a request to extradite Samuel Sheinbein, the 17-year-old American accused of murder in Montgomery County. So how can we expect Arafat to turn over his own prisoners to his historic adversary whenever we snap our fingers? And even if Arafat did, how does shifting them from one jail cell to another protect Israeli lives?

Similarly, how will suicide bombers be stopped if the Palestinians are prodded into writing an entirely new covenant, a once important document that now has nothing to do with Israel's security needs? The Palestinians have already annulled the parts of the covenant—drafted nearly three decades ago—that contradict the Oslo accords. It will do more harm than good for Israel

I believe Netanyahu wants to make the peace process work.

to force the issue, because a new covenant would probably incorporate the hard-line views of Palestinian National Council radicals on such thorny issues as Palestinian statehood and the status of Jerusalem. This would constrain Arafat from making the far-reaching compromises that Israel needs in final status negotiations.

Israel's approach should be guided by security experts' assessments of what will work, not by the complaints of international lawyers and politicians about the past.

Fortunately there is a new agreement that, far better than Oslo II, outlines conditions that represent a true test of Arafat's willingness to fight terror effectively: a Memorandum of Understanding that was approved by Israeli and Palestinian security officials in mid-December. Netanyahu and Arafat have thus far not signed it. They should do so immediately and use it as the guideline for discussions with President Clinton.

As reported in the Israeli press, the memorandum addresses Israel's justifiable complaint that the Palestinian Authority has been arresting and then releasing people whom Israel believes, based on hard evi-

dence, are implicated in terrorist activities. Under this new agreement, if the Palestinian Authority wants to release a detainee but Israel objects, the matter will be forwarded to a committee with representatives from the two sides' security services and from the CIA. This committee will decide whether to release the prisoner. It is a sensible plan—one that conforms to the Oslo accord, which allows the Palestinians to avoid extradition, provided that they keep convicted terrorists in Palestinian jails.

The memorandum also commits the Palestinian Authority to confiscate illegal weapons in the territories, clamp down on Hamas social and religious institutions with clear connections to terrorist activities and take other concrete steps to stop terrorism. But hard-line politicians in Israel object because the memorandum commits Israel to subdue and disarm our own terrorists and other Israelis who incite violence. Although our security forces already do this, these hard-liners say there is no comparison between the Palestinians' violent fanatics and ours. The hard-liners seem more concerned with the symbolism of equating the two than they do with heeding the advice of Israel's intelligence professionals.

For one, do not believe those Israeli commentators who suspect that Netanyahu's strategy is to agree to enough redeployment to satisfy the United States, while insisting on conditions that will ensure the redeployment does not happen, thus placating his right wing coalition partners. I believe Netanyahu wants to make the peace process work. The memorandum will help him.

Down in the intelligence trenches where the real battle against terror is fought, security officers from both sides are already cooperating and stopping terrorism. On Monday, they jointly broke up a Hamas terror cell and destroyed its bomb factory in Nablus.

What these security professionals need is permission from their political leaders to work together even more effectively. If they get it, they may not stop terrorism completely. But they will renew the hope for a peaceful, negotiated separation of Israelis and Palestinians, a goal shared by a silent majority of both peoples. One often hears peace process supporters say that no one has a better alternative to pursuing this goal. They are wrong. No one has any alternative.

Carmi Gillon directed Israel's General Security Services from 1994 to 1996. He is a member of the advisory council of the Israel Policy Forum, an advocacy group that supports the Middle East peace process.

Jack Bendheim

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
456-6610/456-1414