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Thursday, December 31, 1992

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Doc. No. / Type	Subject/Title	Date	Restriction	Classification
01. Note	Boris Yeltsin (1 pp.)	12/31/1992	(b)(1)	
02. Letter	Francois Mitterrand to POTUS [preservation copy] (1 pp.)	12/31/92	(b)(1)	S
03. Letter	Francois Mitterrand to POTUS (1 pp.)	12/31/92	(b)(1)	S

Page 1 of 1

Collection:

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WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM

PRESIDENT BUSH

DECEMBER 31st , 1992

[illegible]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TELEPHONE MEMORANDUM
SIGNAL SWITCHBOARD

December 31, 1992

	TIME		NAME	ACTION
	PLACED	DISC		
XXX INC	AM 6:00 PM	 8:27	Mrs. Barbara P. Bush Residence, Washington D.C. White House Admin x551	WCL 6:06 PM Tlkd-ok 8:24 PM
OUT XXX	AM 6:30 PM	 7:22	Conference Call: President Boris N. Yeltsin Office, Moscow, Russia	Tlkd-ok 7:09 PM via DVL
OUT INC	AM PM		Mr. Cornelius F. O'Leary White House Situation Room White House Signal 7-2264	
OUT INC	AM PM		Mr. R. Nicholas Burns White House Situation Room White House Signal 7-2262	
OUT INC	AM PM		Ms. Galina Tunik White House Situation Room White House Signal 7-2262	
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Mogadishu, Somalia

DATE 31 December 1992

MOVEMENTS

SST

[illegible]



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1992
6:00 A.M. EST/2:00 P.M. MOGADISHU EDITION

SUMMIT NEWS

BUSH SETS OUT ON FINAL TRIP ABROAD AS PRESIDENT -- President Bush, making his 25th and final visit abroad, will meet Boris Yeltsin this weekend to sign history's most ambitious nuclear arms control agreement.
(AP, Washington Post, UPI, Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BUSH SET TO ARRIVE IN SOMALI 'DODGE CITY' -- President Bush sets foot in one of the most dangerous places for a U.S. presidential visit Thursday to honor American troops battling bugs, bullets and broiling heat to get food to Somalia's starving.
(Reuter, Washington Times)

NATIONAL NEWS

INDICATORS SIGNAL GAINS IN ECONOMY -- The government's chief economic forecasting gauge in November flashed a growth signal for the first year of the Clinton administration.
(AP, Washington Post)

NUMBER ON ROLLS FALLS SLIGHTLY IN OCTOBER -- The number of Americans receiving food stamps fell in October, as victims of this summer's hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana and Hawaii stopped taking the aid, the Agriculture Department said.
(AP)

NETWORK NEWS (Wednesday evening)

PRESIDENT'S TRIP -- The President left on the 25th and probably last overseas trip of his presidency.

SOMALIA/SECURITY -- Although the main warlords have pulled most of their big guns out of the city of Mogadishu, muggers, looters and killers still roam freely.

ECONOMY -- The index of leading economic indicators shows an impressive 0.8% increase for November.

SUMMIT NEWS.....A-1
INTERNATIONAL NEWS...A-3
NATIONAL NEWS.....A-8
NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

SUMMIT

BUSH SETS OUT ON 25TH AND FINAL TRIP ABROAD AS PRESIDENT

President Bush, making his 25th and final visit abroad, will meet Boris Yeltsin this weekend to sign history's most ambitious nuclear arms control agreement. En route to the Black Sea summit, Bush was visiting U.S. troops and comforting famine victims in Somalia.

The President stopped in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Thursday morning to change planes before the final leg to Somalia and met briefly with Saudi King Fahd at the airport for what was described as a courtesy call.

Bush, sitting down with Fahd, said: "This is a very nice reunion among friends." He also told the monarch that the START II pact was a good one, although "some problems remain," including Ukraine's refusal thus far to ratify the agreement.

Bush plans to arrive midday Thursday in Mogadishu. He shrugged off concerns about his personal safety.

"It's perfectly safe," Bush said. "There's not a worry in the world on that."

Clinton spokesman Jeff Eller said there has been "a lot of cooperation, a lot of sharing" on arms control issues between the Bush and Clinton camps.

In Moscow, the Interfax news agency quoted Yeltsin as calling the treaty the "document of the century" and saying it was the "most important achievement in relations between our two countries."
(George Gedda, AP)

Bush To Sign N-Arms Pact On Last Trip

President Bush embarked Wednesday on his 25th and final presidential trip abroad, announcing that he and Boris Yeltsin will meet at a Black Sea resort city this weekend to sign the START II treaty slashing the long-range nuclear arsenals that are the most lethal legacy of the Cold War.

While declining to take personal credit for the agreement, the third arms control pact of his term, Bush called it "good for all mankind" and added that he took pride in the agreement for its historic impact on reducing the threat of nuclear war.

The finalization of the treaty and the planning and execution of the effort in Somalia have seemed to pull Bush out of the embittered state he fell into after his loss to President-elect Clinton. The crises in Somalia and Bosnia and the calls for presidential leadership in arms control have re-engaged the President in his acknowledged passion for international diplomacy.

Bush said Wednesday that President-elect Clinton had been briefed on the treaty negotiations and praised him for broadly endorsing the effort. Bush called Clinton Wednesday to offer him final details and a Clinton spokesman said there had been continuous updates to the president-elect's foreign policy team on the progress of the talks.
(Ann Devroy, Washington Post, A1)

Bush Says START II 'Good For All Mankind'

Declaring it will be "good for all mankind," President Bush said he will sign a sweeping arms-reduction pact next week at a U.S.-Russian summit on the Black Sea.

"This historic treaty will reduce by two thirds current nuclear arsenals," Bush told a Rose Garden news conference Wednesday shortly after conferring by telephone with Boris Yeltsin.

The snags Monday that delayed the agreement until Tuesday were said to have revolved around silos that the Russians use for their nuclear weapons and that they want to keep for other purposes. The U.S. wanted them destroyed.

Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev called the accord "a reasonable compromise."

"The Americans met us halfway and took into account our problems, including economic ones," he was quoted by the independent Interfax news agency as saying. (Helen Thomas, UPI)

Summit Set To Sign Treaty

President Bush will hold the final summit of his presidency with Boris Yeltsin at a Black Sea port next week to sign an arms treaty slashing the nuclear arsenals of the U.S. and the former Soviet Union.

Bush said arms negotiators in Geneva are working out the text of the treaty. He said he is confident the Senate will ratify it.

Sen. Thurmond said he will support the treaty if the text "lives up to how it has been described." The treaty also needs the approval of the Ukraine, "which has not yet agreed to part with its nuclear arms," he said.

A Yeltsin critic in Russia denounced the pact. "It's clear now that the Russian leadership has made a final choice for the policy of total surrender to the United States," said Ilya Konstantinov, a founder of the National Salvation Front, a coalition of ultra-nationalists and former Communists.

Spurgeon Keeny, president of the Arms Control Association, said START II "codifies the end of the Cold War and underscores a fundamental change in thinking about the role of nuclear weapons in warfare and appreciation of the limited usefulness of these weapons."

Frank Gaffney, a former Pentagon arms-control official, said the Administration is making a mistake by driving to conclude the treaty before Bush leaves office.

(Bill Gertz, Washington Times, A1)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

BUSH SET TO ARRIVE IN SOMALI 'DODGE CITY'

MOGADISHU -- President Bush sets foot in one of the most dangerous places for a U.S. presidential visit Thursday to honor American troops battling bugs, bullets and broiling heat to get food to Somalia's starving.

"It's a dangerous proposition when you travel around Mogadishu... but we're going to be taking adequate and thorough precautions to ensure his safety," said Col. Fred Peck, a military spokesman.

Sandbagged machine-gun posts and barbed wire went up Wednesday outside the gates of Mogadishu airport, where U.S. troops watched from the roof of the terminal building and on top of shipping containers that lined the approach road.

Troops from the U.S. and 18 other countries in the Somalia task force are now cracking down on the freelance gunmen left on the streets after Mogadishu's top two warlords ordered their men and technicals out of town.

"If people aren't carrying weapons openly, and if every time they do we seize them, this (Mogadishu) will be like Dodge City after Wyatt Earp," Peck said. (Paul Holmes, Reuter)

Troops Clear Area For Bush's Stop In Somalia

MOGADISHU -- U.S. forces secured the gun-ridden turf for the arrival Thursday of President Bush in this war- and famine-weary nation, one of the hottest trouble spots ever visited by an American president.

In the southern port of Kismayu, Army commanders brokered an arms deal Wednesday to get all weapons out of that city by New Year's Day.

To prepare for Bush's arrival, the marines Wednesday seized a second building from which it was determined that hostile fire could reach the embassy compound. They confiscated some mortars and ammunition.

They also began random car searches for weapons, something that was quickly abandoned as unworkable when U.S. forces arrived.

The President likely will be warmly received by Somalia, which increasingly views U.S. intervention as salvation. Local newspapers hailed the visit.

Cynthia Osterman, a spokeswoman for CARE, said the visit will have a positive effect on this ravaged country. "It will be a morale boost for troops as well as humanitarian workers to see Somalia getting attention at the highest levels," she said.

(Michael Hedges, Washington Times, A1)

**TASK FORCE STARTS SECURING
ANOTHER SOMALI TOWN**

MOGADISHU -- The U.S.-led multinational task force in Somalia pressed on with its relief effort Thursday ahead of President Bush's arrival, entering the small port of Merca, 45 miles south of Mogadishu.

U.S. military spokesman Lt. Col. Steve Ritter said U.S. troops started arriving by helicopter in Merca early Thursday. Italian soldiers were coming in later by road to make up a total force of 400 troops in the town.

"There were no incidents, it was quiet," said Ritter, adding that the force would use Merca to take famine relief to nearby villages. (Reuter)

**FRENCH TROOPS SHOOT DEAD
SOMALI AT MOGADISHU EMBASSY**

MOGADISHU -- French troops shot dead an unarmed Somali as he tried to enter the French embassy in Mogadishu Wednesday, U.N. sources said Thursday.

Sources said the Somali was shot by French troops as he tried to scale the walls of the embassy, in one of the most unruly parts of the city. (Reuter)

**BROADER U.S. ROLE
DEVELOPING IN SOMALIA**

MOGADISHU -- In its first 3 1/2 weeks, Operation Restore Hope has clearly expanded beyond the mission of opening relief corridors and moving badly needed food to starving Somalis, according to U.S. and relief agency officials.

In the chaos of Somalia, U.S. officials here concede they are often improvising. They say the initial statements from the White House about the limited scope of the mission did not represent a set of firm policy guidelines, and the policy is still evolving daily. "It's pretty obvious we're going beyond that narrow focus," one Western diplomat said.

For example, while the U.S. officially is not here to involve itself in Somalia's politics, State Department officials have been quietly coordinating "town meeting"-style sessions in Somali towns. These meetings are bringing together clan leaders, elders, Muslim clerics, women and other officials to begin dialogues that might eventually lead to political reconciliation.

The U.S. military has also become far more involved in infrastructure and rehabilitation projects in the first three weeks of this operation.

Also, despite their protestations to the contrary, U.S. military forces are now more actively engaged in disarming Somalis than when they first arrived -- and more than they may actually want to be. (Keith Richburg, Washington Post, A16)

**BUSH HIRES LAWYER
IN IRAN-CONTRA**

President Bush, under fire from Lawrence Walsh for withholding his notes on the Iran-contra affair from 1987 to 1992, has hired former attorney general Griffin Bell to represent him in the continuing investigation, the White House announced Wednesday.

The White House said that the first job for Bell will be to seek "for public release" a copy of the President's five-hour sworn deposition given to Walsh's prosecutors on Jan. 11, 1988.

"I'm glad the President will have the advice of an able lawyer who understands both litigation and the rule of law," Walsh said in a statement Wednesday.

"We're continuing to evaluate our ability to release this information, in light of grand jury secrecy rules," said Walsh spokeswoman Mary Belcher, explaining the decision taken Tuesday not to provide the transcript to Bush. She added that another reason the transcript is not being released is that "the investigation relating to the Bush notes is not yet at a point where we can act on his request."

(Dan Morgan, Washington Post, A1)

Bush Hires Former Attorney General In Iran-contra Probe

President Bush, facing a criminal investigation by the Iran-contra special prosecutor into his role in the Iran-contra scandal, has hired former attorney general Griffin Bell to represent him.

The White House said Bush turned to Bell to help him obtain from Lawrence Walsh his five hours of questioning in 1988 about his role in the affair. The White House said Bell was recruited after it was told by Walsh's deputy, Craig Gillen, that the deposition would not be turned over.

Mary Belcher, a spokeswoman for Walsh, disputed the White House's account, saying the prosecutor was going to continue to consider the request to turn over Bush's sworn testimony.

(James Vicini, Reuter)

**BUSH BRISTLES AT ATTACKS
OF IRAN-CONTRA PARDONS**

President Bush Wednesday angrily rejected criticism of his Christmas Eve pardons of Caspar Weinberger and five other Iran-contra figures as "stupid" and "frivolous."

In his first comments about the pardons, Bush rebutted charges by Lawrence Walsh and his allies that the President's action shows powerful people are above the law.

"No, it should not give any such appearance," Bush said in the White House Rose Garden news conference. "Nobody is above the law, and I believe when people break the law that's a bad thing."

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A8)

**WALSH SAID READY TO
DROP IRAN-CONTRA PROSECUTIONS**

After assessing the effect of President Bush's Christmas Eve pardons with his staff, Lawrence Walsh concluded he could go no further with his investigations or prosecutions, a source close to Walsh said Wednesday.

Regarding prosecutions, the source said, "after a lot of meetings and discussion, we just didn't see a lot there. The pardons put us out of the game."

Walsh has ruled out, as pointless, suggestions that he compel Caspar Weinberger to testify before a grand jury about what Bush knew. Thus, although Walsh has not announced the results of his two days of staff strategy sessions, which ended Wednesday, the source said "he is inclined to go no further with the investigation."
(Saul Friedman, Newsday)

3 MORE IMPLICATE WALSH

A defendant, a lawyer and a potential witness in the Iran-contra case Wednesday joined Caspar Weinberger in charging misconduct by Lawrence Walsh.

Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Richard Secord said Wednesday in an interview that Walsh repeatedly asked him through his attorney to provide damaging information on former president Reagan and President Bush.

In another protest, an attorney, Raymond Banoun, charged that Walsh's prosecutors were pressing his client to "mold her testimony" to fit their theory of a broad cover-up at the top of the Reagan and Bush administrations.

In a related complaint, Henry Catto, director of the U.S. Information Agency, said Wednesday that James Brosnahan, who was to have prosecuted Weinberger, came to his office Dec. 18 and asked about rumors that Weinberger once had an affair.

(Rowan Scarborough, Washington Times, A1)

**PARDONS MAY DIM
BUSH'S POPULARITY**

With President Bush's pardon for Caspar Weinberger and five other Iran-contra figures, some despondent aides at the White House think the President's popularity numbers will plunge again and stay there before he leaves office on Jan. 20.

"The controversy surrounding the pardon is going to chill his numbers in the polls," one key aide said. "Even a trip to Somalia and Russia this week are not going to help. The pardon will remain the hot item, and those numbers will sink."

(John Mashek, Boston Globe)

ACKERMAN BEGS SPY CASE REVIEW
Asks Bush To Commute Pollard Sentence

Rep. Ackerman has called on President Bush to commute the sentence of an American convicted of spying for Israel and sentenced to life in prison.

Ackerman made the request following a Dec. 22 visit with Jonathan Pollard, the former U.S. Navy intelligence analyst confined at the federal prison in Marion, Ill. Pollard is in solitary confinement in a below-ground-level cell, where he remains for 23 hours each day.

"We're circulating a letter today to members of the House and the Senate asking them to sign on to the letter to the President urging him to commute Pollard's sentence, especially in light of other sentences that have been meted out to people who committed the same crime for sworn enemies of the U.S."

(Stuart Vincent, Newsday)

U.N. CHIEF WANTS BOSNIA
AIR BAN RESOLUTION DELAYED

U.N. -- Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali asked the U.N. Security Council Wednesday night to delay any military action against Serb aircraft over Bosnia-Herzegovina in order to give peace negotiations a chance.

In a letter to the council, the secretary-general expressed "grave concern at the growing momentum for stronger military measures."

Boutros-Ghali, who has been in Geneva this week and is visiting Sarajevo on Thursday, said he spent several days in talks with Yugoslav, Bosnian, and Croatian leaders. He said he thought further negotiations, scheduled for Saturday, showed "subtle" signs of progress.

Therefore, if the Security Council decided to adopt a resolution enforcing the no-fly zone, it would be helpful if its "implementation could be delayed for a reasonable period of time," Boutros-Ghali said.

(Evelyn Leopold, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

INDICATORS SIGNAL GAINS IN ECONOMY

The government's chief economic forecasting gauge in November flashed a growth signal for the first year of the Clinton administration.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday that its Index of Leading Economic Indicators, designed to predict economic activity six to nine months in advance, jumped 0.8%, the strongest gain in 10 months and the second increase in a row.

Three movements of the index in the same direction are considered a good, although far from foolproof, cue to future economic conditions.

Analysts said the latest signs of a reviving economy call into question whether President-elect Clinton needs to follow through with proposals for trying to boost the economy with a middle-class tax cut and public works spending.

(Dave Skidmore, AP, Washington Post, D10)

NUMBER ON ROLLS FALLS SLIGHTLY IN OCTOBER

The number of Americans receiving food stamps fell in October, as victims of this summer's hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana and Hawaii stopped taking the aid, the Agriculture Department said.

USDA records show that 26.25 million Americans received food stamps in October, a decrease of 175,053 from the record-setting 26.4 million people who received assistance with their grocery bills in September. The number of people on the rolls in October, however, was still up 9% from a year ago, when 24 million Americans received food stamps, USDA said Wednesday. (Jennifer Dixon, AP)

MISSOURI GOVERNOR TO SEEK RNC CHAIR

John Ashcroft, the retiring governor of Missouri, next Tuesday will jump into the fight for the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee, sources said Wednesday. Ashcroft's entry is taken as a signal that none of the people already running for the post has enough votes to win.

Some Republican insiders said Wednesday they think Ashcroft's stature will make him the frontrunner for the job. But Charles Black said, "It's wide open. No one is going to win it on the first ballot. It'll be a question of who has the most second-choice support."

Ashcroft, an Assembly of God church member who has been active in the Christian conservative movement, can be expected to draw most of his support from that wing of the party. But he has backing elsewhere. Massachusetts Gov. Weld, a libertarian conservative who is a supporter of abortion rights and gay rights, is writing a letter to RNC members on Ashcroft's behalf, arguing that Ashcroft's record is of expanding the party base and imposing no ideological litmus tests. (David Broder, Washington Post, A7)

CYNICS MAKE LIGHT
OF A THOUSAND POINTS

President Bush's "thousand points of light" generated a thousand gags from cynics, satirists and political cartoonists. But beyond that, it's too early to tell whether it had the intended effect -- encouraging volunteerism instead of government programs.

"The awards made heroes out of volunteers... and helped lay the foundation for broad public and private support for community service," argues Catherine Milton, director of the Commission on National and Community Service.

"It was a hell of a good line in a hell of a good speech but the most important thing about it was that it helped George Bush get elected," says Democratic political consultant Robert Shrum. "After that, it became another excuse for domestic inaction. And no one ever noticed it." (Maria Puente, USA Today, 2A)

CHENEYS TO JOIN
CONSERVATIVE THINK TANK

Secretary Cheney and his wife, Lynne Cheney, will join the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) when the Democrats take over the government.

AEI has also signed on Michael Boskin, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and David Bradford, another member of the council who specializes in tax policy. Secretary Cheney will be a senior fellow at AEI, and his wife will serve in a cultural and humanities chair at the institute. An outspoken and sometimes controversial chairman at the National Endowment for the Humanities, Lynne Cheney is also working on a book on cultural issues to be published at the end of 1993. (Transition, Washington Post, A25)

NETWORK NEWS

(Wednesday evening, December 30)

PRESIDENT'S TRIP

ABC's Sam Donaldson reports the President left this morning on the 25th and probably last overseas trip of his presidency -- to Saudi Arabia, Somalia and then on Saturday and Sunday to the Russian city of Sochi to sign the new strategic arms limitation treaty with Boris Yeltsin.

ABC's Bob Zelnick says in announcing the trip to meet Yeltsin, President Bush made it clear he regards the START II agreement as a key achievement to this presidency.

(President Bush: "This historic treaty will reduce by two-thirds current nuclear arsenals and will dramatically lower the numbers of strategic nuclear arms permitted by START I.")

Further, by eliminating land-based nuclear missiles with more than one warhead the treaty gets rid of the weapon military leaders long feared as the most effective in launching a first nuclear strike. But it is far from certain whether the treaty will ever take effect because many of the weapons are located outside Russia in the former Soviet republics of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine. Ukraine in particular has raised so many economic and security conditions, no one believes they'll be ready to go along with the treaty by the time Mr. Bush leaves office.

(Ted Warner, Rand: "If Ukraine does not ratify START I and join the non-proliferation treaty, then the other states won't do so as well and therefore neither START I nor START II will, in fact, be implemented.")

Before he goes to Russia the President will spend New Years with U.S. forces in Somalia. Despite the continuing presence of armed gangs in many areas, Mr. Bush said he does not fear for his safety.

(President Bush: "I'm not in the least bit concerned of the security, and I have great confidence in our military and in, certainly, as always in the Secret Service.")

Because U.S. forces in Somalia have been encountered far less organized opposition than expected, Pentagon officials say they may not need to send all of the 28,000 combat troops originally scheduled to go there. But in Somalia as with the START treaty, the real test of Mr. Bush's success will come after he leaves office. Only then will it become clear whether new security arrangements supervised by the U.N. can prevent Somalia from returning to anarchy.

(ABC-5)

CBS's Connie Chung: Three weeks to the day before he leaves office, President Bush left on his 25th overseas trip. It's designed as a triumphal tour in the wake of a bitter election defeat.

CBS's Jim Stewart: It is probably his last foreign trip as chief executive, and in many ways it's a road tour of George Bush's greatest presidential hits.

(TV coverage of President Bush boarding Air Force One.)

-more-

It begins with a brief visit to Saudi Arabia and a reunion with King Fahd, whose nation was saved by the thunder of Desert Storm. Then it's on to Somalia, site of his latest foreign incursion, spending New Years with the troops while they feed a starving nation. And finally Russia and the signing of START II, the most ambitious nuclear arms reduction treaty in history.

(President Bush: "I feel it is a great step for mankind. It's not personal, but I take great pride in this accomplishment.")

The pride Mr. Bush feels in his foreign policy accomplishments is plain in every speech.

(President Bush, December 15: "The Cold War is over; freedom has carried the day, and I leave the White House grateful for what we have achieved together.")

But while the President clearly wants to be remembered for those achievements, government professor Robert Leiber gives his foreign policy a mixed grade.

(Robert Leiber, Georgetown University: "Bush was the in-box president. He rose to the occasion when things dropped onto his desk, but he often showed himself surprisingly passive when other threats and opportunities presented themselves.")

Threats like his own nation's economy some might say, making his final presidential journey in some ways a reflection of the Bush presidency -- constantly attracted by events on the outside but eventually doomed by conditions at home.

(CBS-5)

NBC's Stone Phillips: President Bush tonight on a world-wind journey: part style, part substance, part destiny. First stop: the starving villages of Somalia for a show of compassion, then a seaside resort in Russia for a summit with Boris Yeltsin and the signing of the historic START II arms treaty. For George Bush a last hurrah. We have two reports. First, the arms agreement.

NBC's John Dancy reports President Bush was breathing a sigh of relief over the agreement, but conservatives were breathing fire. Bush hailed the last-minute deal which came just three weeks before he is to leave office.

(President Bush: "In my view this treaty is good for all mankind.")

The treaty is sweeping in scope. The basic agreement was worked out last June when Bush and President Yeltsin met in Washington -- a huge cut in long-range missiles.

(TV coverage of presidents Bush and Yeltsin in Rose Garden.)

Within ten years two-thirds of them will be gone. The Russians will give up the SS-18. The U.S. will keep submarine-based missiles, just not as many as planned. This assures U.S. nuclear superiority. Missile numbers will return to 1960 levels. To achieve the agreement, Secretary Eagleburger and Russian foreign minister Kozyrev agreed on some novel concessions. The U.S. will let Russia render SS-18 missile silos inoperative by pouring fifteen feet of concrete in the bottom of them. They could then be modified for other, less lethal missiles -- a cost savings to Russia. Conservatives say Bush is polishing his reputation.

(Frank Gaffney, Center for Security Policy: "This is one of several concessions we made in what negotiators call the end game, I believe, principally to give George Bush one more agreement, one more signing ceremony.")

One former U.S. arms negotiator says the U.S. should grab the deal quickly.

(Jack Mendehlson, Arms Control Association: "An important thing to keep in mind is that these are time-sensitive agreements. Political stability is not a feature of the political landscape in Russia. The longer we wait, the more we risk.")

Bush and Yeltsin are to sign the treaty this weekend in Sochi, Russia after Bush's trip to Somalia.

(TV coverage of presidents Bush and Yeltsin on stage at Camp David press conference.)

So, this last Bush trip is highly symbolic. It says to the world that the Cold War is over and the U.S. is ready and willing to take on new responsibility.

Phillips reports one of those new responsibilities is the humanitarian relief effort in Somalia, where President Bush plans to spend New Years Eve. And who's responsible for his protection there? It's safe to say the Secret Service will be getting some help.

NBC's Dennis Murphy reports from Mogadishu that U.S. Marines moved door-to-door today seizing weapons in a Somali village President Bush will visit tomorrow. This is a presidential visit to a dangerous place nothing like secure. But at the White House today the President shrugged off the risk.

(President Bush: "Yes, it's perfectly safe. I'm not in the least bit concerned of the security.") (NBC-Lead)

IRAN-CONTRA/PRESIDENT

Donaldson reports the White House announced that President Bush has hired a private lawyer to represent him in the Iran-contra investigation. He's the former attorney general in the Carter Administration, Griffin Bell. Since the special prosecutor's investigation is likely to continue after the President leaves office, Mr. Bush would need a private lawyer to advise him. The President also defended the pardons of Caspar Weinberger and five others, saying his action does not imply that he or anyone else is above the law. (ABC-4)

Chung: President Bush today defended the pardons he handed out to several key figures in the Iran-contra scandal. And he hired a lawyer to defend himself -- not just any lawyer. Eric Engberg reports on the President's surprising choice.

CBS's Eric Engberg says under legal attack by a prosecutor who has publicly accused him of misconduct, President Bush turned to a high powered lawyer for help. He hired a well-connected Democrat -- Griffin Bell of Georgia. Before starting a trip to Somalia, the President blasted critics who've charged his pardon of Caspar Weinberger was part of a coverup.

(President Bush: "I pride myself on 25 or more years of public service, of serving honorably, decently and with my integrity in tact.")

Lawrence Walsh, in a chilly statement, said he was glad the President had a lawyer who understands the rule of law. The President said Bell's first job will be to try to force Walsh to make public the only sworn statement Mr. Bush had made on Iran-contra, given privately to prosecutors in 1988. Senate Democrats today announced plans to hold a hearing on Walsh's activities in February and said that Weinberger will be invited to testify.

(Sen. Levin: "Independent counsel Walsh reached certain conclusions, indicted some very high level people. And, of course, by pardoning those people the President thwarted the independent counsel process.")

The next battleground in this war between President and prosecutor will be over access to notes Mr. Bush made in the '80s on Iran-contra.

(CBS-Lead)

Phillips reports the White House says President Bush has hired former Carter administration attorney general Griffin Bell to represent him in the Iran-contra investigation. Today the President defended his pardon of six people involved in that scandal.

(President Bush: "I don't care about the law. I pride myself on 25 or more years of public service -- of serving honorably, decently and with my integrity in tact. And certainly I wouldn't feel that way if I had a lack of respect for the law.")

Mr. Bush says it's a bad thing when people break the law and he called reports that he believes otherwise stupid and frivolous.

(NBC-6)

SOMALIA/SECURITY

Donaldson says for everyone in Somalia the days are getting scarier, not safer. Said one military officer: The local gunmen were in awe when we got here. Now they're getting bolder every day.

ABC's Jerry King reports although the main warlords have pulled most of their big guns out of the city of Mogadishu, muggers, looters and killers still roam freely. Even some Marines will tell you they have only changed the kind of street violence here. They have done little to diminish it.

(Cpt. Seroka, Marine Corps: "The organized factions are essentially pulling out of certain portions of the city, leaving almost a power vacuum.")

(CBS-6, ABC-6)

ECONOMY

ABC's Sam Donaldson: Talk about a year-end present for the American economy: The government's chief forecasting measure out today -- the index of leading economic indicators -- shows an impressive 0.8% increase for November, the largest rise in 10 months -- a strong suggestion that next year things will be much better.

(CBS-2, ABC-Lead)

-End of B-Section-

MATERIALS FORWARDED TO THE PRESIDENT
December 31, 1992

ACTION

1. Evaluation Report for Major Rusty Schorsch, Army Aide.
2. Gray Memo re Removal by Departing Staff of Copies of Presidential Records.

CLASSIFIED

INFORMATION

1. Holiday Memo Attaching Correspondence from Secretary Alexander.

REMARKS

SCHEDULE

1. and Briefing Papers for 1/4. (to Residence)

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Note	Boris Yeltsin (1 pp.)	12/31/1992	(b)(1)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records

Office: Office of the President

Series: Daily Files

Subseries:

WHORM Cat.:

File Location: Thursday, December 31, 1992

Date Closed: 9/25/2019	OA/ID Number: 90746-002
FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S[4]	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #:	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- (b)(1) National security classified information
- (b)(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Release would violate a Federal statute
- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information
- (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
- (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes
- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- C(1) Closed by Executive Order 13526, governing access to national security information.
- C(2) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the information
- C(3) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift [formerly listed as only C]
- PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
02. Letter	Francois Mitterrand to POTUS [preservation copy] (1 pp.)	12/31/92	(b)(1)	S

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records

Office: Office of the President

Series: Daily Files

Subseries:

WHORM Cat.:

File Location: Thursday, December 31, 1992

Date Closed: 9/25/2019	OA/ID Number: 90746-002
FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S[4]	Appeal Case #:
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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
03. Letter	Francois Mitterrand to POTUS (1 pp.)	12/31/92	(b)(1)	S

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records

Office: Office of the President

Series: Daily Files

Subseries:

WHORM Cat.:

File Location: Thursday, December 31, 1992

Date Closed: 9/25/2019

OA/ID Number: 90746-002

FOIA/SYS Case #: 2009-0166-S[4]

Appeal Case #:

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221 Elm Street
Clairton, PA 15025

December 31, 1992

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear President Bush,

I am writing to express my appreciation for your efforts to end my daughter Jasmine's captivity in Saudi Arabia. Through many months of hard work, this problem has received extremely high level attention from both the US and Saudi governments. Your discussion of this issue with King Fahd, of course, represents the zenith of our efforts to bring closure to this tortuous ordeal.

Jasmine has been held against her will in the Kingdom for ten months. While she has demonstrated courage beyond her years, she is suffering. Imagine a bright, sensitive typical American five-year old girl being suddenly, and without warning, thrust into a language, culture and religion which are totally foreign to her. This was not the most significant trauma faced by Jasmine, however. She was brutally torn away from everything she knows and loves. Mr. President, Jasmine has always lived with me. I have been her source of security and comfort for all of her five years. We are not only the closest of family, but the best of friends.

We speak often and she sorely misses her mother and home. She breaks into tears when she speaks of our family, the toys she left behind and America. It is impossible to truly convey the horrors that I have endured during Jasmine's absence. My pain, however, is dwarfed by what my sweet child has had to bear.

Hopefully, as a result of your invaluable assistance, Jasmine will soon be returning home. I would appreciate it, though, if you would revisit this issue with King Fahd and obtain a definitive commitment to promptly end this crisis. The compassion you have demonstrated for a small child is a tangible reminder of the kind of man and President you are. Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely,

Colleen E. Piper

Colleen E. Piper



Commanding Officer
USS Tripoli (LPH-10)
FPO San Francisco 96626-1645

*GP
gave him picture*

31 December 1992

Mr. President,

Welcome Aboard, Sir. It's an honor and privilege to be your Flagship for your visit to Somalia. If there is anything you need, please give me a call at extension 7214. My messmen; MS2 Tan and Airman King will be manning your galley during your entire stay and can respond to any personal needs you may have.

The crew are proud of their ship and proud of their participation in Operation Restore Hope. Your visit means a great deal to every man on board. On their behalf, let me say again, Welcome Aboard the "Famous Fighting Ship". You have made our year.

Sincerely and Very Respectfully,

J. R. Hutchison
Captain, U. S. Navy

Dave Barry is usually too raunchy for my taste. This is mild and in spots - living!

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

EVERYDAY

SECTION E

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1992

N

Unforgettable

Dave Barry recaps 1992 (we swear, he's not making this up)

JANUARY

1 — George Bush, while practicing the Secret Handshake of the Six or Seven Top World Leaders club, glances out the Oval Office window and notices that the darned U.S. economy is STILL in trouble. He vows to write a stern note to his economic advisers, Wayne and Garth. Meanwhile, Bill Clinton — a virtual unknown on the national scene, despite the fact that he has been governor of Arkansas since he was 17 — arrives in New Hampshire with a truck containing 957 separate eight-point policies and enough hair spray to immobilize the Brazilian rain forest.

8 — President Bush flies to Japan accompanied by 237 high-level aides, 322 leading U.S. business executives, 517 journalists, 856 security personnel, the first lady, 26 grandchildren and both White House dogs. Left behind, tragically, is the black briefcase containing the presidential Pepto-Bismol. Elvis marks his 57th birthday with an appearance on the "Larry King Live" show.

10 — In Tokyo, President Bush scores an economic coup as the Japanese government, under intense pressure to open its doors to U.S. imports, agrees to purchase a 1992 Chevrolet Caprice. At a formal dinner hosted by the prime minister, the president formalizes the agreement by performing the ceremonial Ralph of Friendship.

20 — The Japanese government's Caprice develops transmission trouble.

26 — In a surprising Super Bowl outcome, the Washington Redskins and the Buffalo Bills stop playing in the third quarter so they can watch Bill and Hillary Clinton discuss their marriage on "60 Minutes."

FEBRUARY

7 — President Bush, responding to allegations that his use of the potent sleeping pill Halcion has caused him to act erratically, angrily tells reporters that they are "big Methodist spiders."

11 — Bill Clinton's character comes under further scrutiny when the news media obtain a 1969 photograph showing him reporting for a draft physical wearing a dress.

20 — Ross Perot announces that if his supporters put him on the ballot in all 50 states, he will have them investigated.

MARCH

11 — In the trial of accused Mafia kingpin John Gotti, the judge considers a defense motion to declare a mistrial because "the air seems to be running a little low inside the 55 gallon drum where we are keeping your honor's mother."

12 — True Item: Tammy Faye Bakker announces she is seeking a divorce, saying that waiting for her convicted evangelist troll husband, Jim, to get out of jail is "too hard on the physical body."

APRIL

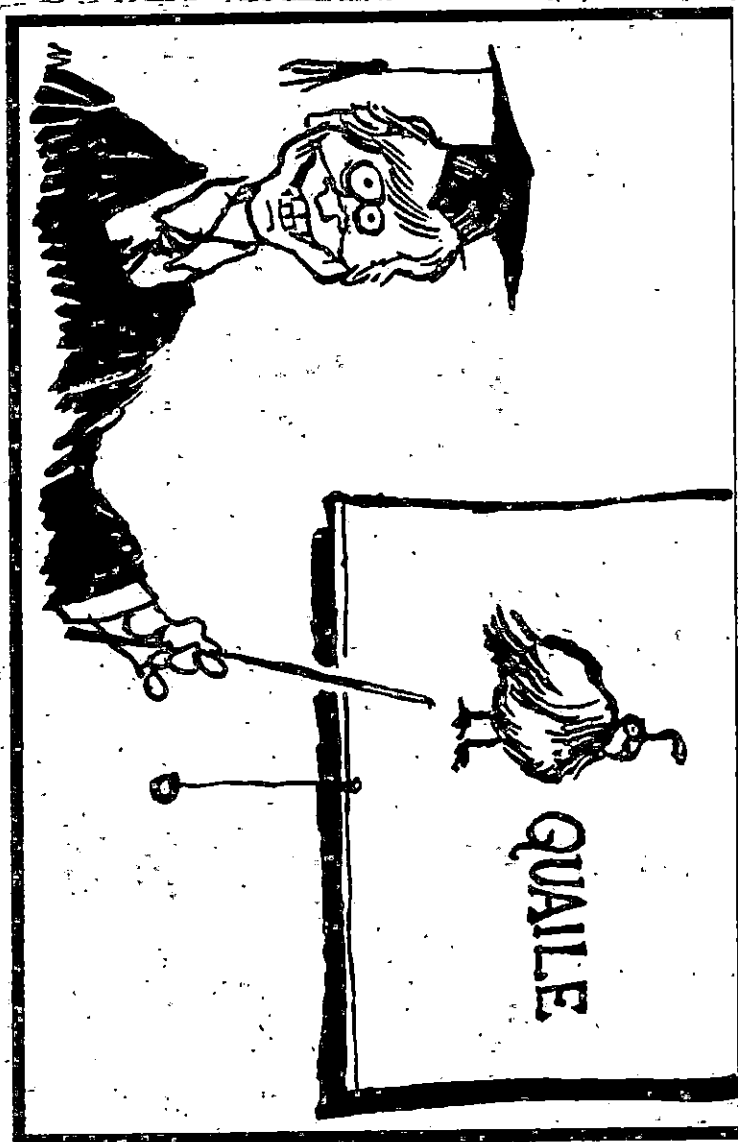
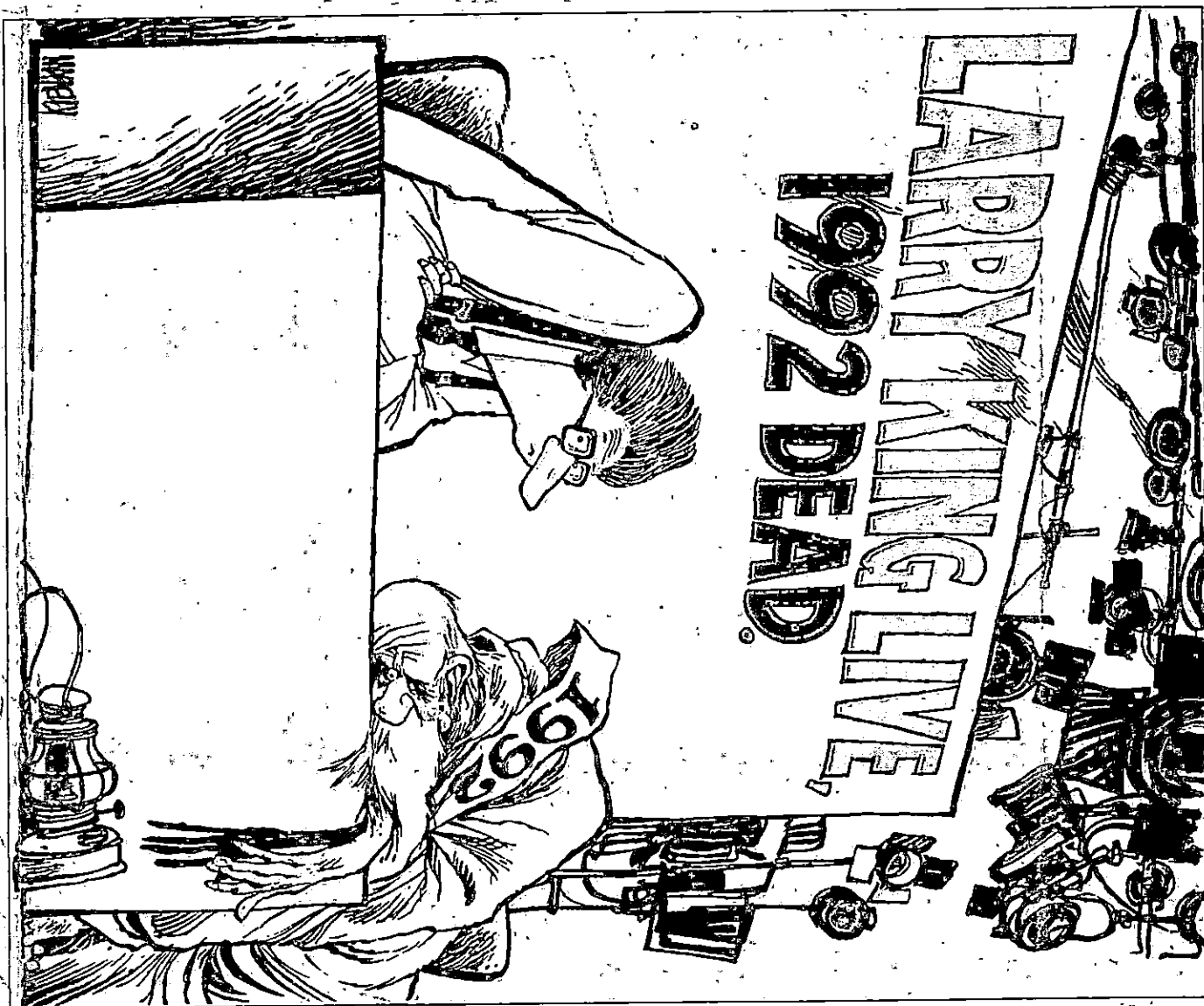
9 — Great Britain elects an entire new government following a campaign that took less time, total, than U.S. politicians will need, later in the year, to agree on a debate format.

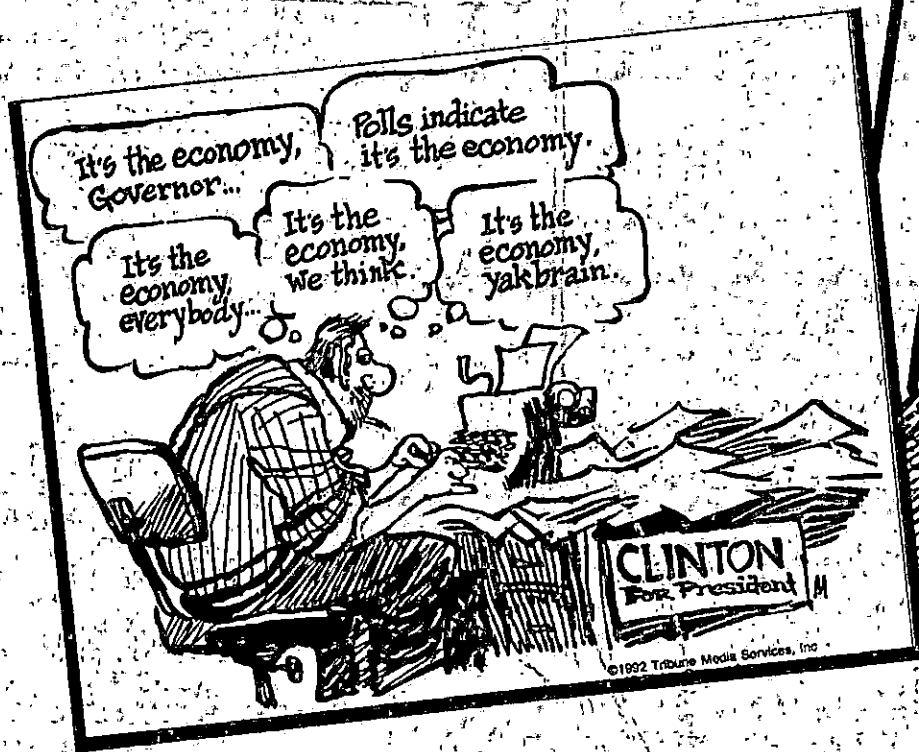
17 — Downtown Chicago is paralyzed for what will turn out to be several days by a massive, multi-million-dollar flood, the cause of which is ultimately traced to the home of Arnold Spooterman, whose last words, according to his wife, were, "We don't need a plumber. I'll just tighten this..."

MAY

21 — In what will later be viewed as a mistake, the crack Middle East Peace Negotiating Team is sent into what used to be Yugoslavia.

See BARRY, Page 8





Barry

From page one

26 — The Food and Drug Administration announces a ban on molecules.

JUNE

3 — Clinton, seeking to improve his image among young voters, goes on "The Arsenio Hall Show" and, after donning a pair of dark sunglasses, smokes a joint.

10 — Scientists detect a large new hole in the ozone layer, believed to be caused by fumes from flaming deserts served at the Earth Summit.

17 — Seeking to boost the sagging U.S. humor industry, Vice President Quayle gives a spelling lesson.

JULY

7 — A freak tidal wave hits Daytona Beach, Fla. Scientists are baffled until satellite photos detect Ted Kennedy breast-stroking about three miles offshore.

17 — Clinton begins his speech accepting the Democratic nomination.

19 — Clinton concludes his speech and sets out on a bus tour of the Heartland with Al Gore, whose body is unable to bend enough to fit in the bus seats, so his aides just stick him up on the luggage rack, still in a waving position.

29 — In Olympic basketball action, the Dream Team defeats the Republic of Zwit 563-4, with Charles Barkley scoring 153 points before being ejected late in the second quarter for arson.

AUGUST

5 — The Supreme Court, in a landmark decision, rules that, once on the island, Gilligan is not legally required to obey orders from the Skipper.

20 — General Motors announces that, in an effort to

cut costs, it will stop making cars.

21 — Delegates to the Republican Convention reaffirm their support for Traditional Family Values by burning a suspected witch.

SEPTEMBER

10 — The U.S. Congress, long ridiculed for avoiding the tough issues, courageously passes a law regulating cable-TV rates.

25 — In a landmark ruling, an Orlando, Fla., judge declares that a 12-year-old boy has the right to select his own parents. He selects Marge and Homer Simpson.

OCTOBER

13 — Clinton promises to increase spending for jobs, education, health care, the environment, the infrastructure, the outfrastructure and parking, while at the same time reducing the deficit and cutting taxes. Bush says Clinton is a bozo. Perot says it's time to cut bait and talk turkey.

19 — Clinton promises to increase spending on the cities, suburbs, farms, wilderness, ozone layer and asteroid belt, while at the same time eliminating waste and heart disease. Bush says Clinton is a communist whoremonger. Perot says you have to bale hay while the tractor is warm.

23 — Clinton promises to give every voter a briefcase full of money while at the same time fighting cavities and saving Bambi's mom from the hunters. Bush bites Clinton on the leg. Perot says it takes two snakes to cross a puddle.

NOVEMBER

3 — Clinton wins and announces that he may not be able to fulfill all of his campaign promises IMMEDIATELY, but he does expect, within the first 100 days, to ask Congress to declare National Reed Instruments Week.

25 — In Britain, a fire strikes the Queen's clothes closet, destroying 4,317 hats with an estimated street value of \$11.

26 — Superman dies, probably as a result of wearing the same underwear for 50 years.

DECEMBER

1 — What begins as a friendly transitional get-together between the Bushes and Clintons ends in tragedy when Millie ralphs up what is later identified as Socks the cat.

15 — NASA suffers another setback when the space shuttle Determined, attempting to deploy a military satellite, is found to be unmaneuverable due to the fact that a previous commander accidentally left "The Club" on the steering wheel.

31 — Bands of white men in dark suits are converging on New Hampshire to prepare for the 1996 presidential campaign, which starts tomorrow. Until then, have a Happy New Year.



**MONA
CHAREN**

GREAT!

Bush Finally Saw Iran-Contra Politics

WASHINGTON

George Bush has at last freed himself from the great illusion that marred his presidency — that of bipartisanship. By pardoning the Iran-Contra defendants, an act of courage, Bush demonstrated that he now understands the raw political motives at work in Washington.

A savvy politician like Sen. Bob Dole, who can sniff out a political motive at 50 paces, recognized the Iran-Contra persecution for what it was — a political vendetta. Bush was slower to see the truth. For years, he stressed his cooperation with each investigating body, as if anyone were really interested in the truth.

But on Christmas Eve, with the emptiness of post-White House life looming before him and the powder burn of the second Weinberger indictment (released just four days before the election) still on his back, Bush decided to fight fire with fire.

Despite the obvious political motivation of the second Weinberger indictment (since thrown out by the court), most of the press treats Lawrence Walsh as a dispassionate seeker after truth. Even in the face of Walsh's performance in Oklahoma City following the pardons, where he pronounced Weinberger guilty (an incredible faux pas, since a prosecutor is expected to wait for a jury to determine guilt) and openly threatened the president of the United States with indictment as revenge, the press questioned only the motives of Bush.

Democrats are fond of pointing out that Walsh is a Republican. Maybe so, but Walsh is a Republican the way Madonna is a Catholic. Besides, the overwhelming majority of his staff of lawyers are liberal Democrats, and they have been out for Ronald Reagan's and/or Bush's scalp from the beginning. Indeed, at his press conference, Walsh admitted that he believed in a mammoth conspiracy to cover up presidential wrongdoing — a conspiracy that successfully shielded Ronald Reagan from impeachment for Iran-Contra "crimes."

What Bush belatedly came to recognize is that the Iran-Contra scandal had little to do with Iran and everything to do with the Contras. If the affair had consisted only of Reagan secreting arms to the ayatollah, it would have been acutely embarrassing for a few months, no more. But because the joy riders in the Old Executive Office Building found a way to divert the profits to the Contras, a blood feud began that, even now, will not die.

There are two reasons for this. The first is a flaw in the special-prosecutor law that gives the office unlimited time and money to operate. The second is psychological. The liberal Democrats who self-righteously withheld aid to the Contras have been proved wrong by history. When Nicaragua was at last permitted to enjoy a free vote, the Sandinistas were ousted and the allies of the Contras elected. By tarring the Reagan administration effort on behalf of the Contras as shameful (which is what the Iran-Contra "scandal" accomplished), the Democrats seek to repair their spurious moral superiority.

In the Robert Bork and Clarence Thomas hearings, the Democrats stooped to character assassination. In Iran-Contra, they tried to throw their political opponents in prison. If that's not dirty politics, what is?

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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH - 1 JAN. 1993



**JAMES
KILPATRICK**

Bush Healed Wounds By Granting Pardons

WASHINGTON

Zealotry always wears an ugly face. The ugliest face around Washington these days is the ugly face of Lawrence Walsh, the vindictive special prosecutor in the case of the Iran-Contra affair. This vulture has been deprived of his prey.

By his courageous action on Christmas Eve, President Bush pardoned Caspar Weinberger and five others who had been involved long ago in the trading of arms for hostages. The president's decision was a manifestation of justice at its best. It was morally right in every way.

Walsh, the reincarnation of Victor Hugo's Inspector Javert, is beside himself with anger. Inspector Javert spent his life pursuing Jean Valjean, whose crime was to steal a loaf of bread to feed his sister's starving family. The story of "Les Miserables" was the stuff of magnificent fiction. Walsh's obsession became the stuff of despicable fact.

Weinberger's last-minute escape — he was to go on trial this Tuesday — has infuriated the usual howlers. Anthony Lewis of *The New York Times* is having hysterics. Democratic majority leaders are venting their rage. On every side we are hearing hypocritical cries that the president regards the defendants as "above the law."

It is far from clear that Weinberger and the others broke any criminal statute at all. At bottom the charges were never criminal; they were entirely political. Ronald Reagan, said his Democratic foes, had used his presidential powers in defiance of Congress. In 1986 he had taken matters into his own hands in an effort to enlist Iran's help in freeing American hostages held in Lebanon. He had arranged for Israel to sell certain U.S. missiles to Iran, and he had diverted proceeds to the aid of the freedom fighters in Nicaragua.

That was the substance of the affair. Reagan had his obsession — he wanted desperately to free the hostages — but he failed to ride herd on the operation. The late Bill Casey, CIA director, took over. His associates rode off in all directions. Through an excess of loyalty, things got out of hand.

In any event, the only substantive offense finally charged to Weinberger is that, in responding to questions put to him by congressional investigators, he denied having taken certain notes when in fact he had taken them. On this flimsy accusation, Weinberger has been put to a million dollars in legal expenses. He is 75 years old, in poor health. I know him to be a devoted public servant whose integrity cannot be successfully challenged.

In granting the pardons, Bush risked the contempt he is now receiving. He knew he would be accused by the likes of Walsh of covering up his involvement. To perform an act of compassionate justice, Bush put his own reputation on the line.

Bush's reputation will survive. He sought to close a wound that has festered for nearly seven years. Presidents must act in what they perceive to be the national interest. When laws are unclear, when justice may be served by decisive action, presidents must invoke their powers.

Malcontents are still among us. Certain posturing defenders of "the law" will always praise Javert and condemn his victim. My own reaction is to condemn Walsh and praise the president instead.

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STL Post-Dispatch 12-21-92

George Bush Presidential Library Transfer Sheet

COLLECTION:

Bush Presidential Records
Office of the President
Daily Files

ACCESSION NUMBER:☐ Transferred During Accessioning☒ Transferred During Processing

FOIA/SYSTEMATIC
PROCESSING CASE
NUMBER (if app.):

2009-0166-S

The following material was transferred to:

☐ Audiovisual Collection ☐ Book Collection ☒ Museum Collection ☐ Other

Other (Specify):

DESCRIPTION:

Two annual courtesy/honorary American League baseball passes. American League of Professional Baseball Clubs, POTUS name on one, First Lady's name on the other. Sent to Roze Zamaria in West Wing, Per P. Presock, 8/25/92.

When transferring
material to the
museum
collection,
complete the
following.

Donor:

Donor Org.:

Address:

Telephone:

Book Location:

Row: Section: Shelf: Position:

Map Case Location:**Series:**

Daily Files

Box Number:**Folder Title:**

Thursday, December 31, 1992 [2]

OA/ID Number:

90746-002

Transferred by:

Doug Campbell

Date of Transfer:

9/25/2019

Received by:

Stacy Sanders

Date Received:

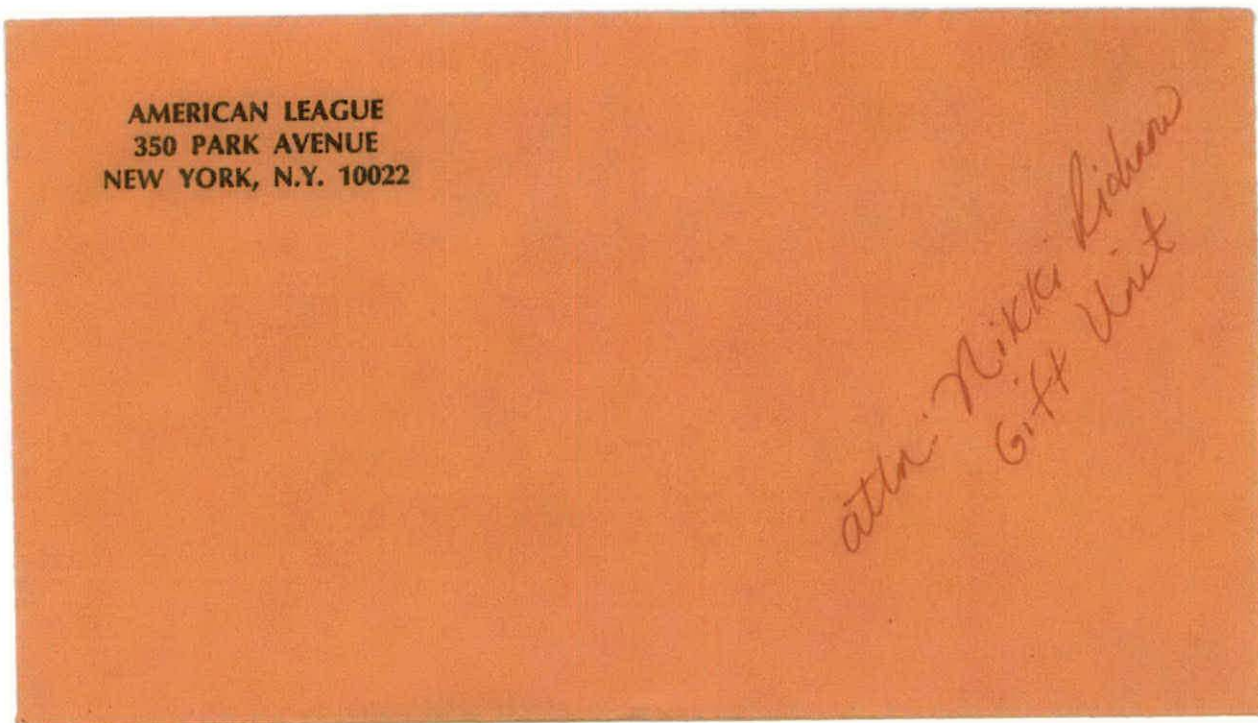
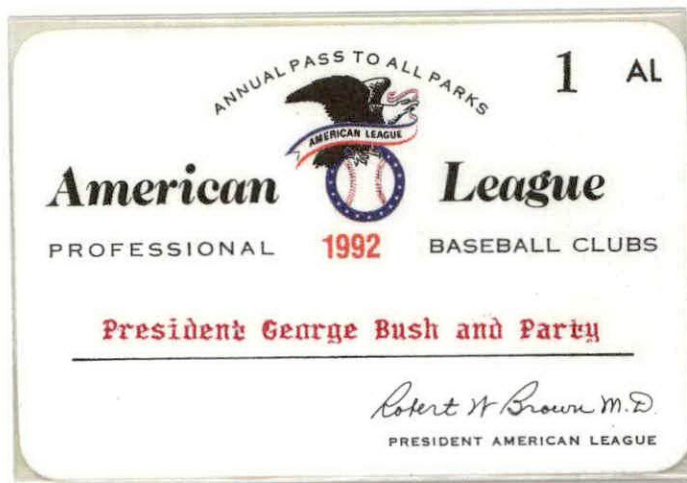
9/25/2019

Go to Database
Navigator

Go to Accession
Register

Go to Withdrawal Sheet

Print Record



THIS PASS NOT TRANSFERABLE

This pass will entitle the rightful owner to the courtesy of entrance to any of the American League Parks for all regularly scheduled championship games on presentation and sign-in at the Pass Gate, subject to club service charge and SUBJECT TO INDIVIDUAL CLUB POLICY.

This pass is issued subject to the conditions, and by use of this pass each person admitted hereunder agrees, that he will not transmit or aid in transmitting any description, account, picture or reproduction of the baseball game or exhibition to which he is so admitted. Breach of the foregoing will automatically terminate this license.

This pass is valid only for Championship Games of the American League. It is not to be used for admission to the All-star Game, the American League Championship Series or the World Series.

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

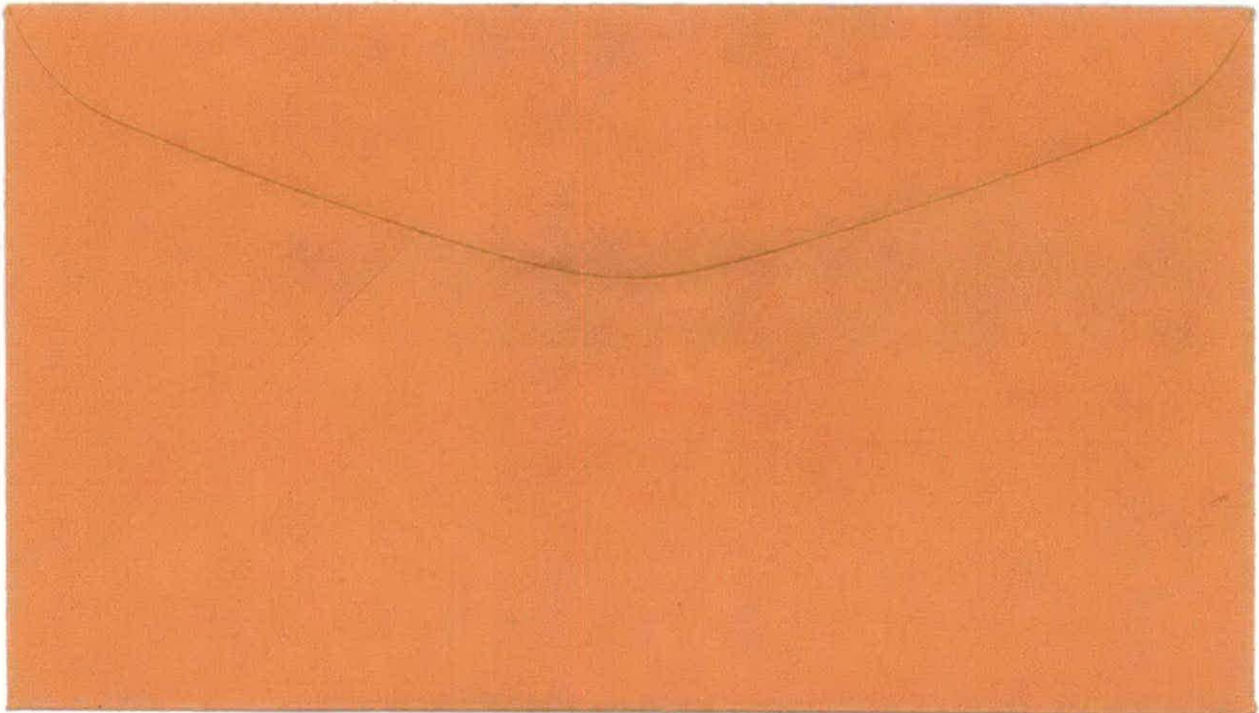
THIS PASS NOT TRANSFERABLE

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This pass is valid only for Championship Games of the American League. It is not to be used for admission to the All-star Game, the American League Championship Series or the World Series.

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE



USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10)

FACT SHEET

Built	Pascagoula, Mississippi
Commissioned	August 6, 1966
Homeport	San Diego, California
Overall Length	602 feet
Extreme Beam	144 feet
Draft	28.1 feet
Displacement	18,501 tons
Shaft Horsepower	22,000 SHP
Propeller	22 feet in diameter
Anchors	22,500 pounds each
Anchor Chain Length	1,080 feet
Number of Chain Links	172 per chain
Link Weight	89.3 pounds each
Aviation Fuel Capacity	378,913 gallons
Ship's Fuel Capacity	824,617 gallons
Masthead	165 feet, 5 inches o62
Horizon To Bridge	9.8 nautical miles
Electrical Capacity	5 megawatts
Fresh Water	100,000 gallons per day
Cargo Space	70,000 cubic feet
Cargo Elevators	Two; 14,000 pounds lift capacity
Speed	22.5 knots
Rudder	21 feet by 12 feet
Crew	56 officers, 621 enlisted
Marine Complement	2,000+
Meals Served Daily	2,010; 5,400 with embarked Marines
Dial Telephones	350
Berthing Compartments	8 Navy, 10 Marine
Boats	Two 40-foot utility Two 36-foot personnel boats Two 26-foot motor whaleboats 180 life rafts
Armament	Two 3-inch 50-caliber gun mounts Two Basic Point Defense Missile Systems (BPDMS) Two Vulcan Phalanx CIWS Six 50-caliber machine gun mounts
Aircraft Elevators	Two; 34 feet by 50 feet; 45,000 pounds lift capacity
Aircraft Carried	CH-53E Sea Stallion MH-53E Super Sea Stallion CH-46E Sea Knight AH-1 Cobra UH-1N Huey AV-8 Harrier Jet
Landing Spots	Eight
Capacity for Food Support:	
Dry Provisions	241,200 rations; 120 days
Frozen Provisions	180,900 rations; 90 days
Chilled Provisions	40,200 rations; 20 days

USS TRIPOLI is also equipped with a large laundry and six galleys, a ship's store, a convenience store, library, two barber shops, post office and a universal gym. Medical facilities include a six-bed ward, 167-bed medical overflow, two fully equipped operating rooms and a modern dental office. TRIPOLI also has a fully equipped closed circuit television station. Much like a small city, USS TRIPOLI is a ship all crew members can be very proud of.

WELCOME



ABOARD



On behalf of the officers and men of the USS TRIPOLI, I would like to extend to you a most cordial "Welcome Aboard."

Each of us is proud of TRIPOLI, her past record, her current capabilities and our part in them. If you have any questions about the ship, please feel free to ask any crew member for assistance.

For your own safety, we ask that you observe all the safety precautions associated with shipboard operations. Please refrain from smoking on the flight deck, hangar deck, in the passageways and outside exposed areas. Please do not lean on any rails, and exercise caution when navigating up or down our many ladders throughout the ship. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

It is our pleasure to have you aboard. Please enjoy your visit onboard the "Famous Fighting Ship."

J.R. Hutchison
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

FORMER COMMANDING OFFICERS

CAPT Henry Suerstedt, Jr
6 August 1966 - 7 September 1967

CAPT William L. Adams
7 September 1967 - 16 August 1968

CAPT Doniphan B. Shelton o62
16 August 1968 - 29 August 1969

CAPT Vincent P. O'Rourke
29 August 1969 - 29 August 1970

CAPT Paul J. Hartley, Jr.
29 August 1970 - 10 September 1971

CAPT James M. Gammon
10 September 1971 - 2 December 1972

CAPT Warren H. Lockwood
2 December 1972 - 5 April 1974

CAPT Cecil J. Kempf
5 April 1974 - 7 November 1975

CAPT Lee E. Levenson
7 November 1975 - 5 August 1977

CAPT Alfred A. Smith
5 August 1977 - 23 April 1979

CAPT Collins H. Haines
23 April 1979 - 16 January 1981

CAPT Charles R. McGrail, Jr.
16 January 1981 - 28 July 1982

CAPT Thomas A. Clift
28 July 1982 - 29 February 1984

CAPT Robert J. Spane
29 February 1984 - 30 July 1985

CAPT Terrence S. Todd
30 July 1985 - 14 April 1987

CAPT George P. Love III
14 April 1987 - 21 October 1988

CAPT Eric L. Peterson
21 October 1988 - 20 April 1990

CAPT G. Bruce McEwen
20 April 1990 - 20 September 1991

CAPT J.R. Hutchison
20 September 1991 -



RECORD OF EXCELLENCE



UNIT DECORATIONS

Combat Action Ribbon
Navy Unit Commendation
 (Three Awards)
Meritorious Unit Commendation
 (Two Awards)
Navy Battle "E" Ribbon
 (Two Awards)
National Defense Service Medal with Star
Vietnam Service Medal
 (with One Silver and Four Bronze Stars)
Southwest Asia Service Medal
 (with Two Bronze Stars)
Humanitarian Service Medal
Sea Service Deployment with Star
 (14 Awards)
Philippine Presidential Unit Citation
Au Border/Ribbon Frame
Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation
 (Gallantry Cross Medal with Palm)
Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation
 (Civic Action 1st Class with Palm)
Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Clasp
Kuwaiti Liberation Medal

OTHER DISTINGUISHED AWARDS

Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy - 1976
Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety - (1976 Runner-Up)
Chief of Naval Operations Safety Award - 1988
Capt. Edward F. Ney Award for Food Service Excellence - 1990
Best Sales and Service Award - 1992



CAPT. J.R. HUTCHISON
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10)

BIOGRAPHY

Captain J.R. Hutchison was born on April 23, 1946 in Huntington Park, California. The son of a career Air Force pilot, he received a Presidential Appointment to the United States Naval Academy in 1965. He graduated in June 1969, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering.

Captain Hutchison entered flight training in November 1969, and received his wings of gold on May 21, 1971, in Beeville, Texas. For the next two years, he underwent replacement pilot training in VA-125 for the A-7A/B, and then in VA-122 for the newer A-7E.

From July 1973 to March 1976, Captain Hutchison served with VA-22 Fighting Redcocks, embarked in USS CORAL SEA (CV-43). He participated in the evacuation of Saigon, and the recovery of the S.S. MAYAQUEZ.

In April 1976, Captain Hutchison left the fleet for instructor duty with VT-7 at NAS Meridian, Mississippi. He was transferred to CTW-1 in January 1977, where he assumed the duties of Standardization Officer for the A-4 Advanced Jet Syllabus.

From June 1977 until July 1979 he served as Flag Lieutenant for COMLATWINGPAC in Lemoore, California.

Following a one-month refresher course for the A-7E in VA-122, Captain Hutchison reported to the VA-97 Warhawks, again embarked in USS CORAL SEA (CV-43). While there, he served as Safety Officer, Maintenance Officer and Operations Officer.

Captain Hutchison was assigned to the VA-122 Flying Eagles in July 1982. He served for a brief time as Weapons Officer, and was named Executive Officer for the squadron in January 1983. Following command selection, he left Lemoore for Yokosuka, Japan and joined the Champs of BA-56 as Executive Officer in July 1984. He assumed command in January 1986. He returned to Lemoore with VA-56 in April 1986 when their homeport was shifted from Japan to CONUS. Pending VA-56's decommission, Captain Hutchison received orders to join the Argonauts of VA-147. He commanded the squadron from July 1986 to September 1987.

From September 1987 to January 1989, Captain Hutchison served as the Head Aviation Junior Officer Detailer (N432) in Washington, D.C., where he wrote assignment orders for 17,000 naval aviators.

After completing Washington duty, he returned to the fleet as Deputy Air Wing Commander for Carrier Air Wing FOURTEEN embarked in USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62) from October 1989 until February 1991. As DCAG he participated in Operation Desert Shield and was instrumental in formulating the Air Strike Campaign for Desert Storm.

During his career, Captain Hutchison has accumulated 4,000 flight hours, and logged more than 900 carrier landings. His awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Unit Commendations, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, two Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, three Navy Expeditionary Medals, the Humanitarian Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, and Sea Service Awards.

Captain Hutchison resides in San Diego, California with his wife, the former Susanne Sabin of Memphis, Tennessee, and their two daughters, Carey and Heather.

TRIPOLI COMMAND HISTORY

USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10) is the second ship to be named after the historic Battle of Tripoli in 1804. TRIPOLI was built at the Ingalls Shipbuilding Yard in Pascagoula, Mississippi, with her keel being laid on June 15, 1964. She was launched July 31, 1965, and was subsequently commissioned at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard on August 6, 1966.

Following outfitting in Philadelphia, TRIPOLI moved to the West Coast via the Panama Canal and began operating out of her homeport of San Diego, California. After extensive training off the California coast, TRIPOLI departed the United States on May 1, 1967, for her first deployment to the Southeast Asian theater during the Vietnam conflict.

As a member of the Seventh Fleet Ready Group, TRIPOLI launched eight full-scale amphibious assaults against the insurgent communist guerrilla forces and the North Vietnamese Regular Army (RVN). In addition to her role as support ship for surface forces, TRIPOLI also served as a medical base for the immediate evacuation and treatment of wounded personnel. For her actions during this deployment, TRIPOLI was presented with the Navy Commendation and Meritorious Unit Commendation by the Secretary of the Navy in May 1968.

The later years of Vietnam, as well as the years following the conflict, had USS TRIPOLI involved in numerous key evolutions, exercises and operations. Again and again, TRIPOLI has proven herself to be a most versatile platform from which she has launched helicopters and the AV-8 Harrier Vertical Short Lift and Takeoff (VSTOL) fixed wing aircraft. In 1974, TRIPOLI became the first amphibious ship to carry a full squadron of Harrier jets.

As a result of her performance during 1976, TRIPOLI received the coveted Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for achieving the greatest improvement in battle efficiency in the Pacific Fleet, and was runner-up for the Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety. In 1983, TRIPOLI won the COMPHIBRON ONE Professional Olympics for the third consecutive year. In 1985, TRIPOLI was awarded nine of a possible 11 departmental excellence awards. In 1988, TRIPOLI was awarded the CNO Safety Award and again won nine of 11 departmental excellence awards - the most awarded any amphibious ship - and was runner-up for the Battle "E." In 1989, TRIPOLI was second to none and won the coveted Battle "E." In 1990, the momentum continued as TRIPOLI was named the winner of the Secretary of the Navy's Ney Award for Food Service Excellence.

USS TRIPOLI deployed on its 15th Western Pacific deployment on December 1, 1990 in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm and returned to San Diego on August 8, 1991. The ship was awarded the Combat Action Ribbon for actions on February 18, 1991 following an Iraqi mine strike. According to the U.S. Navy Historical Center, the TRIPOLI was the first U.S. Navy vessel to sustain major mine damage and continue operating since the Civil War.

Over the last 26 years, TRIPOLI has shown to all she can meet required operational exercises and evolutions; while at the same time serve as an example for both military and civilian community. Service to the community, support to the fleet and a willingness to support the Navy's mission are but a few of the phrases which epitomize USS TRIPOLI. The Famous Fighting ship TRIPOLI is the United States Navy at its best.

THE FIRST TRIPOLI



The first United States Navy ship to bear the name TRIPOLI was a notable World War II Escort Aircraft Carrier. When the ship was decommissioned in 1958, one of her crew, Mr. Robert Oswald, a prominent Pascagoula, Mississippi attorney, salvaged the plaque pictured above. The plaque was presented to Captain Suerstedt in ceremonies held upon the departure of the USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10) from the Ingalls Shipyard, Pascagoula, 16 July 1966.



USS TRIPOLI (CVE-64)

THE SHIP'S EMBLEM



The alligator, symbol of the United States amphibious forces, dominates the USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10) emblem and gives an insight into the character and mission of the ship.

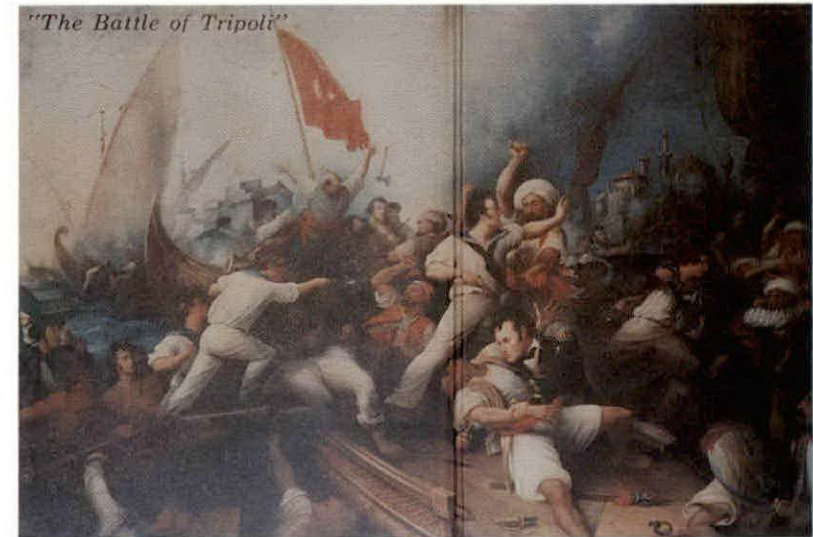
The position of the 'gator, just above the Naval Aviator Wings, and his "we're ready for any challenge" expression indicates the ship's ability to launch an airborne invasion on any foreign shore.

Just above and to either side of the alligator are the familiar Navy and Marine emblems, symbolizing the closely knit Navy-Marine teamwork that will enable the TRIPOLI to transport and land more than 2,000 Marines on enemy territory.

An expression that was conceived during pre-commissioning days highlights the lower portion of the emblem. "Semper Princeps," latin for "Always First," signifies the desire of the TRIPOLI crew to excel in any mission assigned the ship.

The ship's emblem was originated and designed by Petty Officer W.C. Hayes of the OR Division, USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10).

THE BATTLE OF TRIPOLI (1801-1805)



BATTLE OF TRIPOLI, Painting by M. Corne, 1805

The USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10) is named after the famous fleet-shore operation that inspired the words of the Marine Hymn — "to the shores of Tripoli."

In the year 1805 a small group of U.S. Marines, under Lt. Presley N. O'Bannon, along with a patchwork army of Arabs and Greeks marched 600 miles over sun-parched North African deserts to assault and capture the city of Derne.

This land assault was the decisive action in the Tripolitan War (1801-1805), a war that humbled piratical Tripoli, one of the Barbary States. The Barbary pirates, who for years had exacted tribute from the United States and from European powers for safe passage on the seas, had become intolerable. The major offender was the Bey of Tripoli, Yusuf Caramanli, who touched off the war when he chopped down the flagpole before the American consulate in 1801 and began attacks on U.S. commerce.

Four United States men-of-war were organized by the Navy as a Mediterranean Squadron to bring Caramanli to heel. After four years of minor landings and desperate sea fights, Lt. O'Bannon led his march on Derne and with the help of a cannonade offshore by three Navy ships, became the first American officer to raise the Stars and Stripes over a captured fortress in the Old World.

The Mameluke sword, subsequently carried by Marine officers, takes its pattern from an Arab sword which Hamet Bey, the rightful claimant to Yusuf Caramanli's throne in Tripoli, presented to O'Bannon after the battle.

A hastily signed treaty in 1805 abolished all annual payments and the Navy withdrew its Squadron in 1807. However, the resumption of activity by the pirates in 1812, prior to the War of 1812, forced the Navy to put a permanent end to the practice with a strong show of force.

