

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 12 June 96 17:39
FROM Showalter, Victoria A.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: re: ethnic ldrship [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Blinken, Antony J.
CARBON_COPY NO CC's on THIS MESSAGE

TEXT_BODY

thx. fyi, here's what i sent them --

[[ETHNIC2.DOC : 4443 in ETHNIC2.DOC]]

From: Blinken, Antony J.
To: Showalter, Victoria A.
CC: /R, Record at A1
Subject: RE: re: ethnic ldrship [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, June 12, 1996 05:15 PM

send it now, explaining that domestic will chop separately...

From: Showalter, Victoria A.
To: Blinken, Antony J.
CC: /N, NonRecord at A1
Subject: re: ethnic ldrship [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Wednesday, June 12, 1996 04:38 PM

Michael Waldman has my draft, but he's exhausted from the trip and says he can't get back to me until tomorrow noon. Should I send it to @NSA now, explaining that the domestic side may tinker with it, or is tomorrow afternoon enough time for Tony et al to clear? Please advise -- VS.

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE** 12 June 96 16:5

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME** ETHNIC2.DOC

06/12/96 4 PM
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS BEFORE ETHNIC LEADERS
THE WHITE HOUSE
JUNE 14, 1996

I want to welcome you all to the White House... and to thank you for all you have done to help make our nation the best that it can be. Whether community organizers or elected officials... teachers, publishers, or business leaders... every day, you are working hard for your communities and our country. We are all the better for it.

Today is Flag Day, the celebration of American citizenship and patriotism that you in this room -- as immigrants [TK] and the descendants of immigrants -- appreciate and exemplify so well. Today is also another anniversary: the six-month signing of the Dayton peace agreement for Bosnia. For all the challenges that remain, we should all be proud of the role our nation has played in restoring peace and providing hope to the people of that war-torn land.

I know that [Secretary Riley] has spoken with you about our [education policy], and that Tony Lake has discussed our foreign policy strategy. I would like to use my time with you this morning to speak in a broader sense about where we are today and our challenges for the future -- and how I am counting on all of you to help us meet them successfully.

* * *

My Vision: In 1992, my vision for America: Nation would offer opportunity, Americans would take responsibility; a world where America remained the strongest force for peace and freedom; and a renewed American community where all Americans come together around our basic values.

Our Approach: We cut the deficit to less than half of what it was when I took office. Produced 9.7 million new jobs. Signed a real crime bill with 100,000 community police and assault weapons ban, and Brady bill, and crime is coming down across the country. Renewed our commitment to education of all our children, from Head Start to affordable college loans. Came up with new ways to protect our environment and grow the economy. Promoting values and rewarding work, V-Chip, tobacco, EITC, Family Leave. REGO: govt. smallest it's been since

1965. Turned toward, not away from, the world: Haiti, Bosnia, Middle East, Northern Ireland, NAFTA, GATT.

More To Do: This is a record to build on, not to sit on. We face stiff challenges. Only way we can meet them is by working together. Kassebaum-Kennedy bill... increase in minimum wage... real welfare reform. And need to make sure that educational opportunities expand and improve for future generations -- computers in schools... 13th and 14th year of education as standard as first 12 are now -- so \$1500 tax credit to make typical community college free.

* * *

You understand the importance of working together to meet these goals, because that's what each of you is all about. The core of my vision for this country -- opportunity, responsibility, and community -- is part and parcel of the ethnic American experience.

America owes its success in great part to the countless immigrants who have come to our shores in search of a better life for themselves and their children. Generations of newcomers saw opportunity in America's bounty. And they took responsibility for seizing that opportunity -- building our cities into towering centers of commerce and industry... turning our farmlands into fields of abundant growth... laying the highways and railroads that brought our country together... and rising to the top of every profession -- from Main Street to Capitol Hill.

But even as you and your forebears worked hard to make the most of your own lives, you always maintained respect for the values that help keep America strong: love of family... the importance of education... caring for your community and helping those in need. You built associations and houses of worship that bolstered the spirit of unity as you fought for a brighter future. We need your strength and energy now -- on the eve of a brand new century -- as we work to build a future of security, prosperity, and progress for all our people.

We also need your help in making sure American remains the leader of the world community.

Today, with the end of the Cold War, there are some who believe our nation can retreat within its borders and turn its back on the world. They couldn't be more wrong.

We live in an era when revolutions in technology and transportation send people, goods, ideas, and money around the world with unprecedented ease. This globalized economy brings extraordinary new opportunities -- and America, with the rich diversity of our people -- is uniquely poised to seize them. But the openness we celebrate also means that problems that begin beyond our borders -- like terrorism, nuclear smuggling, and drug trafficking -- can swiftly become problems within them.

America must stay engaged in the world. And your continued leadership is essential. Many of you have worked hard to help the nations of Central Europe as they make the bold transition to market democracy. Others have supported the search for lasting peace in the Middle East, Northern Ireland, or Bosnia. Many of you have championed human rights or organized humanitarian relief for your ancestral homelands [TK].

We can't be everywhere. We can't do everything. But sometimes America -- and only America -- can make the difference between war and peace... between fear and hope. We must never hesitate to meet that great responsibility.

I am proud of what our nation has done to reduce the nuclear threat... to fight terrorism, drug trafficking, and organized crime... to help build an undivided, democratic Europe... to stand with those who take risks for peace from Jerusalem to Johannesburg... to restore hope to Haiti... to bring peace to Bosnia... and to create new opportunities for Americans at home by opening markets abroad. We must maintain this leadership so that all our people -- and others around the world -- can enjoy the rewards of freedom and prosperity as we enter the 21st century.

As descendants of immigrants, many of you feel that in your bones. But all of us as Americans

should feel it in our hearts, for we believe the values at the core of the American Dream -- democracy, equality, freedom, opportunity -- are not for Americans only. So as we join on this Flag Day -- as we celebrate all of you, who had faith in the American Dream and who struggled to make it come true for yourselves and your children -- let us resolve to work together, for hope and opportunity for all who are striving to make their dreams come true.

Thank you.

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 19 August 96 11:21

FROM Cullin, Brian P.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT POTUS interview on 60 Minutes[UNCLASSIFIED]

TO

Abdulmalik, April B.
Albert, Ronda A.
Alijanil, Leyla
Andreasen, Steven P.
Appel, Edward J.
Armstrong, Fulton T.
Atlas, Edwin L.
Baker, Jane E.
Baker, James E.
Bakke, Kyle D.
Baldwin, Kenneth
Bass, Peter E.
Battenfield, Pat
Beers, Rand R.
Behring, Deanna M.
Bellamy, Ralph C.
Bell, Robert G.
Bemisderfer, Dwight D.
Bendick, Gordon L.
Benjamin, Daniel
Biernacki, Eileen V.
Birkland, Andrea L.
Black, Todd F.
Blieberger, Marion H.
Blinken, Antony J.
Bolinski, Charlene C.
Bowker, David W.
Boynton, Peter J.
Brennan, Steven
Bresnahan, Gary E.
Brooks, Jennifer M.
Brown, Dallas
Brown, Nancy E.
Bruton, Robert G.
Bryan, Lloyd D.
Burrell, Christina L.
Carter, Michael E.
Cicio, Kristen K.
Clark, Bronya

Clarke, Richard A.
Cooper, Kathleen H.
Csont, Andrew J.
Cullin, Brian P.
Daadler, Ivo H.
Danvers, William C.
Darnes, Victoria J.
Davis, William K.
Deshazer, Macarthur X.
Dimel, Marsha L.
Dobbins, James F.
Dohse, Fred J.
Dowling, J. Nicholas
Dragone, Karen D.
Dupuy, Shawn L.
Eddy, Randolph P.
Edwards, Joan
Eggert, Tamara E.
Eisenhower, James J.
Epstein, Gerald L.
Fairfax, Kenneth J.
Feeley, John F.
Fetig, James L.
Ficklin, John W.
Flessas, Daniel
Florio, Elaine
Fried, Daniel
Friedrich, M. K.
Fuhrman, Thomas A.
George, Christopher
Gerstner, Christina L.
Gladbach, Damon J.
Glinski, David L.
Gorsuch, Robert P.
Gray, Wendy
Grummon, Stephen R.
Haines, Mary A.
Hale, John E.
Hall, James A.
Hall, Wilma G.
Hamilton, Roy A.
Harding, Bruce D.
Harmon, Joyce A.
Harris, Elisa D.
Harrison, Lyle M.
Hasman, Thomas M.
Hawes, David J.
Hawkins, Ardenia R.
Heslin, Sheila N.
Hilliard, Brenda I.

Hill, Roseanne M.
Hofmann, Stephan D.
Houck, Baerbel K.
Huggins, Peter
Hunerwadel, Joan S.
Johnson, David T.
Johnson, Natalie A.
Jones, Kerri-Ann D.
Joseph, Jofi J.
Joshi, M. Kay
Kale, Dora A.
Kelly, Sandra L.
Kessinger, Jodi
Kinser-Kidane, Brenda J.
Koehler, Marc
Kreczko, Alan J.
Kristoff, Sandra J.
Kyle, Robert D.
Lai, Brian H.
Leary, William H.
LeBaron, Richard B.
Lee, Malcolm R.
Letts, Kelly J.
Lorin, Matthew E.
Lowry, Jay E.
MacDonald, Bruce W.
Malley, Robert
Marshall, Betty A.
Marsh, Thomas S.
Martinez, Alejandro
Maxfield, Nancy H.
McCormick, Shawn H.
McIntyre, Stuart H.
Merchant, Brian
Miller, Matthew E.
Millison, Cathy L.
Miscik, Judith A.
Mitsler, Elaine M.
Miyaoka, Lester H.
Moffett, Julia
Moody, Angelyn D.
Motherway, Daniel J.
Mueller, William (Doug) D.
Naplan, Steven J.
Natoli, Kim M.
Neil, M. Elise
O'loughlin, Kathrine
O'Shaughnessy, Patrick
Gwyn M. Parker
Parramore, Carl W.

Parris, Mark R.
Pascual, Carlos E.
Peggins, John W.
Pelofsky, Eric J.
Peters, Mary A.
Piccone, Theodore J.
Pifer, Steven K.
Kenneth M. Pollack
Poneman, Daniel B.
Porter, Gidell
Pritchard, Charles (Jack) L.
Pyatt, Geoffrey R.
Quinn, Mary E.
Ragan, Richard F.
Ramsay, Martha S.
Reznik, Victoria (NMI)
Rice, Susan E.
Rice, Sean P.
Ritterhauff, Robin
Roach, Darren S.
Robinson, Wylma
Roe, Pamela K.
Rosen, Daniel A.
Roundtree, Beverly J.
Salvetti, Lisa M.
Samore, Gary S.
Sanborn, Daniel R. K.
David B. Sandalow
Saunders, John W.
Schifter, Richard
Schmidt, John R.
Schwartz, Eric P.
Sculimbrene, Thomas A.
Seaton, James B.
Sens, Andrew D.
Sestak, Joseph A.
Sheehan, Michael A.
Showalter, Victoria A.
Sigler, Ralph
Simon, Steven N.
Simons, James R.
Smith, Michael P.
Snyder, Julie A.
Sparks, John E.
Stauffer, Helen L.
Suettinger, Robert L.
Sulser, Jack A.
Van Tassel, David S.
Veit, Katherine M.
Vershbow, Alexander R.

Verville, Elizabeth G.
Wadsworth, Valon J.
Walsh, Helen C.
Ward, JoAnn X.
Weber, Paul A.
Wechsler, William F.
Wetzel, M. Jeanne
Whitworth, Frank D.
Wiley, Mary C.
Willis, Robin M.
Witkowski, Anne A.
Wozniak, Natalie S.
Wright, Allison M.
Wright, Jay
Yokum, Jeffrey G.

CARBON_COPY NO CC's on THIS MESSAGE

TEXT_BODY

[[60MIN.DOC : 2828 in 60MIN.DOC]]
This interview may help you in preparing presidential guidance this week.
Thanks!!

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE** 19 August 96 11:18

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME** 60MIN.DOC

TRANSCRIPT
CBS 60 MINUTES INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT CLINTON
AUGUST 18, 1996

SPEAKERS LIST: DAN RATHER, CBS NEWS
WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

RATHER: Mr. President, again, happy birthday.

CLINTON: Thank you very much.

RATHER: How are you feeling crossing 50?

CLINTON: Grateful, good. I just finished a
wonderful
family vacation. And Hillary and I were marveling
about
how fast the years have gone and how proud we were of
our
daughter and how fortunate we've been. So I feel very
good.

RATHER: Let's talk politics. You're 50. Bob Dole

is

73. Is he too old to be president?

CLINTON: I don't think that age should determine it.

I think that a man who's 73 and in good health can do the job. He'd maybe have to make some modifications, maybe not do it exactly the way I've done it.

But the main thing is whether the ideas are old or new.

And I think that my ideas for the future are better and that's the thing I want to fight the election on.

The age issue to me is not a big thing. That's something that voters, of course, will make their own minds up about. But to me it's not a big issue.

RATHER: Some of your staff members -- not by name -- have been saying, yes, the president thinks Bob Dole is a nice person and has been a pretty good leader in some ways. But, say they, he's been captured by the extremists in the Republican Party, the radical part of the Republican Party, including Newt Gingrich.

Is that what you think?

CLINTON: Well, I don't know about captured or not. I believe that this would be a very different country if he had been president the last four years and it would be a very different country depending on which one of us becomes president for the next four.

I don't want this campaign to be fought out on insults.

I want it to be fought out on ideas, on the record, on the results, on the future. That's what I think we ought to fight it out on.

RATHER: That's what you'd like to have it fought out

on. Now, you said you didn't see the Republican Convention. Here are some of the things that they were saying about you.

(LAUGHTER)

CLINTON: I can hardly wait.

RATHER: Senator Dole said...

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DOLE: It is demeaning to the nation, that within the Clinton administration, a core of the elite who never grew up, never did anything real, never sacrificed, never suffered and never learned, should have the power to fund with your earnings their dubious and self-serving schemes.

(APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEOTAPE)

CLINTON: I suppose he's talking about the White House and the fact that we have a lot of young people who work here. Most of them work very hard and do a very, very good job. And they really have made a contribution to us.

But in this White House staff we also have Leon Panetta, a seasoned former member of Congress, the son of an Italian immigrant walnut farmer. A man who I think would generally be conceded to be one of the more successful chiefs of staff in the last several decades.

We've had Bob Rubin, who made a great career on Wall Street, on the staff, now the secretary of treasury.

CLINTON: We had General Barry McCaffrey, a hero of the Gulf War, our commander in the southern part of the globe, now leading our fight against drugs. So I think we've had

a very well balanced staff.

And I think, you know, I don't feel the need to criticize him or his people in that way. Did we get results or not? We do have 10 million more jobs. We do have 1.3 million fewer people on welfare. We do have a declining crime rate for four years in a row.

We're putting these 100,000 police on the street. We have kept 60,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers from getting handguns because of the Brady Bill. Senator Dole led the fight against the Brady Bill, led the fight against the crime bill, led the fight against the Family and Medical Leave Law. Now, I think these young people who believed in the approach that I took were right, and he was wrong. And I think the American people are better off because I was here and the people who were working with me were here, and he wasn't. That's what I believe.

RATHER: Also at the convention, Kay Bailey Hutchison, the senator from Texas...

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

HUTCHISON: Candidate Clinton promised to restore ethics in government.

CROWD: No!

HUTCHISON: President Clinton put a former bar bouncer in charge of confidential FBI files.

(BOOS)

(END VIDEOTAPE)

CLINTON: Senator Hutchison. I like her, but she didn't have one of her better nights apparently. I didn't

see it. But what I heard about it made me glad I was
on
vacation.

I hope that this election will be fought out on the
record, the differences in our decision over the last
four
years -- because the American people know -- and on the
differences in our ideas going forward.

And that's what I'm going to try to focus on at our
convention. I want it to be focused not on the
Democrats
or the Republicans, but on the American people, the
citizens, and where we're going together.

RATHER: But you said your hope is that it can be
fought out on the issues.

But one more thing from the convention I'll give you
a
chance to respond to. As you must know, whether you
watched the convention or not, the Republicans fired a
number of shots at the first lady.

Some samples -- former President George Bush. He
said --
quote -- ``Mrs. Bush upheld the honor of the White
House, and
she did it with class and style and caring and love."

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BUSH: She did it with class and style and caring
and
love. My wife of 51 years, Barbara Bush.
(APPLAUSE)

(BAND PLAYS ``DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS")

(END VIDEOTAPE)

RATHER: I don't know of anybody in the convention
hall
who didn't take that as a shot at the difference
between
the present first lady and the former first lady.

CLINTON: Well, I believe that everyone who knows my
wife believes she has class, style, caring and love.

If
you read this wonderful book that she wrote, "It Takes
a
Village," that became a number-one best seller for
many
weeks, it's really a chronicle of her whole adult
life's work.

Now, she was a different sort of person than many
first
ladies have been. She'd had a career. She had
established a national reputation as a child advocate.
She had tried to find a way to juggle being a mother,
as well as
being a wife and being a public person and having a
private law
practice.

CLINTON: And she'd never been subject to any of
this
sort of criticism to speak of until she became my
partner
in this great endeavor.

And, you know, a lot of folks have been working on
her
four or five years now. And I think she's held up
rather
well. I'm very proud of her.

And I think when history looks back at her and the
impact she had on the women and young girls,
particularly,
in this country, and all around the world -- that
incredible speech she gave on all our behalfs at the
Beijing Conference on Women.

The things that young women to say to me when I go
around the country, who are just starting their lives
out.
The things that women my age and older say to me about
Hillary. I feel very good about that.

And yes, she's been a controversial character. And
when she tried to deal with the health care issue, I
guess
it made her more of a target as well.

But...

RATHER: Don't you get mad, Mr. President, when this sort of thing happens?

CLINTON: Well, I try not to, because I don't think it serves any real purpose. All I can tell you is that if you ask me what I was most grateful for at the age of 50, it would not be being president. It'd be -- I'd be most grateful for the years I've had with Hillary and the years I've had with Chelsea.

And I know her better than anybody does, and I'm real proud of her.

RATHER: Let's talk about taxes. You know what the Republicans say. They're saying it almost every hour on the hour. You can't trust Bill Clinton. If he gets a second term he is going to raise your taxes.

Are you prepared, here and now, to say you won't raise taxes in a second term?

CLINTON: Well, I'm prepared here and now to say I'll do what I did in '92. I'll try to do everything I say that I'm going to do in this campaign. And I have absolutely no intention of raising taxes. I have a plan that will balance the budget and provide a tax cut.

What they're really try to do is to make people overlook what they did. Senator Dole has voted for a lot more taxes than I ever did. And Mr. Gingrich once called Senator Dole the tax collector for the welfare state. And so now he's had a change of heart and he's going back to this whole theory that you can cut taxes and you don't have to find a way to pay for it.

Now, I am for a tax cut. But it's targeted to the middle class. It's targeted to education and to child rearing. And just this week, I'm going to sign the

minimum wage bill which has even more tax relief for small business in it -- tax relief I have strongly supported from the beginning.

We can cut taxes. But what they want to do is to blow a hole in the deficit a mile wide. They're going to blow \$400 to \$500 billion hole in the deficit by promising this big tax increase with no way to pay for it -- a tax cut, excuse me, with no way to pay for it.

And what I want the American people to remember is what it was like before. When I took office we had a \$290 billion annual deficit. We had quadrupled the debt of this country in four years. The interest rates were high.

Now, what's going to happen to ordinary people is, if they pass this tax cut, and they let the deficit go up, interest rates will go up, everybody's car payment and home payment, credit card payments will go up. And the economy will go down, and we'll have fewer jobs.

If they do try to pay for their tax cut, they'll have even bigger cuts in Medicare and Medicaid, education, the environment, technology, research -- the things we need to grow the economy and go forward together -- than in the bills that I vetoed.

So, that's really -- all this is smoke and mirrors. They don't have any evidence of any great lust for taxes on my part.

RATHER: But are you willing to pledge you won't raise taxes?

CLINTON: I'm willing to pledge right now that I have

no intention of raising taxes. I know of no reason why we would have a tax increase.

And I have never been a person who believed in just general tax increases. Even when I was governor, if we ever raised taxes, it was for a specific purpose that had overwhelming public support.

And as president, when we put that '93 plan in. Let's go back and look at that. The income tax increase was on the top 1.3 percent of the American people.

Almost 99 percent of the American people had no income tax increases.

We did everything we could to minimize the tax burden on ordinary citizens. And as I said, we gave a big income tax cut to families making \$28,000 a year or less.

The percentage of people's income today in America, on average, going towards federal taxes is less than it was when I became President. So I have no record as a big taxpayer.

Senator Dole has voted for a lot more taxes than I have. He's just looking for this -- this is just sort of -- this 15 percent cut here, I don't know how I'm going to pay for it, he says -- is playing havoc with America's future.

I do not have any intention of promoting a tax increase. But Senator Dole once said -- he said something that I admired -- when he was in New Hampshire once, that a president could never know what emergencies might confront the country.

So I don't want to wind up here with some sort of

huge
national emergency where, you know, 90 percent of the
people are saying, Mr. President, you have to do
something, which might require us to raise some money;
and
me say, oh, well, I promised not to do anything ever.

But I can tell you, I have no plans to raise taxes.
My
plan is to enact my tax cut, to balance the budget, to
grow the economy, to leave enough money left to invest
in
education, the environment, technology, research, and
to
protect the fundamental obligations we have through
Medicare and Medicaid, and grow this country together
into
the 21st century.

RATHER: The 15 percent tax cut is the heart of
their
strategy to win. But it is very closely welded to one
of
their other major themes, which is -- and this is
basically the way they put -- "It's his character,
stupid."

CLINTON: I don't believe, frankly, that the
Republicans could do anything to damage my character.
They may be able to attack my reputation. But God is
the
ultimate judge of people's character. And he knows all
facts and nobody can twist the news. And there's no
angle
there.

The Republicans, from the moment I began running,
saw
that I was a different sort of Democrat, had a
different
philosophy, wanted to break out of this debate. And
they
have been working very hard on my and on Hillary and on
everybody else they could on. They practice the
politics of
destruction. They like that. And they're good at it.
And it
makes good print.

But after all the smoke has cleared here, they still

have no evidence that I have ever done anything wrong.
Now, however, that is -- I leave that to the American
people to decide. They can make up their own minds
about
that.

All I know is I get up here every day and I try to
what's right to build a better future for this country.

And that's what I want this election to be about.

Do they deserve a president that has good character?

You bet they do. And they'll be able to judge it.
We've
been making these judgments for over 200 years.

But in the last several years we've gotten way too
far
off, I think, into just personal destruction. And when
I
received reports about the Republican Convention, I
told
our people, I said, I do not want any snide remarks
made
about any of those people. I don't want any sort of
negative personal asides. I don't want anybody saying,
well, why haven't you worked on them the way you've
worked
on us.

I don't want to hear that. I want this to be about
ideas, not insults. About the records of the two
candidates, about the positions of the two candidates,
and
about the future. I have nothing bad to say about Bob
Dole's character.

And I think that they have not served themselves or
America well by this relentless partisan effort they've
made for all these years to go after me or the first
lady
or others. I don't think that serves the country well.

And I don't want us to do it.

END

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 04 February 97 19:37
FROM Wozniak, Natalie S.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT EMBARGOED: Advanced Copy of SOTU Speech [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Johnson, David T.
Rubin, Eric S.
Wozniak, Natalie S.
CARBON_COPY NO CC's on THIS MESSAGE
TEXT_BODY [[SOTU-ADV.DOC : 4878 in SOTU-ADV.DOC]]

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE** 4 February 97 19:29

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME** SOTU-ADV.DOC
Embargoed until delivery
No wire transmission until 8:00pm
Check against delivery

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
STATE-OF-THE-UNION ADDRESS
UNITED STATES CAPITOL
FEBRUARY 4, 1997

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Vice-President, Members of the 105th Congress,
distinguished guests, my fellow Americans:

I come before you tonight with a challenge as great as any in
our peacetime history -- and a plan of action to meet that
challenge, to prepare our people for the bold new world of the
21st
Century.

We have much to be thankful for. With four years of growth, we
have won back the basic strength of our economy. With crime and
welfare rolls declining, we are winning back our basic optimism,
the
enduring faith that we can master any difficulty. With the Cold
War
receding and global commerce at record levels, we are helping to
win
unrivaled peace and prosperity all across the world.

My fellow Americans, the state of our union is strong, but now we must rise to the decisive moment, to make a nation and a world better than any we have ever known. The new promise of the global economy, the Information Age, unimagined new work, life-enhancing technology -- all are ours to seize. That is our honor and our challenge. We must be shapers of events, not observers. For if we do not act, the moment will pass -- and we will lose the best possibilities of our future.

We face no imminent threat, but we do have an enemy: The enemy of our time is inaction.

So tonight, I issue a call to action -- action by this Congress, by our states, by all our people, to prepare America for the 21st Century. Action to keep our economy and our democracy strong and working for all our people; action to strengthen education and harness the forces of technology and science; action to build stronger families and stronger communities and a safer environment; action to keep America the world's strongest force for peace and freedom and prosperity. And above all, action to build a more perfect union here at home.

The spirit we bring to our work will determine its success. We must all be committed to the pursuit of opportunity for all Americans, and responsibility from all Americans, in a community of all Americans, and to a new kind of government -- not to solve all our problems for us, but to give all our people the tools to make the most of their own lives.

And we must work together. The people of this nation elected us all. They want us to be partners, not partisans. They put us all here in the same boat . . . they gave us all oars . . . and they told us to row. Here's the direction I think we should take.

First, we must move quickly to complete the unfinished business of our country -- to balance our budget, renew our democracy, and finish the job of welfare reform.

Over the last four years, we brought new economic growth by investing in our people, expanding our exports, cutting our

deficits, creating over 11 million new jobs. Now we must keep our economy the strongest in the world.

We here tonight have an historic opportunity. Let this Congress be the Congress that finally balances the budget.

In two days, I will propose a detailed plan to balance the budget by 2002.

This plan will balance the budget and invest in our people while protecting Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment.

It will balance the budget and build on the Vice President's efforts to make our government work better, even as it costs less.

It will balance the budget and provide middle class tax relief to pay for education and health care, to help raise a child, to buy and sell a home.

Balancing the budget requires only your vote and my signature. It does not require us to rewrite our Constitution. I believe it is unnecessary and unwise to adopt a balanced budget amendment that could cripple our country in time of crisis later on, and force unwanted results such as judges halting Social Security checks or increasing taxes. Let us agree: We should not pass any measure that threatens Social Security. We don't need a Constitutional amendment -- we need action.

Whatever our differences, we should balance the budget now, and then, for the long-term health of our society, we must agree to a bipartisan process to preserve Social Security and reform Medicare, so that these fundamental programs will be as strong for our children as they are for our parents.

Our second piece of unfinished business requires us to commit ourselves tonight, before the eyes of America, to enacting bipartisan campaign finance reform.

Senators McCain and Feingold, Representatives Shays and Meehan, have reached across party lines to craft tough and fair campaign reform. Their proposal would curb spending, reduce the role of special interests, create a level playing field between challengers and incumbents and ban contributions from noncitizens and all corporate sources, and the other large soft money contributions

that
both parties receive.

You know and I know that delay will mean the death of reform.
So let's set our own deadline. Let's work together to write
bipartisan campaign finance reform into law, and pass McCain-
Feingold by the day we celebrate the birth of our democracy --
July
the 4th.

There is a third piece of unfinished business: Over the last
four years, we moved a record two and a quarter million people
off
the welfare rolls. Then last year we enacted landmark welfare
reform, demanding that able-bodied recipients assume the
responsibility of moving from welfare to work.

Now each and every one of us has to fulfill our responsibility
-- indeed, our moral obligation -- to make sure that people who
must
work, can work. Now we must act to meet a new goal: two million
more people off the welfare rolls by the Year 2000.

Here is my plan: Tax credits and other incentives to businesses
that hire people off welfare. Incentives for job placement firms
and for states to create more jobs for welfare recipients.
Training, transportation and child care to help people go to
work.

Now I challenge every state: turn those welfare checks into
private sector paychecks. I challenge every religious
congregation,
every community non-profit, and every business: hire someone off
welfare. And I say especially to every employer in this country
who
has ever criticized the old welfare system: You cannot blame that
old system anymore. We have torn it down. Now do your part.
Give
someone on welfare the chance to work.

Tonight, I am pleased to announce that five major corporations -
- Sprint, Monsanto, UPS, Burger King, and United Airlines -- will
be
the first to join in a new national effort to marshal America's
businesses, large and small, to create jobs so people on welfare
can
move to work.

We passed welfare reform. We were right to do it. But no one
can walk out of this chamber with a clear conscience unless you

are
prepared to finish the job.

And we must join together to do something else too -- something both Republican and Democratic governors have asked us to do -- to restore basic health and disability benefits when misfortune strikes immigrants who came to this country legally, who work hard, pay taxes, and obey the law. To do otherwise is simply unworthy of a great nation of immigrants.

Next, the greatest step of all -- the high threshold to the future we now must cross -- and my number one priority as President for the next four years -- is to ensure that Americans have the best education in the world.

Let's work together to meet these goals: Every 8 year old must be able to read; every 12 year old must be able to log on to the Internet; every 18 year old must be able to go to college, and every adult American must be able to keep on learning.

My balanced budget makes an unprecedented commitment to these goals -- \$51 billion dollars next year. But far more than money is required.

I have a plan, a Call to Action for American Education, based on these ten principles.

First, a national crusade for education standards -- not federal government standards, but national standards representing what all of our students must know to succeed in the knowledge economy of the 21st Century. Every state and school must shape the curriculum to reflect these standards, and train teachers to lift students up to meet them. To help schools meet the standards and measure their progress, we will lead an effort over the next two years to develop national tests of student achievement in reading and math.

Tonight, I issue a challenge to the nation: Every state should adopt high national standards, and by 1999, every state should test every 4th grader in reading and every 8th grader in math to make sure these standards are met.

Raising standards will not be easy, and some of our children

will not be able to meet them at first. The point is not to put our children down, but to lift them up. Good tests will show us who needs help, what changes in teaching to make, and which schools to improve. They can help us to end social promotion. For no child should move from grade school to junior high, or junior high to high school until he or she is ready.

Last month, Secretary of Education Dick Riley and I visited Northern Illinois, where 8th grade students from 20 school districts, in a project called "First in the World," took the Third International Math and Science Study -- a test that reflects the world-class standards our children must meet for the new era. And those students in Illinois tied for first in the world in science, and came in second in math. Two of them, Kristin Tanner, and Chris Getsla are here tonight, with their teacher, Sue Winski. They prove that when we aim high and challenge our students, they will be the best in the world.

Second, to have the best schools, we must have the best teachers. Most of us would not be here tonight without the help of such teachers. I know I wouldn't be. For years, many educators, led by North Carolina's Governor Jim Hunt and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, have worked hard to establish nationally accepted credentials for excellence in teaching. Just 500 of these master teachers have been certified since 1995. My budget will enable 100,000 more to seek national certification as master teachers. We should reward our best teachers, quickly and fairly remove those few who don't measure up, and challenge our finest young people to consider teaching as a career.

Third: we must do more to help all our children read. 40% of our 8 year olds cannot read on their own. That's why we have just launched the America Reads initiative -- to build a citizen army of one million volunteer tutors to make sure every child can read independently by the end of the 3rd grade. We will use thousands of AmeriCorps volunteers to mobilize this citizen army. We want at

least 100,000 college students to help. And tonight, I am pleased that 60 college presidents have answered my call, pledging that thousands of their work study students will serve for one year as reading tutors.

This is also a challenge to every teacher and every principal: use these tutors to help students read. And it is especially a challenge to our parents: Read with your children every night.

This leads to the fourth principle: Learning begins in the first days of life. Scientists are now discovering how young children develop emotionally and intellectually from their first days, and, therefore, how important it is for parents to begin immediately talking, singing, even reading to their infants. The First Lady has spent years studying and writing about this issue.

She and I will convene a White House Conference on Early Learning and the Brain this Spring, to explore how parents and educators can best use these startling new findings.

We already know we should start teaching children before they start schools. That's why my budget expands Head Start to one million children by 2002. And, in June, the Vice President and Mrs.

Gore will host their annual family conference. This one will focus on the importance of parents' involvement throughout a child's education.

Fifth, every state should give parents the power to choose the right public school for their children. Their right to choose will foster the competition and innovation that can make our public schools better. We should also make it possible for more parents and teachers to start charter schools, schools that set and meet the highest standards, and survive only as long as they do. Our plan will help America create 3,000 of these charter schools by the next century -- nearly seven times as many as there are today -- so that parents will have even more choices in sending their children to the best public schools.

Sixth: character education must be taught in our schools. We must teach our children to be good citizens. And we must continue

to promote order and discipline, supporting communities that introduce school uniforms, impose curfews, enforce truancy laws, remove disruptive students from the classroom, and have zero tolerance for guns and drugs.

Seventh: we cannot expect our children to raise themselves up in schools that are literally falling down. With the student population at an all time high, and record numbers of school buildings falling into disrepair, this has now become a serious national concern. My budget includes a new initiative: \$5 billion to help communities finance \$20 billion in school construction over the next four years.

Eighth: We must make the 13th and 14th years of education -- at least two years of college -- just as universal in America as a high school education is today, and we must open the doors of college to all.

To do that, I propose America's HOPE scholarship, based on Georgia's pioneering program: two years of a \$1,500 tax credit for college tuition, enough to pay for the typical community college.

I also propose a tax deduction of up to \$10,000 a year for all tuition after high school; an expanded IRA you can withdraw from tax free for education; and the largest increase in Pell Grant scholarships in 20 years. This plan will give most families the ability to pay no taxes on money saved for college tuition. I ask you to pass it -- to give every American who works hard the chance to go to college.

Ninth: In the 21st Century, we must expand the frontiers of learning across a lifetime. All our people, of whatever age, must have a chance to learn new skills. Most Americans live near a community college. The roads that take them there can be paths to a better future. My G.I. Bill for Workers will transform the confusing tangle of federal training programs into a simple skill grant that will go directly into eligible workers' hands. For too long, this bill has been sitting on that desk down there without action -- and I ask you to pass it now. Let's give more of our workers the ability to learn and to earn.

Tenth: we must bring the power of the Information Age into all

our schools. Last year, I challenged America to connect every classroom and library to the Internet by the year 2000, so that, for the first time in history, a child in the most isolated rural town, the most comfortable suburb, the poorest inner city school, will have the same access to the same universe of knowledge. I ask your support to complete this historic mission.

That is my plan -- a Call to Action for American Education.

We must understand the significance of this endeavor: One of the greatest sources of our strength throughout the Cold War was a bipartisan foreign policy; because our future was at stake, politics stopped at the water's edge. Now I ask you -- I ask all our nation's governors -- and I ask teachers, parents and citizens all across America -- for a new nonpartisan commitment to education -- because education is one of the critical national security issues for our future -- and politics must stop at the classroom door.

I pledge to take this Call to Action to our country, so that together, we can make American education, like America itself, the envy of the world.

To prepare America for the 21st century, we must harness the powerful forces of science and technology to benefit all Americans.

This is the first State of the Union carried live over the Internet. But we have only begun to spread the benefits of a technology revolution that should be the modern birthright of every citizen.

Our effort to connect every classroom is just the beginning. Now, we should connect every hospital to the Internet, so doctors can instantly share data about their patients with the best specialists in the field. And I challenge the private sector to start by connecting every children's hospital as soon as possible, so that a child in bed can stay in touch with school, family and friends. A sick child need no longer be a child alone.

We must build the second generation of the Internet so our leading universities and national laboratories can communicate at

speeds 1000 times faster than today, to develop new medical treatments, new sources of energy, and new ways of working together.

But we cannot stop there. As the Internet becomes our new town square, a computer in every home -- a teacher of all subjects, a connection to all cultures -- this will no longer be a dream, but a necessity. And over the next decade, that must be our goal.

We must continue to explore the heavens, pressing on with the Mars probes and the international space station, both of which will have practical applications for our everyday living.

We must speed the remarkable advances in medical science. The human genome project is now decoding the genetic mysteries of life. American scientists have discovered genes linked to breast cancer and ovarian cancer, and medication that stops a stroke in progress and begins to reverse its effects -- and treatments that dramatically lengthen the lives of people with HIV and AIDS.

Since I took office, funding for AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health has increased dramatically, to \$1.5 billion.

With new resources, NIH will now become the most powerful discovery engine for an AIDS vaccine, working with other scientists to finally end the threat of AIDS. Every year we move up the discovery of an AIDS vaccine, we can save millions of lives around the world.

To prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger families.

Over the past 4 years, the Family and Medical Leave Act has helped millions of Americans take time off to be with their families. With new pressures on people in the way they work and live, we should expand Family Leave so that workers can take time off for teacher conferences and a child's medical checkup. We should pass flextime so workers can choose to be paid for overtime in income, or trade it in for time off to be with their families.

We must continue, step-by-step, to give more families access to affordable, quality health care. 40 million Americans still lack health insurance. 10 million children still lack health

insurance.

80% of them have working parents who pay taxes. That is wrong.

My

balanced budget will extend health coverage to up to five million of

those children. Since nearly half of all children who lose their

insurance do so because their parents lose or change jobs, my

budget

will also ensure that people who temporarily lose their jobs can

still afford to keep their health insurance. No child should be

without a doctor just because a parent is without a job.

My Medicare plan modernizes Medicare, increases the life of the

Trust Fund to 10 years, provides support for respite care for the

many families with loved-ones afflicted with Alzheimers -- and

for

the first time, it would fully pay for annual mammograms.

Just as we ended drive through deliveries of babies last year,

we must now end the dangerous and demeaning practice of forcing

women home from the hospital only hours after a mastectomy. I

ask

your support for bipartisan legislation to guarantee that women

can

stay in the hospital for 48 hours after a mastectomy. With us

tonight is Dr. Kristen Zarfes, a Connecticut surgeon whose

outrage

at this practice spurred a national movement and inspired this

legislation. We thank her for her efforts.

In the last four years, we have increased child support

collections by 50%. Now, we should go further, and make it a

felony

for any parent to cross state lines in an attempt to flee from

this,

his or her most sacred obligation.

Finally, we must also protect our children by standing firm in

our determination to ban the advertising and marketing of

cigarettes

that endanger their lives.

To prepare America for the 21st Century, we must build stronger

communities.

We should start with safe streets. Serious crime has dropped

five years in a row. The key has been community policing -- and

we

must finish the job of putting 100,000 community police on our

streets. We should pass the Victims' Rights Amendment to the

Constitution.

And I ask you to join me in mounting a full scale assault on juvenile crime, with legislation that: declares war on gangs, with new prosecutors and tougher penalties; extends the Brady Bill so violent teen criminals will never be able to buy handguns; requires child safety locks on handguns to prevent unauthorized use; and helps to keep our schools open after hours, on weekends, and in the summer, so young people will have someplace to go and something to say yes to.

My balanced budget includes the largest anti-drug effort ever: to stop drugs at their source, punish those who push them, and teach our young people that drugs are wrong, drugs are illegal, and drugs will kill them.

Our growing economy has helped to revive poor urban and rural neighborhoods. But we must do more, to empower them to create the conditions in which families can flourish, and to create jobs through investment by business and loans by banks.

We should double the number of empowerment zones. They have already brought hope to communities like Detroit, where the unemployment rate has been cut in half in four years. We should restore contaminated urban land and buildings to productive use. We should expand the network of community development banks.

And together, we must pledge tonight that we will use this empowerment approach -- including private sector tax incentives -- to renew our capital city, so that Washington is a great place to live and work, and is once again the proud face America shows to the world.

We must protect our environment in every community. In the last four years, we cleaned up 250 toxic waste sites, as many as in the previous twelve. Now we should clean up 500 more of them, so that our children grow up next to parks, not poison. Big polluters must live by this simple rule: If you pollute our environment,

you
pay to clean it up.

In the last four years, we strengthened the nation's safe food and clean drinking water laws. We protected some of America's rarest, most beautiful land in Utah's Red Rocks region, created three new national parks in the California desert, and began to restore Florida's Everglades. Now we must be as vigilant with our rivers as we are with our land. Tonight, I announce that this year

I will designate 10 American Heritage Rivers, to help communities alongside them revitalize their waterfronts and clean up pollution in the rivers, proving once again that we can grow the economy as we protect the environment.

We must also protect our global environment, working to ban the worst toxic chemicals and to reduce the greenhouse gasses that challenge our health even as they change our climate.

We all know that in all of our communities, some of our children simply do not have what they need to grow and learn in their homes, or schools, or neighborhoods. The rest of us must do more, for they are our children too. That is why President Bush, General Colin Powell, and former Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros will join Vice President Gore and me to lead the Presidents' Summit of Service in Philadelphia in April.

Our national service program, Americorps, has already helped 70,000 young people work their way through college as they serve America. Now we intend to mobilize millions of Americans to serve in thousands of ways. Citizen service is an American responsibility, which all Americans should embrace.

I'd like to make one last point about our national community. Our economy is measured in numbers and statistics, and it's very important. But the enduring worth of our nation lies in our values and our soaring spirit. So instead of cutting back on our modest efforts to support the arts and humanities, I believe we should stand by them, and challenge our artists, musicians and writers, our museums, libraries and theaters, to join with all Americans to make the Year 2000 a national celebration of the American spirit in every

community -- a celebration of our common culture in the century that has passed, and in the new one to come in the new millennium, so that we can remain the world's beacon of liberty and creativity, long after the fireworks have faded.

To prepare America for the 21st Century, we must master the forces of change in the world and keep American leadership strong and sure for an uncharted time.

Fifty years ago, a farsighted America led in creating the institutions that secured victory in the Cold War and built a growing world economy. As a result, today more people than ever embrace our ideals and share our interests.

Already, we have dismantled many of the blocs and barriers that divided our parents' world. For the first time, more people live under democracy than dictatorship, including every nation in our hemisphere but one -- and its day too will come.

Now, we stand at another moment of change and choice -- and another time to be farsighted, to bring America 50 more years of security and prosperity.

Our first task is to help build, for the first time, an undivided, democratic Europe. When Europe is stable, prosperous and at peace, America is more secure.

To that end, we must expand NATO by 1999, so that countries that were once our adversaries can become our allies. At the special NATO summit this summer, that is what we will begin to do. We must strengthen NATO's Partnership for Peace with non-member allies. And we must build a stable partnership between NATO and a democratic Russia.

An expanded NATO is good for America. And a Europe in which all democracies define their future not in terms of what they can do to each other, but in terms of what they can do together for the good of all -- that kind of Europe is good for America.

Second, America must look to the East no less than the West. Our security demands it: Americans have fought three wars in Asia this century. Our prosperity requires it: more than 2 million American jobs depend upon trade with Asia.

There, too, we are helping to shape an Asian Pacific community of cooperation, not conflict. But we must not let our progress

there mask the peril that remains. Together with South Korea, we must advance peace talks with North Korea and bridge the Cold War's last divide. And I call on this Congress to fund our share of the agreement under which North Korea must continue to freeze and then dismantle its nuclear weapons program.

We must pursue a deeper dialogue with China -- for the sake of our interests and our ideals. An isolated China is not good for America. A China playing its proper role in the world is. I will go to China and I have invited China's president to come here, not because we agree on everything, but because engaging China is the best way to work on common challenges like ending nuclear testing -- and to deal frankly with fundamental differences like human rights.

Third, the American people must prosper in the global economy. We have worked hard to tear down trade barriers abroad, so that we can create good jobs at home. I am proud to say that today, America is once again the most competitive nation, and the number one exporter in the world. Now, we must act to expand our exports, especially to Asia and Latin America, the two fastest growing regions on earth -- or be left behind as these emerging economies forge new ties with other nations. That is why we need the authority now to conclude new trade agreements that open markets to our goods and services even as we preserve our values.

We need not shrink from the challenge of the global economy. We have the best workers and the best products. In a truly open market, and we can out-compete anyone in the world.

But this is about more than economics. By expanding trade, we can advance the cause of freedom and democracy around the world.

We should all be proud that America led the effort to rescue our neighbor Mexico from its economic crisis -- and we should all be proud that last month, Mexico repaid the United States, three years ahead of schedule, with a half a billion dollars profit for us.

And
today our exports to Mexico are at an all time high.

Fourth, America must continue to be an unrelenting force for peace -- from the Middle East to Haiti . . . from Northern Ireland to Africa. Taking reasonable risks for peace keeps us from being drawn into far more costly conflicts later.

With American leadership, the killing has stopped in Bosnia. Now, the habits of peace must take hold. The new NATO force will allow reconstruction and reconciliation to accelerate. Tonight, I ask Congress to continue its strong support for our troops there. They are doing a remarkable job for America -- and America must do right by them.

Fifth, we must move strongly against new threats to our security. In the past four years, we agreed to ban nuclear testing. With Russia, we dramatically cut our nuclear arsenals; we stopped targeting each others citizens. We are acting to rid the world of landmines, and prevent nuclear materials from falling into the wrong hands. We are working with other nations, with renewed intensity, to stop terrorists and drug traffickers before they act, and to hold them fully accountable if they do.

Now, we must rise to a new test of leadership: ratifying the Chemical Weapons Convention. It will make our troops safer from chemical attack. It will help us to fight terrorism. We have no more important obligations -- especially in the wake of what we now know about the Gulf War. This treaty has been bipartisan from the beginning, supported by Republican and Democratic administrations alike -- and Republican and Democratic Members of Congress alike -- and already approved by 68 nations. If we do not act by April 29 -- when this Convention goes into force, with us or without us -- we will lose the chance to have Americans leading and enforcing this effort. Together, we must make the Chemical Weapons Convention law, so that at last we can begin to outlaw poison gas from the earth.

Finally, we must have the tools to meet all these challenges.

We must maintain a strong and ready military. We must increase funding for weapons modernization by the Year 2000, and we must take good care of our men and women in uniform. They are the world's finest.

We must also renew our commitment to America's diplomacy -- and pay our debts and dues to international financial institutions like the World Bank, and to a reforming United Nations. Every dollar we devote to preventing conflicts . . . to promoting democracy . . . to stopping the spread of disease and starvation . . . brings a sure return in security and savings. Yet international affairs spending today is just one percent of the federal budget -- a tiny fraction of what America invested in diplomacy to choose leadership over escapism at the start of the Cold War. If America is to continue to lead the world, we here who lead America simply must find the will to pay our way.

A farsighted America moved the world to a better place over these last fifty years. And it can do so for another fifty years. But a shortsighted America will soon find its words falling on deaf ears all around the world.

Almost exactly fifty years ago, in the first winter of the Cold War, President Harry Truman stood before a Republican Congress and called upon our country to meet its responsibilities of leadership. This is was his warning: "If we falter, we may endanger the peace of the world -- and we shall surely endanger the welfare of this nation." That Congress, led by Republicans like Senator Arthur Vandenberg, answered President Truman's call. Together, they made the commitments that strengthened our country for fifty years. Now let us do the same. Let us do what it takes to remain the indispensable nation -- to keep America strong, secure and prosperous for another fifty years.

In the end, more than anything else, our world leadership grows out of the power of our example here at home, out of our ability to remain strong as one America.

All over the world, people are being torn asunder by racial, ethnic, and religious conflicts that fuel fanaticism and terror. We are the world's most diverse democracy. And the world looks to us to show that it is possible to live and advance together across those kinds of differences.

America has always been a nation of immigrants. From the start, a steady stream of people, in search of freedom and opportunity, have left their own lands to make this land their home. We started as an experiment in democracy fueled by Europeans. We have grown into an experiment in democratic diversity fueled by openness and promise.

My fellow Americans, we must never believe that diversity is a weakness -- it is our greatest strength. Americans speak every language, know every country. People on every continent can look to us and see the reflection of their own greatness, as long as we give all of our citizens, whatever their background, an opportunity to achieve their greatness.

We are not there yet. We still see evidence of abiding bigotry and intolerance, in ugly words and awful violence, in burned churches and bombed buildings. We must fight against this, in our country and in our hearts.

A few days before my second inauguration, one of America's best known pastors, Rev. Robert Schuller, suggested that I read Isaiah 58:12. It says: "Thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations, and thou shalt be called, the repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in." I placed my hand on that verse when I took the oath of office, on behalf of all Americans. For no matter what our differences -- in our faiths, our backgrounds, our politics -- we must all be repairers of the breach. We may not

share a common past, but surely we share a common future.

I want to say a word about two other Americans who show us the way to that common future. Congressman Frank Tejeda was buried yesterday, a proud American whose family came from Mexico. He was only 51 years old. He earned the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart fighting for his country in Vietnam, and he went on to serve Texas and America fighting for our future in this chamber. We are grateful for his service and honored to have his mother, Lillie Tejeda, with us tonight.

Gary Locke, the newly elected Governor of Washington State, is our first Chinese- American Governor, the proud son of two of the millions of Asian-American immigrants who have strengthened America with their hard work, family values, and good citizenship.

Rev. Schuller, Congressman Tejeda, Governor Locke, along with Kristin Tanner, Chris Getsla, Sue Winski and Dr. Kristen Zarfos -- all Americans from different roots, whose lives reflect our shared values and the best of what we can become when we are one America.

Building that one America is our most important mission, "the foundation of many generations," of every other strength we must build for the new century. Money cannot buy it. Power cannot compel it. Technology cannot create it. It must rise from the human spirit.

America is far more than a place. It is an idea, the most powerful idea in the history of nations. We are now the bearers of that idea, leading a great people into a new world. A child born tonight will have almost no memory of the 20th Century. Everything that child will know of America, will be because of what we do now to build a new century.

We don't have a moment to waste. Tomorrow morning, there will be just over 1,000 days until the Year 2000. 1,000 days to prepare our people. 1,000 days to work together. My fellow Americans, we have work to do. Let us seize the days and the century.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless America.

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 09 May 97 14:16
FROM Gray, Wendy
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Radio address small & cards [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Hamilton, Roy A.
CARBON_COPY NO CC's on THIS MESSAGE
TEXT_BODY
please forward the attached to Tony Blinken on Plane and copy to diskette

Also provide copy of my note. Thanks

From: Gray, Wendy E.
To: Blinken, Antony at Trip; Gibney, James at Trip; Letts, Kelly at Trip;
Friedrich, Kate at Trip
CC: /R, Record at A1
Subject: Radio address small & cards [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Friday, May 09, 1997 02:12 PM

[[RADIOBIG.DOC : 3623 in RADIOBIG.DOC]][[RADIOSML.DOC : 3624 in
RADIOSML.DOC]]

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE** 9 May 97 14:10
**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME** RADIOBIG.DOC
PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON JUVENILE JUSTICE
LEGISLATION
Saturday, May 10, 1997

This morning, I want to talk about the responsibility we share to protect our children from the scourge of violent crime -- especially crime that is committed by other young people.

Because of our hard work over the past four and a half years, we know that America's children face a brighter

future. Economic growth is the highest it has been in a decade. Unemployment is at its lowest level in 30 years. Last Friday, we reached an historic agreement to finish the job of balancing the budget -- to keep our economy thriving, while opening the doors to education wider than ever, and providing health care for five million uninsured children.

Together, we are proving that we can meet our toughest challenges, and prepare our people for the promise of a new century.

But our children cannot live out their dreams if they are living in fear of gangs and guns. That is why I have worked so hard to reverse the tide of crime. We passed a tough crime bill that is putting 100,000 new community police on our streets. We passed the Brady Bill, which has stopped over 186,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers from buying handguns. We banned deadly assault weapons. We passed the biggest anti-drug budget ever. We're working to make our schools safe, drug-free, and gun-free.

Our strategy is working. Serious crime has dropped five years in a row. But sadly, crime among young people is on the rise. According to a report by the Justice Department's juvenile division, unless we act now, the number of juveniles arrested for violent crimes will more than double by the year 2010. That means we must launch a full-scale assault on juvenile crime. We need targeted crime prevention to stop juvenile crime before it starts. And young people must know that if they commit a violent crime, they will face tough punishment, and build a criminal record that could follow them throughout their lives.

This February, I sent legislation to Congress that would declare war on gangs, with new prosecutors and tougher penalties. It would extend the Brady Bill so that someone who commits a violent crime as a juvenile is barred from buying a gun as an adult. It would require that child safety locks be sold with guns -- to keep children from hurting themselves or each other. It would help keep schools open after hours, on weekends, and in the summer, to keep children off the streets and out of trouble. This tough, balanced approach is based on what works at the local level; in Boston, where many of these efforts are already in place, youth murders have dropped 80% in five years, and not one child has been killed with a gun in over a year and a half.

Unfortunately, this Thursday, the House of Representatives passed a juvenile justice bill that falls far short of that promise. The House bill is weak on guns, weak on gangs, and weak on prosecution -- and it walks away from the crime prevention initiatives that can save a teenager from a life of crime.

The House bill does not ensure the new anti-gang prosecutors we desperately need to pursue and punish violent juveniles. It does not ensure efforts such as Boston's Operation Night Light, where police and probation officers make nightly visits to the homes of young probationers, to make sure they live up to the strict rules of their probation.

The House bill does not fund anti-crime initiatives to keep our schools open later and on weekends, so young people can stay under the watchful eye of parents, educators, and community leaders -- instead of on street corners, where the most common influences are bad influences. We know violent juvenile crime peaks right after the school day ends. We've got to engage our children during those hours, to steer them away from gangs. Especially after last month's Service Summit in Philadelphia, we must not lose this opportunity to save and protect America's children.

Most troubling of all, the House bill rejects my call to cut-off young people's access to guns -- now the third leading cause of death for young people between ages 13 and 24. We must begin with the simple precaution of child safety locks. It is heart-breaking when a gun owned by a law-abiding parent is used by a child to hurt themselves or others. According to a National Institute of Justice survey, 185 children died in 1994 because of accidental shootings. If we can have safety precautions to prevent children from opening bottles of aspirin, we should certainly have them to prevent children from using guns. Extending the Brady Bill is critical as well. If you commit a violent crime as seventeen-year-old, you shouldn't be able to buy a gun on your 21st birthday.

I challenge Congress to pass a real juvenile justice bill -- one that's tough on gangs and tough on guns. To me, a juvenile justice bill that does not limit children's access to guns is a bill that walks away from the problem. Not a single hunter would lose their guns because of child safety locks; not a single law-abiding citizen would be denied a gun if we extend the Brady Bill to those with violent juvenile records. But countless young lives

would be saved if stolen guns became useless guns, and if lawless juveniles became gunless adults. If Congress really wants to get tough on juvenile crime, then it's time to get tough on guns, and take them out of the hands of violent juveniles.

That's the only way we can reach the day when we are no longer numb to acts of violence by and against our children -- when their appearance on the evening news is both shocking and rare. And it is the only way our children can learn and play without risk of harm -- so they can make the most of their future, and of the world they will inherit.

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE**

9 May 97 14:11

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME**

RADIOSML.DOC
PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON JUVENILE JUSTICE LEGISLATION
Saturday, May 10, 1997

This morning, I want to talk about the responsibility we share to protect our children from the scourge of violent crime -- especially crime that is committed by other young people.

Because of our hard work over the past four and a half years, we know that America's children face a brighter future. Economic growth is the highest it has been in a decade. Unemployment is at its lowest level in 30 years. Last Friday, we reached an historic agreement to finish the job of balancing the budget -- to keep our economy thriving, while opening the doors to education wider than ever, and providing health care for five million uninsured children. Together, we are proving that we can meet our toughest challenges, and prepare our people for the promise of a new century.

But our children cannot live out their dreams if they are living in fear of gangs and guns. That is why I have worked so hard to reverse the tide of crime. We passed a tough crime bill that is putting 100,000 new community police on our streets. We passed the Brady Bill, which has stopped over 186,000 felons, fugitives, and stalkers from buying handguns. We banned deadly assault weapons. We passed the biggest anti-drug budget ever.

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