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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Vancouver, British Columbia)

For Immediate Release

November 23, 1997

PRESS BRIEFING BY
MIKE MCCURRY,
DEPUTY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR JIM STEINBERG,
AND U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE CHARLENE BARSHEFSKY

Waterfront Centre Hotel
Vancouver, British Columbia

11:03 A.M. (L)

MR. MCCURRY: Good morning, Vancouver. President Clinton and Prime Minister Chretien, as you could gather from their news conference, had a very spirited, friendly, useful, productive, warm -- what else do we say at the State Department -- stimulating, textured, fluid -- they had a good bilateral meeting and it lasted about an hour, and they told you much about it. But in the structure of that conversation, both leaders spent a fair amount of time at the beginning talking about the work that's been done in advance of the Asian economic leaders meeting that begins tomorrow.

As you know, President Clinton parachuted in here just after midnight last night, and was delighted to learn that so much productive work had been done at the ministerial level in preparation for the leaders' discussions. The table has been set in a very splendid way for some of the discussions they've had, contrary to what some of the conventional wisdom might have led one to believe.

I think a large part of that work, as the President noted, should be credited to Secretary Rubin, Deputy Secretary Summers, and then the excellent work that was done on trade liberalization in the past several days by Ambassador Barshefsky and her team. He said that, you just missed it.

So I've asked Ambassador Barshefsky to talk a little bit about that, particularly for those of you who arrived with the President late last night might not have followed all the deliberations in advance of our arrival. And then I've asked Deputy National Security Advisor, Mr. Steinberg, to give you a fuller readout on the bilateral meeting, if you need it. I'll tell you, from my impression, the two leaders covered just about everything that they discussed, and then some, in their press conference.

So with that, Ambassador Barshefsky.

MR. STEINBERG: You got the order wrong, Mike. For those of you who don't know, I am not Ambassador Barshefsky.

Let me just say a word or two about the bilateral meeting, and then Charlene can talk about the trade issues that have been discussed by the ministers before the leaders' meeting.

This was another in a long series of very good exchanges between the President and the Prime Minister. They have an unusually close relationship; they talk regularly on the phone so they're able to sort of pick up very quickly into the conversations on issues that they have been discussing regularly.

They began, as Mike said, talking about the financial and economic trade issues that have led up to this

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MR. STEINBERG: With President Jiang Zemin -- one of the longest discussion during the bilateral in Washington with President Jiang was on climate change. The President discussed this. President Jiang noted that he was actually an engineer who had been involved in some conservation work. They had a long discussion. And I would be fairly certain that at almost every, and perhaps every bilateral that's held here that the climate change issue will be very much on the minds of President Clinton and the other leaders.

Q Jim, who is going to represent the United States at the Kyoto summit?

MR. STEINBERG: The President has asked Stu Eizenstat to head the U.S. delegation to Kyoto.

Q What about Vice President Al Gore?

MR. STEINBERG: Stu is going to head the delegation. I know of no decisions or anything concerning the Vice President.

Q Was there a decision made that it should be at that level?

MR. STEINBERG: It's a ministerial conference, and was the expectation all along that that would be the level in which the head of the delegation would take place.

Q Are you ruling out an appearance by Vice President Gore at Kyoto?

MR. STEINBERG: I don't speak for the Vice President. I can just tell you that he certainly made --

Q You speak for the National Security Council.

MR. STEINBERG: He has nothing planned and no decision has been made to do that.

Q Are you ruling out any sort of agreement coming out of APEC from the developing nations saying that they will sign on?

MR. STEINBERG: The issue is an issue for negotiation in Kyoto. This is not a negotiating session. And, in fact, what Prime Minister Chretien and President Clinton both said is we're not looking for outcomes here, we're looking for a better understanding.

I think President Clinton feels very strongly that some of the leaders in the developing countries may have a misapprehension about what it is that we're seeking, a fear that somehow we're trying to hold down their growth or that this is a strategy that would impact their own strategies for development.

The President has a very strong conviction that if these countries early on adopt efficient clean energy technologies, they will actually be on a more efficient growth path and that over time they will have a higher rate of growth, rather than relying on less efficient carbon sources that the United States and other developed countries had used.

Q Let me ask the question a little more precisely then. Do you expect the same of statement to come out of the APEC leadership that we got from Menem in Argentina?

MR. STEINBERG: I don't expect there to be any statement. The Leaders Statement, as you've heard from Prime Minister Chretien with respect to other topics, will focus on the things that are formally on the agenda. I think that it will be important that we have these individual discussions. I know that President Clinton is not looking for any specific statement here

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Media Deadlines:

Assuming we know what is happening early this evening, here are some rough deadlines to consider:

Network Morning Shows on Wednesday - 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (Japan time).

CNN - ongoing

Print (east coast) for Wednesday newspapers - 12 noon Wednesday (Japan time)

(west coast) for Wednesday newspapers - 3 p.m. Wednesday (Japan time)

NPR - Wednesday Morning Edition - 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (Japan time).

Immediately Following The End of Negotiations:

Gather usual domestic gaggle in Room 470 of the Prince T. Need to provide about 30 minutes notice. USIS will make notifications. We need to absolutely make sure NYT, Post, NPR, ABC and CNN are represented. We need to make an exception to the usual "domestic only" rule and invite Leyla Boulton from The Financial Times.

Stu should lead the gaggle with Dirk (who has established a significant dialogue with these reporters). The beginning of the gaggle should be on-the-record to provide some take-away quotes for both print and radio. This will be a no-camera gathering because we'll accommodate them soon after with stand-ups. The last part of the gaggle should be on background (senior administration official) to explain some items.

It would be very helpful to have some paper in time for this gaggle, if possible - paper that bullets our message or explains more complicated pieces.

The following list have been attending our morning gaggles:

Debra Wang, ABC News

Joe Hebert and Charlie Hanley, AP

John Fialka, Wall Street Journal

Randy Loftus, Dallas Morning News

Michael Lev, Chicago Tribune

Irene Kunii, TIME

Bill Stevens, New York Times

Richard Harris and Julie Harris, NPR

Reed Lanberg, Bloomberg

Cheryl Hogue, BNA

Craig Katz, CBS Radio

Michael Zielenziger, Knight-Ridder

Jeffrey Bartholet, Newsweek

Maggie Farley, LA Times

Indira Lakshmanan, Boston Globe

Willis Witter, Washington Times

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Elizabeth Neisloss and Michael Heard, CNN
Joby Warrick and Kevin Sullivan, Washington Post
Todd Ackerman, Houston Chronicle
Alex Barnum, San Francisco Chronicle
Traci Watson, USA Today
Dale Curtis, Greenwire/National Journal
Christian Science Monitor

Formal Press Statement:

The US will host the usual evening press conference which is open to all accredited media. The room and time have not been set. Susan will coordinate. Stu should begin with an opening statement that can be distributed. Also at the table with him - Katie, Todd, Melinda, Mark, Dirk.

Post and Times:

Dirk should check in with Joby Warrick at the Washington Post and Bill Stevens at the New York Times to make sure they don't need any clarification.

CNN:

CNN plans to continue live feeds and will break in for a report after the end of negotiations. Stu should do a stand-up with May Lee.

Morning Television Shows:

ABC has had strong representation during the entire conference. We should offer a stand-up, preferably a feed to Good Morning America if the timing works, with Stu or Katie.

NBC has covered the conference sporadically. We should offer a stand-up, preferably a feed to the Today Show if the timing works, with Stu or Katie.

CBS has not been engaged at all. We should still check if they would like someone from Kyoto. This should be Stu or Katie if they are interested.

Note: It is crucial to get some type of paper to the morning show producers so they can catch up on what has happened here.

Radio:

Stu should interview with Richard Harris of NPR to feed back (probably for Morning Edition).

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Lehrer News Hour:

While Lehrer News Hour hasn't been engaged throughout Kyoto, a producer called yesterday to get someone in Washington on for Wednesday evening's program. We are checking if they have an interest in beaming someone in from Kyoto. This should be Stu. If we do this, we need to have a conversation with the producer and send some paper of explanation.

White House Statement:

Who does this (VPOTUS/POTUS) and what is the best timing?

Editorial Board Calls:

Before leaving Kyoto, the major editorial boards should be called. Note: This follows calls made to this group by Todd and Katie prior to Kyoto. Calls should be assigned as follows:

Katie - Bob Semple, New York Times at 212/556-1832
Alex Raskin, Los Angeles Times at 213/237-4301 or cell 310/729-3992
Todd - Fred Hiatt, Washington Post at 202/334-7281
Graham Dower, USA Today at 703/276-5415
Stu - Robert Bartley, Wall Street Journal at 212/416-2551

NOTE: We considered a call to The Financial Times, but guidance from the newspaper was to talk to Leyla Boulton, the London environmental correspondent. Since she'll be invited to our domestic gaggle, she will be covered.

Pundits:

Katie and Gene sat down with pundits prior to leaving for Kyoto. We should have a quick update conference call with this group to explain the end result. The following list had been invited to the original gathering:

Ken Bode, Washington Week in Review at 703/998-2869
Mara Liaason, NPR at 202/414-3313
Tony Snow, Fox at 202/824-6406
Clarence Page, Chicago Tribune at 202/824-8257
Susan Page, USA Today at 703/276-5897
Lars Erik Nelson, New York Daily News at 202/467-6670
Paul Gigot, Wall Street Journal at 202/862-6634
Alan Murrar, Wall Street Journal at 202/862-9232
Steve Rosenfeld, Washington Post at 202/334-7478
Carl Leubsdorf, Dallas Morning News at 202/661-8410
Eleanor Clift, Newsweek at 202/626-2030

Margaret Warner, Lehrer Newshow @ 703/998-2892

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Additionally, the following calls should be made prior to leaving Kyoto:

Stu -	Tim Russert, Meet the Press at 202/885-4361
	Bob Schieffer, Face the Nation at 202/457-4481
Todd -	Cokie Roberts, This Week at 202/222-7100
Bob -	George Stephanopolous, This Week

Foreign Media Requests:

While foreign media can get sound bites at the formal press conference, there no doubt will be requests for stand-up interviews. Melinda should facilitate the requests deemed appropriate.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT FOR THIS PLAN:

- What are others saying?
- Sunday NYT op ed - VP?
- Sunday shows - who do we make available?
- Who is available in Kyoto on Thursday for comment?
- Who is available in DC on Friday for comment and who coordinates?
- POTUS radio address this weekend?
- Have we really covered all the news weeklies?
- Quick outreach to other environmental reporters that didn't make the trip - Gerstenzang at LA Times, Jaffe at Philadelphia Inquirer, reporter from Providence who attended earlier in the week? *Cushman*
- Outreach to regional editorial boards which we've been keeping updated?
- msg. pts. - for state, McCurry, cab affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE
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For Immediate Release

December 1, 1997

PRESS BRIEFING BY
MIKE MCCURRY

The Briefing Room

1:30 P.M. EST

MR. MCCURRY: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.
What's on your mind today?

Q Bliss. Is there any --

MR. MCCURRY: Bliss did you say?

Q Yes, bliss. Is the U.S. doing anything to deal
with the Russians on this?

MR. MCCURRY: My understanding is that we've had some
contact through the Consular officer with him. He's also had contact
with an attorney representing him. Beyond that I'd have to refer you
over to the State Department because they've been watching it more
closely and been getting updates.

Q Where does the President stand on a recess
appointment for Bill Lann Lee?

MR. MCCURRY: The President stands in favor of seeing
him confirmed by the United States Senate. And at the moment we are
hopeful that that could happen. It was very significant over the
weekend that General Colin Powell said that if he were a member of
the United States Senate he would vote to confirm Mr. Lee. We think
that most members of the Senate, if they fairly judge the expertise
that he has, if they looked at his determination to enforce the civil
rights laws on the books the way a good, effective enforcer would,
that they would look at this as a very worthy nominee. So we, first
of all, remain hopeful that he could get confirmation by the Senate,
and if not, we would have to assess what other options are available.

Q You haven't reached any decision on a possible
recess appointment?

MR. MCCURRY: Not as of this moment, this time. But we
are continuing to assess, obviously.

Q Well, if the President determines that the votes
are not there for confirmation, is he prepared to do a recess
appointment?

MR. MCCURRY: I think you've heard us on this subject
before. We think he would make the right assistant attorney general
for civil rights, and one way or another we plan to have him in that
position.

Q Can you elaborate a little more on the decision for
Vice President Gore to go to Kyoto, why he's going, why it took so
long to decide that, what he plans to do there?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, you heard a lot of discussion of that by the President and the Vice President already. There's not much I can add to what they've said. I think the President felt it was important for the strongest possible presentation of the United States' position to be made at Kyoto. No disrespect to any other distinguished members of our delegation, but the Vice President knows this subject about as well as any living human being. He, with some degree of passion, can talk about the degree to which we've put together a sensible, realistic proposal that tries to bridge a lot of the differences that exist in the world community. And I think the President wanted the very best argument to be put forward to buttress the effort that Under Secretary Eizenstat will make to negotiate a treaty that we believe is in the best economic interests of the American people.

Q So why did it take you until the conference was actually underway to make this decision?

MR. MCCURRY: They start this week, presentations by delegations continue into next week. The Vice President, if I'm not mistaken, will be there sometime early next week, and it was, I think, important to get an assessment from Kyoto about how the preliminary discussions were shaping up as well.

Q What days will he be there?

Q Can you explain it will take as many as 80 or 85 members of the official American delegation to do this negotiation?

MR. MCCURRY: This is a very complex issue and there are stakeholders throughout the U.S. economy, and within the United States government different agencies with overlapping responsibilities. So it underscores the seriousness with which we approach this issue that we will have a delegation that is there to do the complicated, difficult, sometimes cumbersome work of negotiating in the international regime. The State Department can tell you more about who specifically the people are.

Q What assessment did you get back from Kyoto that prompted the decision today?

MR. MCCURRY: There was a determination by many of these delegations, including some that have been very strident in staking out early positions, to see if they can't make Kyoto a success. I think if you were betting on the prospects for success prior to the opening of this conference, you probably would have to be fairly conservative, because there didn't seem to be much likelihood the differences would be bridged. But our impression is, as we hear more from delegations gathering, that there really is a determination within the international community to try to address this issue forthrightly. And I think that that was one more argument for putting our strongest spokesman forward.

Q Mike, the Vice President said today that the United States would be willing to walk away from Kyoto if the deal was not one that the United States could agree to. How much negotiating room is there on the part of the United States? Is it an all-or-nothing deal?

MR. MCCURRY: The other delegations should understand that the U.S. position, as it was developed by the President and publicly articulated by him and as it will be argued for by the Vice President, has about as much flexibility as we could develop within our own government. This was a very carefully adjudicated policy decision within our government, and we believe it's a flexible approach, a common-sense approach, and a realistic approach. We hope other delegations will understand that we believe very strongly in that position.

Q Is it then "take it or leave it"?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, we are going to bargain and negotiate in good faith, but I think the people should understand the depth of the commitment we have to this negotiating position. And that's one of the reasons the President wanted to underscore that commitment by having the Vice President there at Kyoto.

Q Mike, do you think that it is likely that the differences between the EU position and the U.S. position will be bridged during this conference?

MR. MCCURRY: I think that's one of the most difficult parts of the negotiation ahead, and it remains to be seen.

Q But how likely is it? Are you optimistic?

MR. MCCURRY: I can't predict at this point.

Q Mike, back on the Lee nomination? Has the White House been in touch with Hatch to try to find a way to work around this logjam?

MR. MCCURRY: I don't know the answer to that. I know that we've had some conversations with the Majority Leader, but I don't know whether we've had conversations directly with Chairman Hatch.

Q Could I just follow that? Is there concern that if you go ahead with the recess appointment you would lose Hatch on subsequent court nominations or lose Lott on subsequent court nominations?

MR. MCCURRY: That would be unfortunate because we wouldn't want to see an important matter like that nomination tied to other issues. But you would really have to address the question to those two gentlemen, whether they would tie that issue to some other future pending decisions.

Q What did conversations with Lott produce? You said you had conversations with Lott about this.

MR. MCCURRY: No agreements, clearly.

Q What about Lee? Is he prepared to be a recess appointment?

MR. MCCURRY: That's a personal thing that he would best address himself. I think it's difficult to be put in that position, and understand he would be put in that position by senators who had no objection to his nomination initially and seemed to struggle mightily to come up with any worthy reason why they are against him now, leading one to believe that politics has more to do with it than anything.

Q The President talked about South Korea this morning. Do you have any more details? When might something be announced, and why is it in America's interest to support a package for South Korea?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, we work within the international financial community, particularly within the International Monetary Fund, to try to bring stability to regional markets, and of course, in some cases, as recently with Indonesia and even before that with Mexico, if we deem it in our economic interests to participate in a rescue effort, we do so, because it is, in the end, in the interests of the American people to do so.

By restoring health to the Mexican economy we not only took a rescue package and made it available, we made money on the transaction since the loan was repaid fully with interest, and more importantly, we reestablished strength to the Mexican economy so that they are now buying more goods and services from U.S. manufacturers and providers of goods and services. So we believe it's part of our role in the international economy to be a source of financial stability. Now, that should be done, as the President has indicated, as the Secretary of the Treasury has indicated, under the auspices of the IMF in this particular case, consistent with the new framework developed in Manila.

Q Mike, it was two years ago today that the President lit the Christmas tree in Belfast. They're coming up again on another flurry of activity where -- from Northern Ireland will be coming here to bring their cases to you. Does the President continue to have a commitment to Northern Ireland's peace process? And what specifically do these people plan on doing once they come to meet here?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, the President continues to have a very deep personal commitment to that process. It is one in which in the last two years you certainly have seen ups and downs, but at the moment we think are, apropos in this season, at a moment of some hope because the parties are engaged. There are serious efforts underway by the Republic of Ireland, the Republic of the United Kingdom to stimulate the all-party process at Stormont. There have been encouraging signs and I think the role that the President will continue to play is to nurture those who are working hard in the name of peace.

Q What's your assessment on how the whole Arlington Cemetery thing played itself out?

MR. MCCURRY: Don't ask me because I'd prefer not to get angry again on that subject.

Q Mike, back on the Lee nomination. Will the President make a case for affirmative action programs continuing when he goes to Akron on Wednesday?

MR. MCCURRY: He will hear a range of viewpoints and then discuss his own views in a format that will allow I think some lively exchanges. And obviously he will talk about the necessity of retaining affirmative action as a tool consistent with the law as it's been rendered by the Supreme Court.

Q Do you foresee him making a decision on a recess appointment prior to going to Akron?

MR. MCCURRY: I'm not going to speculate on that.

Q Once Janet Reno makes her announcement on whether or not to recommend an independent counsel, how would you expect the White House to react to whatever her decision might be?

MR. MCCURRY: I have no way of knowing time or contents, so I can't answer that question.

Q Refresh my memory, did we ever get a comment from the President on the settlement -- the decision to settle the Pascataway case, whether he thought it was a good idea in fact to pay --

MR. MCCURRY: Yes, he did.

Q On the Medicare commission, the Republican leadership seems to be set to announce their candidates today. Does the White House still intend to wait until a chairman is selected before announcing its list?

MR. MCCURRY: We intend to work with the Republican leadership and arrive at a consensus on a chairman, and then that's the point in which the President would feel more comfortable bringing forward his public choices. We've had, if I understand correctly, some good consultations on the Hill on the subject.

Q We have a report that the Clinton administration is thinking of embarking on a new get tough policy towards Israel, that the President would support some sort of Palestinian entity as a means of pressuring the Israelis into stopping settlement activity.

MR. MCCURRY: That sounds like the kind of speculation that sometimes arises in the region that usually ends up in the end of the day being misplaced. But we've been very open on our attitudes. We think both parties ought to continue to make good the commitments they pledged in Oslo. We have seen in the last day some indications that there are new ideas being pursued, and to the degree they are consistent with the Oslo framework they can be useful in advancing the process. But above all else, the parties have to make good on the commitments they've already rendered to each other as a way of building confidence and as a way of creating some momentum for the dialogue itself.

Q Mike, are you willing to wait around for that forever or are you going to take a more direct role in the negotiations at some point?

MR. MCCURRY: We're already directly involved in the Middle East peace process, as one surely knows by now requires utmost patience.

Q Are you reassessing the basic policy now as far as the U.S. position on Oslo to try to generate some positive movement?

MR. MCCURRY: No, but we are in search of ways to generate movement. We have been for some time. You heard the Secretary of State on that subject; she has made clear some things that we believe are necessary for the parties themselves to have the confidence necessary to move forward, and I think we've been very explicit about that.

Q Mike, you know that Saddam Hussein was parading around Iraq the sad case of these children, and my question is, is there any way the United States can make sure that the oil that is allowed to be sold does, in fact, reach these people, that the money and the food and medicine will reach these people?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, a couple of things. First, it was a pathetic exercise for Saddam Hussein to put on public display people who are victims by his own hand, because he is responsible for the delay in putting in place the transactions and the monitoring framework by the United Nations that would allow some assurance that the proceeds from those oil sales would go to sick children and to hungry children.

We took the lead, the United States took the lead in the Security Council in fashioning the so-called 986 oil sales so that there would be revenue from oil sales that would take care of starving and sick children, and it took well over a year for Saddam Hussein to agree to the mechanism necessary to assure that those funds would go to the people who needed the help. So a lot of that suffering that went on is directly responsible to actions and decisions by Saddam Hussein himself.

They reluctantly now have been brought to the point where they apparently will agree to continuation of these sales, even though we have made it clear for some time that we want to continue that program, perhaps even expand it so we can take care of the enormous humanitarian suffering that exists in Iraq. Our quarrel is not with the people of Iraq, it is with Saddam Hussein and Saddam Hussein, irrespective of what we do to take care of the children of Iraq, needs to comply with U.N. Security Council resolutions and stop attempting to do things that deceive the international community. One reason why one has to be somewhat suspect about where those proceeds go and assure that there is a monitoring mechanism in place is because of his pattern of deception.

Q Are there any sales going through now?

MR. MCCURRY: There are sales going through -- about 95 percent of the some 1,525 requests for transaction authority have been approved by the Security Council. There have been, I think as of October 31, approximately \$1.24 billion that has been collected under the 986 program and have been distributed. There have been about 2.4 million metric tons of food that has been distributed in Iraq under the oil for food program, and we want to seek to expand that consistent with the type of oversight that the United Nations needs to have to assure that these proceeds don't go off to the Republican Guards or elsewhere.

Q Mike, Kofi Annan was pretty explicit yesterday in saying that the money is not being diverted, as Bill Richardson and others have charged. He said that it's under U.N. control, that they've made sure of where that money is going. Does the U.S. still maintain --

MR. MCCURRY: We believe that the United Nations mechanism that's in place is important, has been effective. We do believe there has been some leakage, but it's been minimal, thankfully. And we need some assurances, as that program was structured, that it would continue to be immune from any effort by Saddam Hussein or the elites in Iraq to syphon the proceeds of those sales off for their own personal benefit.

Q When this crisis was touched on more than a month ago, it was because Richard Butler sent a letter outlining his plans to have the U.N. weapons inspectors visit certain sites, which to this date are still off-limits to those weapons inspectors. So how does the U.S. maintain that things are better than they were before if all those sites are still off-limits?

MR. MCCURRY: I'm not aware that anyone has maintained that anything is better. It's better that the U.N. inspectors are on-site and not out of country, but we are by no means satisfied that they have been allowed to do the work unfettered that they are supposed to be able to do under relevant U.N. Security Council actions. And we continue to stress within the Security Council the importance of compliance so we get exactly at the answers and the sites that the world community expects.

Q But what is the material difference between them being out of the country not being able to inspect sites or being in the country not being able to inspect sites?

MR. MCCURRY: They continue -- they have continued uninterrupted the inspections activities that they have ordered up day by day. They are going to, presumably at some point, seek sites and we'll have to see what the response of the government of Iraq is.

Q But you already know what the response is. They've asked to see them and they've been refused.

MR. MCCURRY: Their response changes from day to day, as you know.

Q Is there a hesitancy, Mike, on the part of the United Nations -- certainly not on Butler's part, but on the Security Council -- to even ask at this juncture to see those sites?

MR. MCCURRY: I've detected -- I mean, I don't believe the United States has detected any hesitancy on the part of the Special Commission and its chairman to request authority to do what they think is necessary. If anything, they've demonstrated their willingness to pursue exactly those sites and those inspections that they deem necessary, and they continue to do so.

Q What about a possible trip from the Reverend Louis Farrakhan to Iraq. Yesterday the U.N. Ambassador, Bill Richardson, said it would be unhelpful, but the last time he went the Justice Department didn't do anything about it. Is that the administration's position, to simply ignore it?

MR. MCCURRY: It's the Justice Department and the Treasury Department that have enforcement responsibilities related to sanctions that are in place. The State Department is the one that decides whether one can travel on a valid passport. They did not do so in the case of Mr. Farrakhan and have indicated today they haven't had any request for any authority to travel from him. But it's up to the Justice Department and the Treasury Department to seek whatever enforcement action is necessary. And in the case of Mr. Farrakhan's travel to Libya, I believe they reviewed that matter and made public their decision on what action or non-action to take.

Q But the question is, before he goes to Iraq, are you going to do anything to try to preempt him or urge him not to go or anything?

MR. MCCURRY: I have heard earlier today there may have been some contact at the State Department, so you should check their briefing that is underway on that subject.

Q When the President announced his race initiative, he suggested there would be concrete proposals during the year that he would make. Will any of those come on Wednesday when he goes to Akron, or is he just going to Akron to listen?

MR. MCCURRY: We have been making, throughout this process, taking advantage of the initiative to make policy announcements. There may be some new ideas that the President expresses on Wednesday, but there will be, in the course of coming weeks and as we get into the State of the Union process next week, specific policy actions that are related to the initiative.

Q And so the purpose of this Wednesday is to listen?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, it's a town hall meeting so the purpose is to pursue the kind of dialogue the President has asked for, obviously.

Q And do you know how the participants were chosen?

MR. MCCURRY: They were chosen -- they were recommended to the White House by the University of Akron, located elected officials, specifically the Mayor and the Congressman, and the Coming Together project, which is a nationally recognized activity that promotes understanding of racial differences among youth.

Q Can you explain why Abigail Thernstrom was chosen, as opposed to any of the other conservative voices on race like Glenn

Loury or Ward Connerly? I mean, there were a lot to choose from. Why was she picked?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, presently I don't rule out that the President will have a further session with exactly those kinds of people, but this was an attempt to identify three authors who have written provocatively on the subject of race who would stimulate the kind of conversation the President wants at this town hall meeting. She is one voice among the three authors who will be present to help facilitate the conversation the President will guide on Wednesday. But again, as I said, I don't rule out sometime soon the President meeting with an additional grouping of people who take a somewhat different view on those questions.

Q Is there any timing for that? There is supposed to be a group of conservatives coming in sometime in December.

MR. MCCURRY: I haven't heard that they have nailed down the time, but roughly end of the year, beginning of next year. They haven't nailed that down yet.

MR. LOCKHART: They're still trying to do it for --

MR. MCCURRY: Yes, they are still trying to work it out this month, Joe says.

Q Is the President at all concerned that the Medicare commission is already missing its first deadline by not being able to reach a consensus on finding some --

MR. MCCURRY: No, they are working on difficult issues that are going to take some time to resolve, and they are going to have to be resolved in a bipartisan way. We are trying to assure that there is a bipartisan composition for that commission that will arrive at a solution that will work for both the Congress and the President and for both sides of the aisle.

They have got a lot of work to do in addressing a long-term problem. Remember, the short-term issues of trust fund solvency have been addressed through the balanced budget agreement and some of the actions that have already been taken.

Q Mike, what would you say to those who find it a little odd that two fundraisers right as Janet Reno is deciding whether past fundraising activities should be investigated?

MR. MCCURRY: Wake up and see reality. Reality is that campaign spending is running somewhat out of control and that Republicans are out-spending Democrats five to one. So just get used to it, because the President is going to have to do a lot more of it unless we secure campaign finance reform. And people who are concerned about it or find it odd or peculiar ought to write their congressman and assure that we get campaign finance reform enacted early next year.

Q Is there going to be a statement from the President in recognition of World AIDS today?

MR. MCCURRY: Did we put that proclamation out? There will be a statement coming out shortly, I believe.

Q Mike, on a related thing, there's an initiative in California to require union members to be asked for their permission before they raise dues collections. Is the President going to take a position on that?

MR. MCCURRY: I haven't heard him take a position on that. We've had some discussions related to that that have come up

from time to time in our dealings with Congress, but they amount to codifying what has been interpreted by the Supreme Court, if I'm not mistaken?

Q So you don't expect him to take a position?

MR. MCCURRY: I haven't asked him about it. I don't know the answer.

Q Mike, is the President going to be meeting this week with the President of the European Communication, Jacques Santer? And if they have such a meeting are you confident they will be able to bridge differences in positions on the global climate change issue?

MR. MCCURRY: He will be here for the U.S.-EU summit that will occur on Friday. I can very well imagine that global climate change will be one of many subjects on the agenda because it frequently is. I don't believe that that session is designed to bridge differences, although certainly we will exchange views with the leadership of the European Union on that question, because it's important for those differences to be bridged as we think of the negotiating occurring in Kyoto. But there would be more in the discussion on the range of issues that we pursue in common with the European Union that we address at our twice-annual summits.

Q What are these issues?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, trade; economic future; NATO future; Russia's participation in NATO; Bosnia, to be sure; the status of efforts at European integration. We'll exchange views on a range of issues global in nature -- the Middle East peace process; other issues in which we are actively engaged with the European Union. We'll probably later in the week do a more complete agenda.

Anything I left out there?

MS. LUZZATTO: No.

Q Can you elaborate on what the President said on the pornography Internet thing today? Is this enough? Is this satisfactory to the White House to avoid any future attempts at regulation? Is there more that the White House will seek for them to do?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, the summit is a direct response to the challenge that the President put forward back on July 16th. In fact, I think they announced this summit at that event itself. We believe that the industry, using appropriate technologies and using its own best practices, should be encouraged and could be encouraged to come forward with its own initiatives. And we'll look very carefully at what the industry is recommending, see how user-friendly it will be for parents who need tools to protect their kids from smut on the Internet, and analyze the results of the summit as they are announced today. The Vice President, of course, may very well say more on this subject when he speaks at the summit tomorrow.

Q Web Hubbell, in his book, writes that when he first went to the Justice Department, the President asked him to find answers to questions --

MR. MCCURRY: This was asked and answered last week. Anything else?

Q Did you get any additional stuff -- (laughter.)

MR. MCCURRY: No.

Anything else?

Q Is it your position now you won't comment on anything in the book?

MR. MCCURRY: A lot of people are going to write books in the course of the next several years and --

Q Are you?

MR. MCCURRY: I don't plan to, no. And I'm just not going to respond to each and everything that occurs in any of these books.

Q Why not?

MR. MCCURRY: Because that's all we would spend our time doing and it's not a useful expenditure of time.

Q There hasn't been that many --

Q What were the answers?

Q What were the questions?

MR. MCCURRY: I just said I'm not going to respond to each and every thing in every book that's been written, including Mr. Hubbell's book. He's already responded, if I'm not mistaken, that it was a tongue-in-cheek request -- or told that to you, if I'm not mistaken, Wolf. So I don't know that there's much more necessary to be said.

Q What's up tomorrow?

MR. MCCURRY: Tomorrow is -- we'll see what happens. We're still making it up.

Okay, thanks.

Q Thank you.

END

1:57 P.M. EST

#439-12/01

15

FINAL DRAFT
PRESS SCENARIO FOR COP-3 IN KYOTO

U.N. Press Coordination/Management Role

COP-3 is being managed by the Secretariat for the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Secretariat is responsible for accreditation of media representatives, issuance of press passes, and management of press facilities at the Kyoto Convention Center. This would include scheduling of delegation press briefings, provision of telephone lines/computer hook-ups, etc. The UNFCCC will begin distributing press credentials on Friday, November 28. The press filing center opens on Saturday, November 29. Michael Williams is the UNFCCC Secretariat's conference spokesperson. He will arrive in Kyoto on November 26. Until then, Mr. Williams may be reached in his Paris office at 41-22-979-9242. (See attached accreditation form and map of the convention center.)

Press Facilities

The Convention Center includes a 700 seat auditorium, which will be used for on-site press conferences. The briefing theater has simultaneous interpretation equipment. The Secretariat will assign times on a first come/first serve basis, trying to respect deadline filing times around the world. The Convention Center's Events Hall will contain work space for credentialed print and electronic media.

Delegations, including the U.S. Government (USG), also have been assigned space in the Convention Center's Events Hall. We understand that this is an "open" (no wall) space area. Ambassador Mark Hambley will tour the Kyoto Convention Center next week to determine whether this space could be used for the USG press operation, including dissemination of official USG informational materials. If that function is appropriate to the available space, the USIS-Japan staff will staff the booth/desk.

As an alternative, or in addition, the USIS-Japan (United States Information Service, which is the overseas arm of the USIA-United States Information Agency) will operate a two room suite in the Prince Takaragaike Hotel, which is located just across the street from the Convention Center. Note hours of operation and staffing below. (Please note that this is also in addition to the official USG Delegation Control Room, which also is located at the Prince T Hotel.) The USIS suite will serve as USG "press central," and will have a small facility for interviewing key delegation members. The room is small (could seat approximately 20 people). The room could hold a podium, but not risers for TV.

USG Press Management Functions and Key Staffing

The Department of State, in cooperation with USIA/USIS, will support the following press functions in Kyoto. Susan Povenmire (OES Bureau Press and Public Affairs Advisor) and Arthur Green (senior USIA foreign press manager; on detail to DOS for COP-3) will serve as the principal Department of State (DOS) press contacts.

Spokesperson for the U.S. Delegation. The Head of Delegation (Undersecretary Tim Wirth/Assistant Secretary Melinda Kimble) will serve as the principal spokesperson for the U.S. Delegation. OES Bureau Press and Public Affairs Advisor, Susan Povenmire, will support the Delegation Team. All press access to the USG Delegation will be managed through Ms. Povenmire. Povenmire will also oversee the daily development of "press guidance" for the Department delegation and for DOS-Washington, with drafting and policy coordination support from an OES officer.

Getting the U.S. Message Out in Kyoto and Around the World. Susan Povenmire and Arthur Green will support the Delegation Head in determining how best to orchestrate our public diplomacy scenario. Arthur Green, with support from USIA/USIS staff, will coordinate the daily update of the WASHINGTON FILE and USIA and DOS' Kyoto web sites (the official USG web site for UNFCCC). Povenmire will coordinate closely with White House press officers and the DOS press office.

Press Scheduling and Outreach. Susan Povenmire and Arthur Green will support the Delegation Head in determining the schedule for press briefings and interviews.

Press Liaison Functions. Management of the USIA press desk, liaison with the UN Press Office, NGO/Industry press reps, and the CODEL Press Assistant(s) will be handled by Arthur E. Green (on detail from USIA to State for Kyoto Conference). Considerable staffing support will be provided to this function by USIA/USIS. The USIA press desk will be open from Saturday, November 29 through Wednesday, December 11. Operation will be staffed round-the-clock (three shifts of staff).

Press Statements, Talking Points, Speeches. Susan Povenmire and Arthur Green will provide support to USG delegation support staff and USIA/USIS in the development of materials requested by the Delegation Head, with drafting and policy coordination support from an OES officer.

Information and Outreach. The USIS press desk will supply time sensitive background information, briefing transcripts, and wire service stories and other information to the anticipated 5,000 credentialed press and 4,000 NGOs expected for the Conference in Kyoto. The USIA Information Bureau will produce a 18-page brochure containing the President's October 22 National Geographic Speech, the White House Fact Sheets, and a chronological summary of USG efforts to address global warming since the 1992 Rio Conference. In addition, USIA will produce a folder for press release distribution. USIA is also planning to print "post-ern" notes with the USIA Kyoto web site printed on them. All printed material will be shipped to Kyoto the week of November 24. The USIS-Tokyo library outreach specialist will assist delegation members and media reps gain access to the Internet and commercial databases. Arthur Green will oversee this function.

Staffing

The DOS press functions will be carried out under the U.S. Delegation's "Constituent Management Team," coordinated from DOS by Susan Gordon, and by a White House officer.

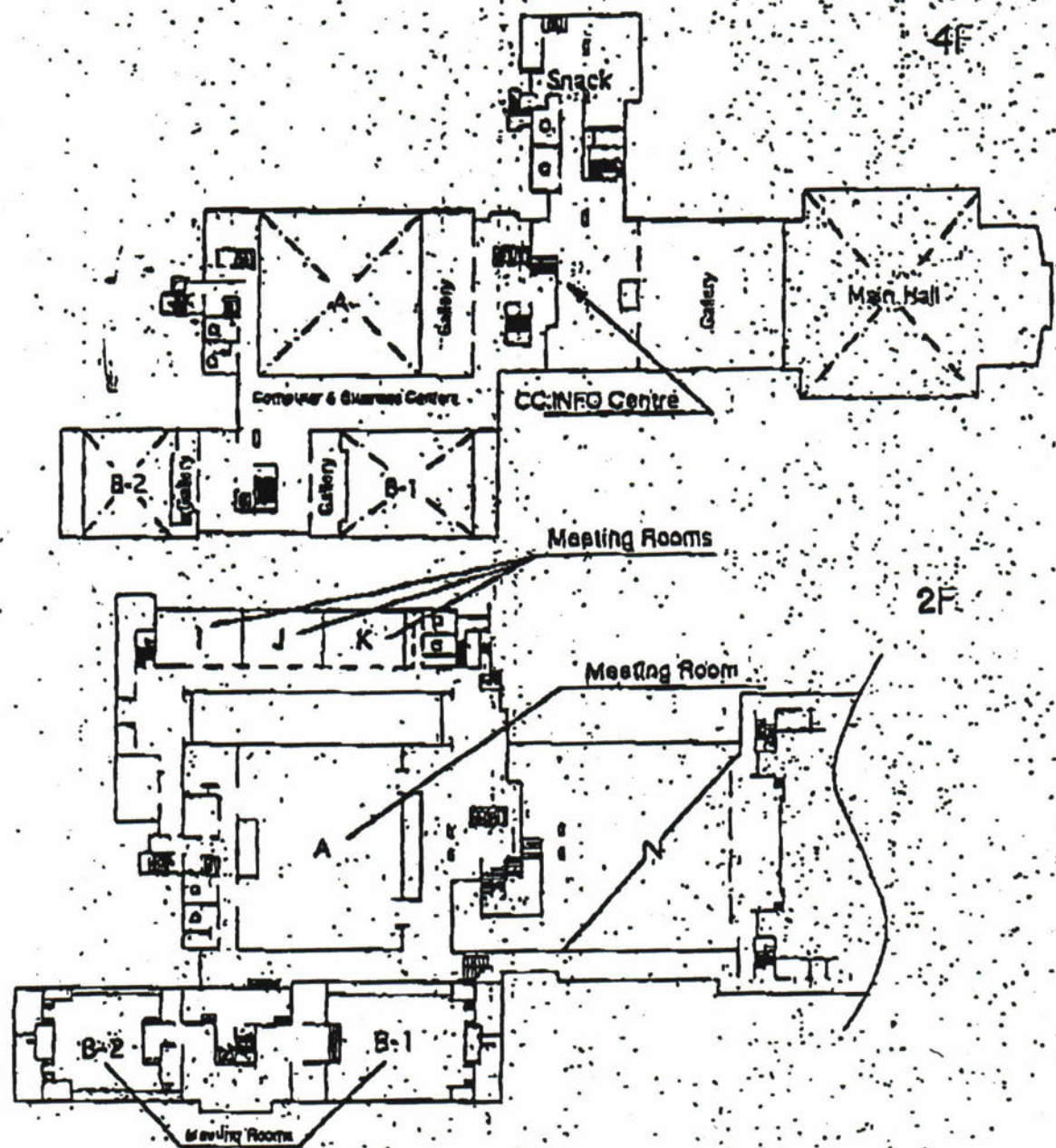
As noted above, Susan Povenmire (Delegation Press Director) and Arthur Green (Press Center Management and Foreign Press Liaison) will be responsible for the press functions, and will be supported by DOS, USIA, and USIS staff. The USIA/USIS staffing pattern of 10-12 Americans and up to 35 Japanese Foreign Nationals (USIS-Tokyo) reflects the fact that this is a major international conference, and that as of November 1, over 3000 members of the media had been accredited by the Secretariat.

Other Logistical Details

The U.S. Delegation is staying at the Holiday Inn-Kyoto, which is located in the northern part of the city. It is approximately 10 minutes from the Kyoto Convention Center. The subway is in close proximity to both the Hotel and Center. Shuttle buses will run both in the morning and evening. Taxis are easily available at both ends.

③

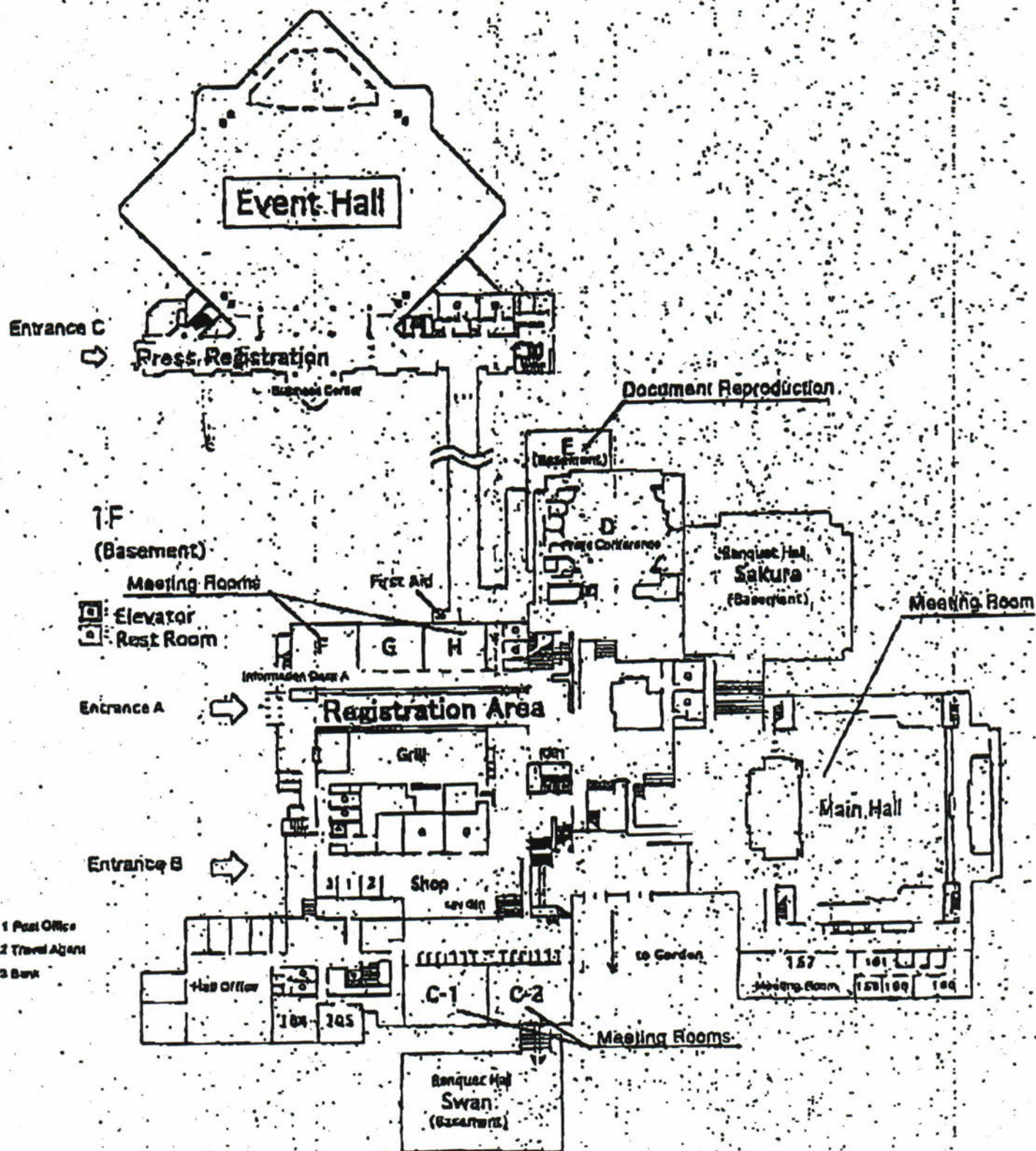
CONFERENCE HALL



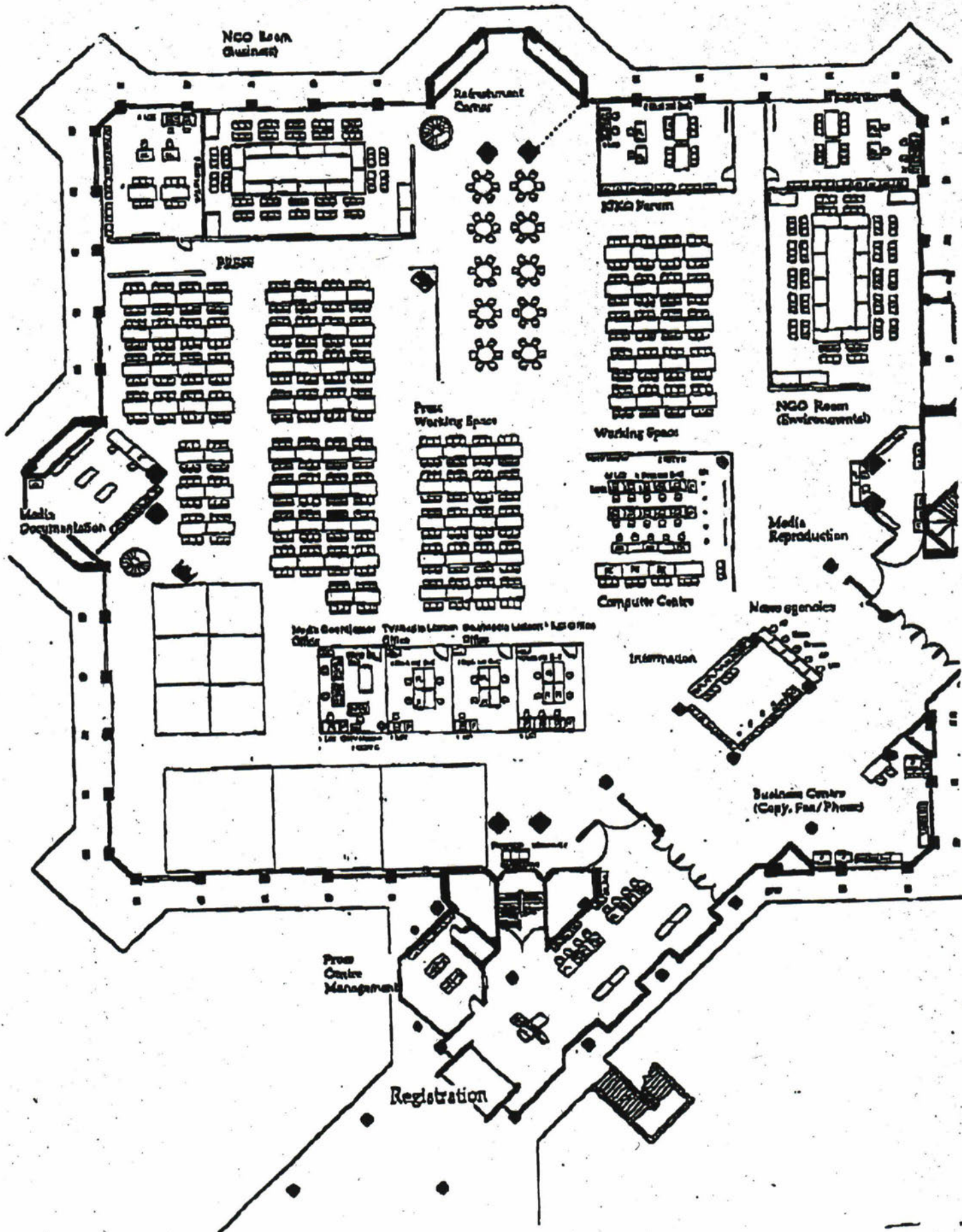
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KYOTO INTERNATIONAL CONF

Third Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change



TO: DPAO (FYI)



Kyoto Conference Public Communications Strategy

Setting

The Third Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change will meet in Kyoto, Japan, December 1-10. The conference is the stage on which over 160 countries will play out the drama that started at a meeting in Bonn, where delegates produced the draft of a protocol on the reduction of greenhouse gases. This action reflects the growing consensus within the international scientific community that heat-trapping gases from the consumption of fossil fuel energy will detrimentally and seriously alter the Earth's climate system. The prevailing attitude at Bonn was that the industrialized world should commit itself to legally binding measures aimed at cutting greenhouse gas emissions, but the crucial issues of how much, by whom, and when remain for the Kyoto meeting to resolve.

The challenge facing the United States in Kyoto is to reconcile differing perceptions of what needs to be done and to reach an agreement all parties can accept. The different positions of the United States and the European Union, in particular, pose the most difficult challenge. Essentially, the European countries want dramatic, intermediate regulatory action for what they regard as a major threat. They want industrialized countries to commit themselves in a legally binding way to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent from 1990 levels by 2010. They would exempt developing countries from this goal. This would be responsive to European public opinion, which feels much more urgency than the American public about tackling global climate issues, and favors major action by their governments now to reduce human impact on the global climate despite large potential costs involved.

This challenge is complicated by the position of the developing countries. China and several others want the industrialized nations to stabilize their emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2000. In their view, developing countries should be exempt, but receive compensation if their exports are hurt through action taken by others. Moreover, they propose that should the industrialized countries fail to meet their emissions reduction targets, they would pay some kind of fee or compensation to the developing countries.

President Clinton has proposed an ambitious climate change plan that is environmentally strong and economically feasible. This plan will proceed pragmatically and in phases, with periodic economic and scientific reviews, to cut our carbon emissions by about 22 percent from levels projected for 2010. The plan also calls for cuts in emissions of other greenhouse gases. The President's plan has significant advantages over any others thus far presented:

- it contains a concrete and realistic plan for meeting our target;
- includes all greenhouse gases; and
- encourages use of carbon "sinks" such as reforestation, which will result in other significant, long term environmental benefits.

Goals

The primary goal of a public communications strategy for the Kyoto Conference is to support U.S. conference objectives – to obtain an agreement that: (1) commits all developed countries to have realistic and achievable targets and timetables for significantly reducing their greenhouse gas emissions, (2) sets up a process to ensure that developing nations will have binding emissions limitation commitments of their own and advance their commitments undertaken as part of the original Climate Change Treaty, and (3) to establish a system of emissions trading and other market mechanisms to reduce the costs of limiting emissions in all countries. A second tranche of U.S. goals involves preventing the conference from becoming a platform for political posturing that will retard rather than promote the goal of reducing emissions, to ensure cooperation rather than conflict between the parties to secure a workable agreement, and to establish the fact that there is more similarity than difference between the proposals of the United States and the EU, and between the United States and Japan.

Themes

To achieve these goals, our public communication messages should concentrate on a few basic themes, directed predominantly at European audiences. We should avoid, whenever possible, getting bogged down on numbers. There are simply too many conflicting numbers out in the public domain and the public is not untutored in how they can be manipulated. "Figures don't lie, but liars figure," is a commonly held public view, both in the United States and abroad. All of the following proposed themes sound a positive note, stressing the participation and

responsibility of all nations, large and small, developed and developing, for the future well-being of the world community.

1. **Climate change is a global problem requiring a global solution.** No country is immune from the potentially devastating effects of greenhouse gas emissions. Such emissions know no borders. It's all one atmosphere, no matter where the emissions come from. They are not limited to any group of states or to regional areas. They do not respect levels of development or economic growth.
2. **A global solution requires global cooperation.** An effective solution to the problem requires all nations, developed and developing, working together toward a common goal – to preserve as best we can the legacy of a benign environment for the generations of children that will follow us. No nation can do the job alone. No small group of nations can do it alone. This is a truly transnational problem that requires a transnational effort. Many differences may have to be set aside, but that is a small price in the face of the consequences of unrestrained greenhouse gas emissions.
3. **We must do what we promise, not promise what we cannot,** as the Secretary has said. It is easy to set unrealistic targets or timetables for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. That is likely to produce an outcome none of us wants – the degeneration of the international negotiating process into political posturing and the continuing rise of emissions. Working in concert as an international community focused on community concerns, we can do what needs to be done in a sound and mutually acceptable way.
4. **Kyoto is the first step in an ongoing process.** When all the nations gathered in Kyoto commit to becoming full partners in responding to the threat of climate change, it will be a significant first step in an ongoing process. The work of the world community of nations will not end in Kyoto, it may have only just begun. A successful beginning there will provide momentum for a process that must be sustained over the long term.
5. **The United States wants to work with the world community on tough issues.** The United States sees the nations of the world as part of a general community. In true communities, the inhabitants work together to address their concerns. Communities are sensitive to individual

differences, but the goal must always be what is best for the community. All of us share the responsibility for shaping change to the benefit of the world community. And we all share responsibility for ensuring to our posterity a livable world, breathable air, potable water, and a world that will allow our children to experience the wonders of nature.

6. **A dispute resolved and an agreement achieved is better than a dispute continued without an agreement.** All of the nations represented at the Conference must be committed to achieving an agreement that all parties can accept, not to a protracted dispute, rhetorical contests, or the search for a scapegoat. The numbers being put forward by the United States, the European Union, and other countries are not as far apart as many would have us believe. A concerted effort to bridge the differences will make the difference between success and failure.

Time Frames and Events

Short-term: Most short-term events should be directed toward foreign publics, especially those in the EU. Ideally, the events planned should progressively cluster toward the end of the month during the two-weeks run-up prior to conference's opening. The most effective way to accomplish this is through USIA. The following events will help convey our message to foreign, mostly European, publics:

- *Financial Times* op-ed by the Secretary. Draft due to S by November 14. Placement target date is November 26 (post APEC/Vancouver). Action: S/P Heather Hurlburt or WH-Nicholas Latham to draft the op-ed; PA Media Outreach to place it. To expedite clearance, draft should be cleared via the interagency climate change task force at White House.
- USIA's *Washington Wire* (Jim Fuller) bi-liner interview with Mark Hambley to be released worldwide in multiple languages. Tentative release date: November 13 for placement as a feature in Sunday newspapers. Action: USIA-Jim Fuller.
- OES/EGS- Daniel Reifsnnyder conducts an on-background roundtable discussion with editorial writers from major European publications in Bonn on November 14. Action: USIS-Bonn.
- VOA is revising a draft editorial for worldwide broadcast summarizing the US plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Targeted airdate: November 17. Action: VOA.

- BBC interview with Under Secretary Wirth on "Panorama" on November 17. Action: G-Suzanne Petroni; PA Media Outreach; USIS-London.

Others: There are other short-term high-level opportunities to convey our message on climate change prior to Kyoto:

- Secretary's trips to South Asia and the APEC Ministerial in Vancouver offer hooks to incorporate climate change into her remarks.
 - In India, Secretary's remarks at Taj Mahal include references to climate change there. Action: S/P-Bill Woodward and G-Suzanne Petroni.
 - At APEC Conference, the anticipated Leaders' Statement contains section on climate change. Action: S/P-Bill Woodward and G-Suzanne Petroni
- President's radio address focuses exclusively or in part on subject of climate change at break-point of Saturday, December 6. That date provides an excellent outreach opportunity at what most likely will be a critical stage of the negotiations. USIA could put it on the wires.

Action: WH-Natalie Wymer, OES-Susan Povenmire, USIA-Art Green.

The U.S. and Other Areas:

- On-the-Record briefing by Under Secretary Wirth targeting essential message about Kyoto to State press corps and U.S. domestic media. Target date: November 12. Action: PA Media Outreach, OES-Susan Povenmire, G-Suzanne Petroni.
- Under Secretary Wirth's interview with USA Today (Tracy Watson) tentatively scheduled for November 19. To be published before Kyoto. Action: G-Suzanne Petroni.
- Op-ed by Under Secretary Eizenstat for the Asian Wall Street Journal or Asian edition of The Economist. Focus on economic perspectives on climate change. Target placement date: November 24. Action: E-Peter Bass; OES-Susan Povenmire; USIA.
- Op-ed on climate change by Under Secretary Talbott or Brian Atwood for wide-spectrum foreign press placement by USIA. Target date: November 25. Action: PA Media Outreach.

Ongoing Events:

- Exclusive interviews with major media in key countries affected by climate change. For example, in Latin America, one-on-one interviews will be arranged with major broadcasters or publications in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Venezuela. Action: OES-Susan Povenmire; USIA-Art Green.
- USIA Web Page and State Environmental Web Page are updated on a daily basis. Action: USIA, OES and PA.

- Preparation of press kit prior to COP-3, to include official delegation-list, fact sheets and major speeches. USIA is printing press kit folders and COP-3 post-ums with web site information. Action: USIA.
- OES will release regularly updated talking points and Q&A on climate change (now in final clearance with MKimble). Action: OES/EGC-Dan Balzer and PA.
- Preparation of 18-page brochure containing the President's October 22 National Geographic speech, the WH Task Force on Global Climate Change backgrounders, and a chronology of U.S. actions since the 1992 Rio Conference. Action: USIA

Long-term: Our strategy for the post-Kyoto period will depend on what kind of agreement emerges from Kyoto. If we achieve success, there is likely to be a legislative agenda. That will have to be filled in when we know what we have. At the same time, whatever agreement emerges will have to be presented to the American public as a U.S. accomplishment.

Plan for
immediate
aftermath of
Kyoto

DRAFT

Drafted: OES:SPovenmire/PA:SKane

Cleared: PA:JRubin

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OES:JCampbell

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USIA:AGreen

DRAFT

PULL SHEET

OA 11463 Collection: STAFF Secretary Todd STERN

Date: 1.23.02 Archivist: Foulk, Stalcup

Purpose/Researcher: Applebaum pull