

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 3/6/98 8:10:43 PM

FROM Pascual, Carlos E.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT FW: Clearance requested by COB today: Memo on Int Women's Day [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Busby, Scott W.

CARBON_COPY Barnett, Cheryl E.
Caravelli, John M.
Cohen, Julie E.
Courtney, William H.
Fooks, Michael D.
Fort, Jane B.
Pascual, Carlos E.
Silva, Mary Ann T.

TEXT_BODY Scott -- looks good. Clear for RUE. Could I get back a final copy of the fact sheet on Ukraine that I cleared earlier?

-----Original

Message-----

From: Fort, Jane B.

Sent: Friday, March 06, 1998

3:48 PM

To: Pascual, Carlos E.

Subject: FW: Clearance requested

by COB today: Memo on Int Women's Day [UNCLASSIFIED]

Importance: High

CP

-- you may already know all about this, but you need to look at VII of the EXE MEMO -- it's all all right with me, but could you clear on behalf of all of RUE. tks, ki

-----Original Message-----

From: Busby,

Scott W.

Sent: Friday, March 06, 1998 12:28 PM

To: Baker, James

E.; Courtney, William H.; Rudman, Mara E.; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;

@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine

Cc: @DEMOCRACY
- Dem/Human Affairs
Subject: Clearance requested by COB today:
Memo on Int Women's Day [UNCLASSIFIED]

Need your clearances on
the attached package by 5 p.m. today. This will be issued on March
11, at an event that POTUS will preside over to celebrate International
Women's Day. Thank you.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 EXEC MEMO INT WOMENS DAY.doc

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

As we celebrate International Women's Day this year on March 11,
1998, we
highlight the achievements of women around the world. We also
acknowledge that
there is much work yet to be done to assure that women's human
rights are
protected and respected. The momentum of the United Nations Fourth
World
Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 continues to encourage our
government, as
well as nations around the world, to fulfill our commitments to
improve the lives
of women and girls.

I have, once again, called upon the Senate to join 161 other countries
in
ratifying the women's human rights treaty -- the Convention on the
Elimination of
all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This treaty is an
effective tool

which can be used to combat violence against women, reform unfair inheritance and property rights, and strengthen women's access to fair employment and economic opportunity. Ratification of this treaty will enhance our efforts to promote the status of women around the world. As we look at Afghanistan and the egregious human rights violations committed against women and girls at the hands of the Taliban, we recognize that this is an issue of global importance.

My Administration is working hard to eliminate violence against women, a despicable human rights violation, in all its forms. We are directing our efforts to combat this despicable human rights violation around the world and here in the United States. As part of my 1994 Crime Bill, I signed into law the Violence Against Women Act. This legislation declares certain forms of violence against women to be federal crimes and provides for critical assistance to states, tribes, and local communities in their efforts to respond to the scourge of violence against women. The Department of Justice is implementing the Violence Against Women Act and working with our communities to promote criminal prosecution and provide services to victims. And, through the Department of Health and Human Services, we have established for the first time a nationwide domestic violence hotline, so that women throughout the country can call one toll-free number and be connected to a local domestic violence support center. We have come a long way since 1994, and I am proud of our efforts.

Each day we learn more about the appalling abuses committed against women. In recent years, countries have begun to respond to calls for legislation and government programs addressing violence against women. The international community increasingly regards violence against women as a fundamental human rights violation, an impediment to a nation's development, and an obstacle to

women's full participation in democracy.

Today I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to continue and expand their work to combat violence against women here in the United States and around the world. We have made great since the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, but there remains much to be done. Reauthorization of the VAWA, which will expire in the year 2000, is of paramount importance. We must also support efforts to restore the Act's protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence here in the United States, so that they will not be forced to choose between deportation and abuse.

The problem of trafficking in women and girls, an atrocious form of violence against women, has received a great deal of attention from the world community. This is an international problem with national implications. Here in the United States, we have seen cases of trafficking for the purposes of forced prostitution, sweatshop labor, and exploitative domestic servitude. The victims in these cases often believe they will be entering our country to secure a decent job. Instead, they are virtual prisoners, with no resources, little recourse, and no protection against violations of their human rights. This Administration is committed to combating trafficking in women and girls with a focus on the areas of prevention, victim assistance and protection, and enforcement. Our work on this issue has been enhanced by a strong partnership with non-governmental groups and the United States Congress.

On trafficking in women, I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to increase national and international awareness about the problems associated with trafficking in women and girls. First, I want to ensure that young women and girls are

educated about trafficking so that they will not fall prey to traffickers tactics of coercion, fraud, and deceit. Second, in the unfortunate case that young women and girls are trafficked, I want to provide protection to victims. And finally, I want to enhance the capacity of law enforcement worldwide to prevent women and girls from being trafficked and ensure that traffickers are punished.

Therefore, I am directing:

I. The Attorney General to assess the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women Act and to make a recommendation regarding the reauthorization of the Act, which expires in FY 2000.

II. The Secretary of State, in combination with the Administrator of Agency for International Development, to strengthen and expand our efforts to combat violence against women in all its forms around the world. These efforts will be responsive to government and non-government requests for partnerships, expert guidance, and technical assistance to address this human rights violation.

III. The President's Interagency Council on Women to coordinate the United States Government response on trafficking in women and girls, in consultation with non-governmental groups.

IV. The Attorney General to examine current treatment of victims of trafficking to determine ways to insure: the provision of services for victims and witnesses in settings that secure their safety; precautions for the safe return of victims and witnesses to their originating countries; witness cooperation in criminal trials against traffickers; and consideration of temporary and/or permanent legal status for victims and witnesses of trafficking who lack such legal status.

V. The Attorney General to review existing United States criminal

laws and their
current use to determine if they are adequate to prevent and deter
trafficking in
women and girls, to recommend any appropriate legal changes to
insure that
trafficking is criminalized in all its forms and that the consequences of
trafficking are significant, and to review current prosecution efforts
against
traffickers in order to identify additional intelligence sources,
evidentiary
needs, and resource capabilities.

VI. The Secretary of State to use our consular presence around the
world to work
with other countries to develop strategies for protecting victims of
trafficking,
to work jointly with source, transit, and destination countries to
expand and
enhance anti-fraud training to stop the international movement of
trafficked
women, and to expand and enhance services for trafficking victims.

VII. The Secretary of State to coordinate an inter-governmental
response to the
Government of Ukraine's request to jointly develop and implement a
comprehensive
strategy to combat trafficking in women and girls from and to that
country. The
United States-Ukraine cooperation will serve as a model for a multi-
disciplinary
approach to combat trafficking that can be expanded to other
countries.

VIII. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General to expand and
strengthen
assistance to the international community in developing and enacting
legislation
to combat trafficking in women and girls, to provide assistance to
victims of
trafficking and to continue to expand efforts to train legal and law
enforcement
personnel worldwide.

IX. The Secretary of State, in combination with the Director for the
United
States Information Agency to expand public awareness campaigns
targeted to
potential victims to warn them of the methods used by traffickers.

X. The President's Interagency Council on Women to convene a gathering of government and non-government representatives from source, transit, and destination countries and representatives from international organizations to call attention to the issue of trafficking in women and girls and to develop strategies for combating this fundamental human rights violation.

2

1686

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 POTUS MEMO.doc

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: THE EXECUTIVE CLERK

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Executive Memorandum on Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and Trafficking in Women and Girls

Purpose

To direct relevant agencies on the above subject.

Background

You will be participating in an event on March 11, 1998 to celebrate International Women's Day. This year's event will focus on four issues: (1) trafficking in women and girls; (2) violence against women; (3) women in

Afghanistan; and (4) ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Your remarks, as well as the remarks of the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, will discuss initiatives we have undertaken or will be undertaking in each of these areas.

The attached memorandum addresses all of these issues. But it is primarily intended to provide specific direction to the relevant agencies on the steps they should take, both domestically and internationally, to combat trafficking in women and girls and violence against women. These steps include, inter alia: (1) directing the Attorney General to assess the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA") and to make a recommendation regarding the reauthorization of that Act; (2) directing the Secretary of State to more effectively coordinate efforts, especially with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, to combat violence against women around the world; (3) directing the Attorney General to review existing law and practice relating to the prosecution of those who traffic in women and children and the protection of victims of such practices; and (4) directing the Interagency Council on Women to convene an international gathering to develop strategies for combating trafficking in women and children.

We believe that the attached memorandum will be a useful vehicle for better coordinating and energizing our efforts against trafficking in women and children and violence against women.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum.

Attachment

Tab A Memorandum on Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and Trafficking in

Women and Girls

2

1686

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 BERGER MEMO.doc

Date

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ

FROM: SCOTT BUSBY

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

Attached is Memorandum to the President and a Memorandum to
Cabinet Members on
the above subjects. The Memorandum to Cabinet Members will be
announced by the
President during an event on March 11 commemorating International
Women's Day.

Concurrence by: Jamie Baker, Mara Rudman, Bill Courtney

RECOMMENDATION

That you forward the attached Memoranda.

Attachment

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Memorandum to Cabinet Members on Steps to Combat
Violence Against

Women and Trafficking in Women and Girls

1

1686

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 3/6/98 3:48:03 PM
FROM Fort, Jane B.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Clearance requested by COB today: Memo on Int Women's Day [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Pascual, Carlos E.

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY CP -- you may already know all about this, but you need to look at VII of the EXE MEMO -- it's all all right with me, but could you clear on behalf of all of RUE. tks, ki

-----Original Message-----

From: Busby,
Scott W.

Sent: Friday, March 06, 1998 12:28 PM

To: Baker, James

E.; Courtney, William H.; Rudman, Mara E.; @LEGAL - Legal
Advisor;

@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine

Cc: @DEMOCRACY

- Dem/Human Affairs

Subject: Clearance requested by COB today:

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TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

1686 EXEC MEMO INT WOMENS DAY.doc

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

As we celebrate International Women's Day this year on March 11, 1998, we highlight the achievements of women around the world. We also acknowledge that there is much work yet to be done to assure that women's human rights are protected and respected. The momentum of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 continues to encourage our government, as well as nations around the world, to fulfill our commitments to improve the lives of women and girls.

I have, once again, called upon the Senate to join 161 other countries in ratifying the women's human rights treaty -- the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This treaty is an effective tool which can be used to combat violence against women, reform unfair inheritance and property rights, and strengthen women's access to fair employment and economic opportunity. Ratification of this treaty will enhance our efforts to promote the status of women around the world. As we look at Afghanistan and the egregious human rights violations committed against women and girls at the hands of the Taliban, we recognize that this is an issue of global importance.

My Administration is working hard to eliminate violence against women, a despicable human rights violation, in all its forms. We are directing our efforts to combat this despicable human rights violation around the world and here in the United States. As part of my 1994 Crime Bill, I signed into law the Violence Against Women Act. This legislation declares certain forms

of violence against women to be federal crimes and provides for critical assistance to states, tribes, and local communities in their efforts to respond to the scourge of violence against women. The Department of Justice is implementing the Violence Against Women Act and working with our communities to promote criminal prosecution and provide services to victims. And, through the Department of Health and Human Services, we have established for the first time a nationwide domestic violence hotline, so that women throughout the country can call one toll-free number and be connected to a local domestic violence support center. We have come a long way since 1994, and I am proud of our efforts.

Each day we learn more about the appalling abuses committed against women. In recent years, countries have begun to respond to calls for legislation and government programs addressing violence against women. The international community increasingly regards violence against women as a fundamental human rights violation, an impediment to a nation's development, and an obstacle to women's full participation in democracy.

Today I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to continue and expand their work to combat violence against women here in the United States and around the world. We have made great since the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, but there remains much to be done. Reauthorization of the VAWA, which will expire in the year 2000, is of paramount importance. We must also support efforts to restore the Act's protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence here in the United States, so that they will not be forced to choose between deportation and abuse.

The problem of trafficking in women and girls, an atrocious form of

violence against women, has received a great deal of attention from the world community. This is an international problem with national implications. Here in the United States, we have seen cases of trafficking for the purposes of forced prostitution, sweatshop labor, and exploitative domestic servitude. The victims in these cases often believe they will be entering our country to secure a decent job. Instead, they are virtual prisoners, with no resources, little recourse, and no protection against violations of their human rights. This Administration is committed to combating trafficking in women and girls with a focus on the areas of prevention, victim assistance and protection, and enforcement. Our work on this issue has been enhanced by a strong partnership with non-governmental groups and the United States Congress.

On trafficking in women, I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to increase national and international awareness about the problems associated with trafficking in women and girls. First, I want to ensure that young women and girls are educated about trafficking so that they will not fall prey to traffickers tactics of coercion, fraud, and deceit. Second, in the unfortunate case that young women and girls are trafficked, I want to provide protection to victims. And finally, I want to enhance the capacity of law enforcement worldwide to prevent women and girls from being trafficked and ensure that traffickers are punished.

Therefore, I am directing:

I. The Attorney General to assess the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women Act and to make a recommendation regarding the reauthorization of the Act, which expires in FY 2000.

II. The Secretary of State, in combination with the Administrator of Agency for

International Development, to strengthen and expand our efforts to combat violence against women in all its forms around the world. These efforts will be responsive to government and non-government requests for partnerships, expert guidance, and technical assistance to address this human rights violation.

III. The President's Interagency Council on Women to coordinate the United States Government response on trafficking in women and girls, in consultation with non-governmental groups.

IV. The Attorney General to examine current treatment of victims of trafficking to determine ways to insure: the provision of services for victims and witnesses in settings that secure their safety; precautions for the safe return of victims and witnesses to their originating countries; witness cooperation in criminal trials against traffickers; and consideration of temporary and/or permanent legal status for victims and witnesses of trafficking who lack such legal status.

V. The Attorney General to review existing United States criminal laws and their current use to determine if they are adequate to prevent and deter trafficking in women and girls, to recommend any appropriate legal changes to insure that trafficking is criminalized in all its forms and that the consequences of trafficking are significant, and to review current prosecution efforts against traffickers in order to identify additional intelligence sources, evidentiary needs, and resource capabilities.

VI. The Secretary of State to use our consular presence around the world to work with other countries to develop strategies for protecting victims of trafficking, to work jointly with source, transit, and destination countries to expand and enhance anti-fraud training to stop the international movement of trafficked

women, and to expand and enhance services for trafficking victims.

VII. The Secretary of State to coordinate an inter-governmental response to the Government of Ukraine's request to jointly develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to combat trafficking in women and girls from and to that country. The United States-Ukraine cooperation will serve as a model for a multi-disciplinary approach to combat trafficking that can be expanded to other countries.

VIII. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General to expand and strengthen assistance to the international community in developing and enacting legislation to combat trafficking in women and girls, to provide assistance to victims of trafficking and to continue to expand efforts to train legal and law enforcement personnel worldwide.

IX. The Secretary of State, in combination with the Director for the United States Information Agency to expand public awareness campaigns targeted to potential victims to warn them of the methods used by traffickers.

X. The President's Interagency Council on Women to convene a gathering of government and non-government representatives from source, transit, and destination countries and representatives from international organizations to call attention to the issue of trafficking in women and girls and to develop strategies for combating this fundamental human rights violation.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

1686 POTUS MEMO.doc

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: THE EXECUTIVE CLERK

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Executive Memorandum on Steps to Combat Violence
Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and Girls

Purpose

To direct relevant agencies on the above subject.

Background

You will be participating in an event on March 11, 1998 to celebrate International Women's Day. This year's event will focus on four issues: (1) trafficking in women and girls; (2) violence against women; (3) women in Afghanistan; and (4) ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Your remarks, as well as the remarks of the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, will discuss initiatives we have undertaken or will be undertaking in each of these areas.

The attached memorandum addresses all of these issues. But it is primarily intended to provide specific direction to the relevant agencies on the steps they should take, both domestically and internationally, to combat trafficking in women and girls and violence against women. These steps include, inter alia: (1) directing the Attorney General to assess the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA") and to make a recommendation regarding the

reauthorization of that Act; (2) directing the Secretary of State to more effectively coordinate efforts, especially with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, to combat violence against women around the world; (3) directing the Attorney General to review existing law and practice relating to the prosecution of those who traffic in women and children and the protection of victims of such practices; and (4) directing the Interagency Council on Women to convene an international gathering to develop strategies for combating trafficking in women and children.

We believe that the attached memorandum will be a useful vehicle for better coordinating and energizing our efforts against trafficking in women and children and violence against women.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum.

Attachment
Tab A Memorandum on Steps to Combat Violence Against Women
and Trafficking in
Women and Girls

2

1686

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 BERGER MEMO.doc

Date

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ

FROM: SCOTT BUSBY

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

Attached is Memorandum to the President and a Memorandum to
Cabinet Members on
the above subjects. The Memorandum to Cabinet Members will be
announced by the
President during an event on March 11 commemorating International
Women's Day.

Concurrence by: Jamie Baker, Mara Rudman, Bill Courtney

RECOMMENDATION

That you forward the attached Memoranda.

Attachment

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Memorandum to Cabinet Members on Steps to Combat
Violence Against
Women and Trafficking in Women and Girls

1

1686

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 3/7/98 1:58:37 PM
FROM Ragan, Richard F.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Package Concurrence SATURDAY - #1686 [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Gray, Wendy E.

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

-----Original Message-----

From: Baker, James E.

Sent: Saturday,

March 07, 1998 1:36 PM

To: @DEMOCRACY - Dem/Human Affairs; Rudman,

Mara E.; McCarthy, Mary O.

Cc: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor

Subject: FW:

Package Concurrence SATURDAY - #1686 [UNCLASSIFIED]

1. My comments

are noted in the document below.

2. With respect to the first

bullet. The President should not direct the AG to follow the law.

They have both sworn constitutional oaths to do so. This bullet should be deleted.

3. Unless Intelligence Programs and DCI have

cleared the reference to intelligence sources being directed toward this issue by the AG, I do not believe you should include intelligence sources within the scope of V. The President has a process for directing

intelligence priorities. This isn't it.

4. My concurrence

is subject to State and Justice concurrence, including in the case of Justice an official who can clear on behalf of the AG.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ragan, Richard F.
Sent: Saturday,
March 07, 1998 12:16 PM
To: Baker, James E.
Subject: FW: Package
Concurrence SATURDAY - #1686 [UNCLASSIFIED]

as discussed...one
more to follow

-----Original Message-----

From: Letts, Kelly
J.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 1998 8:24 PM
To: @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine
Cc: Ragan,
Richard F.; Gray, Wendy E.
Subject: FW: Package Concurrence SATURDAY
- #1686 [UNCLASSIFIED]

I am losing my brain tonight. I forgot
to include your office for concurrence on the attached package which
requires clearance Saturday by 10:30. See below. Thanks.

-----Original
Message-----

From: Letts, Kelly J.
Sent: Friday, March 06, 1998
8:21 PM
To: @LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs
Cc: Rice,
Edward A.; Gray, Wendy E.
Subject: Package Concurrence SATURDAY
- #1686 [UNCLASSIFIED]

Please clear on the attached package before
10:30 a.m. Saturday (March 7). This package needs to be in ExecSec
before noon. Inter-Agency clearance has been obtained. POTUS
signature
is required by Tuesday. Also, please make sure Wendy Gray is CC'd
on any comments as she will be working with Richard Ragan to put
this package together Saturday. (This is a package on the same
subject as my last e-mail, but the packages contain different memo's
to POTUS and letters.) Thanks.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

1686 POTUS MEMO1.doc

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

SUBJECT: Executive Memorandum on Steps to Combat Violence
Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and Girls

Purpose

To direct relevant agencies on the above subject.

Background

You will be participating in an event on March 11, 1998, to celebrate International Women's Day. This year's event will focus on four issues: (1) trafficking in women and girls; (2) violence against women; (3) women in Afghanistan; and (4) ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Your remarks, as well as the remarks of the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, will discuss initiatives we have undertaken or will be undertaking in each of these areas.

The attached memorandum addresses all of these issues. But it is primarily intended to provide specific direction to the relevant agencies on the steps they should take, both domestically and internationally, to combat trafficking in women and girls and violence against women. These steps include, inter alia: (1) directing the Attorney General to assess the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA") and to make a recommendation regarding the reauthorization of that Act; (2) directing the Secretary of State to

continue and
expand their efforts to coordinate, especially with the Administrator of
the
United States Agency for International Development, to combat
violence against
women around the world; (3) directing the Attorney General to review
existing law
and practice relating to the prosecution of those who traffic in women
and
children and the protection of victims of such practices; and (4)
directing the
Interagency Council on Women to convene an international gathering
to develop
strategies for combating trafficking in women and children.

We believe that the attached memorandum will be a useful vehicle for
better
coordinating and energizing our efforts against trafficking in women
and children
and violence against women.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum at Tab A.

Attachment
Tab A Memorandum for Signature

2

1686

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 EXEC MEMO INT WOMENS DAY1.doc

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

As we celebrate International Women's Day this year on March 11, 1998, we highlight the achievements of women around the world. We also acknowledge that there is much work yet to be done to assure that women's human rights are protected and respected. The momentum of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 continues to encourage our government, as well as nations around the world, to fulfill our commitments to improve the lives of women and girls.

I have, once again, called upon the Senate to join 161 other countries in ratifying the women's human rights treaty -- the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This treaty is an effective tool which can be used to combat violence against women, reform unfair inheritance and property rights, and strengthen women's access to fair employment and economic opportunity. Ratification of this treaty will enhance our efforts to promote the status of women around the world. As we look at Afghanistan and the egregious human rights violations committed against women and girls at the hands of the Taliban, we recognize that this is an issue of global importance.

My Administration is working hard to eliminate violence against women in all its forms. Our efforts help to combat this human rights violation around the world and here in the United States. As part of my 1994 Crime Bill, I signed into law the Violence Against Women Act. This legislation declares certain forms of violence against women to be federal crimes and provides for critical assistance to states, tribes, and local communities in their efforts to respond to this

problem. The Department of Justice is implementing the Violence Against Women Act and working with our communities to promote criminal prosecution and provide services to victims. Through the Department of Health and Human Services, we have established for the first time a nationwide domestic violence hotline, so that women throughout the country can call one toll-free number and be connected to a local domestic violence support center. We have come a long way since 1994, and I am proud of our efforts.

Each day recognition of the importance of this issue grows around the world. In recent years, countries have begun to respond to calls for legislation and government programs addressing violence against women. The international community increasingly regards violence against women as a fundamental human rights violation, an impediment to a nation's development, and an obstacle to women's full participation in democracy.

Today, I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to continue and expand their work to combat violence against women here in the United States and around the world. We have made great progress since the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994, but there remains much to be done. We must continue to work to implement the Act fully, and to restore the Act's protection for immigrant victims of domestic violence here in the United States, so that they will not be forced to choose between deportation and abuse.

The problem of trafficking in women and girls, an insidious form of violence against women, has received a great deal of attention from the world community. This is an international problem with national implications. Here in the United States, we have seen cases of trafficking for the purposes of forced prostitution, sweatshop labor, and exploitative domestic servitude.

The victims in these cases often believe they will be entering our country to secure a decent job. Instead, they are virtual prisoners, with no resources, little recourse, and no protection against violations of their human rights. This Administration is committed to combating trafficking in women and girls with a focus on the areas of prevention, victim assistance and protection, and enforcement. Our work on this issue has been enhanced by a strong partnership with non-governmental groups and the United States Congress.

I am directing the President's Interagency Council on Women, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General to increase national and international awareness about trafficking in women and girls. I want to ensure that young women and girls are educated about this problem so that they will not fall prey to traffickers tactics of coercion, violence, fraud, and deceit. I also want to provide protection to victims. And finally, I want to enhance the capacity of law enforcement worldwide to prevent women and girls from being trafficked and ensure that traffickers are punished.

Therefore, I am directing:

[I don't know what second clause means. Are we asking her to seek legislation in an area, or follow existing law. If the former say it. If the latter I would delete.]II. The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of Agency for International Development, to strengthen and expand our efforts to combat violence against women in all its forms around the world. These efforts will be responsive to government and non-government requests for partnerships, expert guidance, and technical assistance to address this human rights violation.

III. The President's Interagency Council on Women to coordinate the United States Government response on trafficking in women and girls, in

consultation
with non-governmental groups. [Okay legally provided this Council is
entirely
made up of governmental employees.]

IV. The Attorney General to examine current treatment of victims of
trafficking
including: the provision of services for victims and witnesses in
settings that
secure their safety; precautions for the safe return of victims and
witnesses to
their originating countries; witness cooperation in criminal trials
against
traffickers; and consideration of temporary and/or permanent legal
status for
victims and witnesses of trafficking who lack legal status.

V. The Attorney General to review existing United States criminal
laws and their
current use to determine if they are adequate to prevent and deter
trafficking in
women and girls, to recommend any appropriate legal changes to
insure that
trafficking is criminalized and that the consequences of trafficking are
significant, and to review current prosecution efforts against
traffickers in
order to identify additional evidentiary needs, and resource
capabilities.

VI. The Secretary of State to use our presence around the world to
work with
source, transit and destination countries to develop strategies for
protecting
and assisting victims of trafficking, and to expand and enhance anti-
fraud
training to stop the international movement of trafficked women.

VII. The Secretary of State to coordinate an inter-governmental
response to the
Government of Ukraine's request to jointly develop and implement a
comprehensive
strategy to combat trafficking in women and girls from and to that
country. The
United States-Ukraine cooperation will serve as a model for a multi-
disciplinary
approach to combat trafficking that can be expanded to other
countries.

VIII. The Secretary of State in coordination with the Attorney

General, to
expand and strengthen assistance to the international community in
developing and
enacting legislation to combat trafficking in women and girls, to
provide
assistance to victims of trafficking and to continue to expand efforts to
train
legal and law enforcement personnel worldwide.

IX. The Secretary of State and the Director for the United States
Information

Agency, to expand public awareness campaigns targeted to warn
potential victims
of the methods used by traffickers.

X. The President's Interagency Council on Women to convene a
gathering of
government and non-government representatives from source, transit,
and
destination countries and representatives from international
organizations to
call attention to the issue of trafficking in women and girls and to
develop
strategies for combating this fundamental human rights violation.

2

1686

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT 1686 BERGER MEMO1.doc

March 7, 1998

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ

FROM: SCOTT BUSBY

SUBJECT: Steps to Combat Violence Against Women and
Trafficking in Women and
Girls

Attached is memorandum to the President and a memorandum to Cabinet Members on the above subjects. The memorandum to Cabinet Members will be announced by the President during an event on March 11 commemorating International Women's Day.

Concurrence by: Jamie Baker, Mara Rudman, Bill Courtney

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Memorandum to Cabinet Members

1

1686

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 9/16/98 8:42:56 PM
FROM Sanders, Robin R.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: African-American Accomplishments Paper - FOR APPROVAL
[UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Gobush, Matthew N.

CARBON_COPY Barks-Ruggles, Erica
Battenfield, Pat A.
Dorothy Shea
Prendergast, John P.
Sanders, Robin R.
Smith, Gayle E.

TEXT_BODY Matt here are my additions - others here will add.

separate subject:
as part of what you are doing with the Africa communications strategy

is there a way you can put together a "short template speech" that
we in the directorate can use as a basis based on the communication
strategy

-----Original Message-----

From: Gobush, Matthew N.

Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 1998 7:06 PM

To: @AFRICA - African

Affairs; @INTERAM - Inter-American

Cc: @PLANNING - Strat Plan &
Comm

Subject: African-American Accomplishments Paper - FOR
APPROVAL
[UNCLASSIFIED]

WH Research is updating its "Administration Accomplishments"
fact sheets, and has asked for NSC's chop on the foreign policy
portion

of the attached African-American outreach paper. Would appreciate
any edits either AFRICA or INTERAM may have by 3:00 PM
tomorrow (Thursday)

- OPL hopes to have ready for the Congressional Black Caucus

Dinner

this Saturday. Copied below is the relevant language (appears at end of attached fact sheet). Feel free to elaborate. Thank you!

American
Leadership

Restored Democracy for Haiti. Restored democracy to Haiti and ended the military dictatorship.

(Matt why is the south

Africa portion apart from the rest of the Africa stuff - what we are doing in south Africa should not be seen as separate from what we are doing in Africa and our overall policy toward the region??? This needs to be moved down below. Erica covers South Africa and will add more, but south Africa stuff should not be considered separate

from our overall Africa policy)

* Assisting in the Transition to Democracy for South Africa. Assisted South Africa's transition to democracy by providing over \$600 million in the first three years to the newly-elected democratic government of South Africa to support

democracy and development.

* Established the Gore-Mbeki Bi-National Commission to promote cooperation in trade, development, environment and security.

Enhancing and Strengthening ties with in Africa.

* President and Mrs. Clinton's historic trip to Africa - longest, most extensive foreign trip by this President. First-ever sitting US President to do so. Trip focused on key issues of development, trade, investment, empowerment of women, and environment.

* Held

meetings with more African heads of state than any other previous Administration and increased and enhanced ties with Africa through the work and achievements of late Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, Transportation Secretary Slater and Presidential Special Envoy Jesse Jackson, and recent Ambassadorial appointments of George Haley and

George Stich (sp?).

* Most cabinet- level visit to Africa in modern times with two visits in the last year by Secretary Albright, recent visits by Secretaries Daley and Rubin and two visits by Secretary Slater, including leading a 1997 Presidential Mission to the African/African-Ameri

can

Summit in Harare.

- * Launched the "President's Partnership for Economic Opportunity in Africa Initiative," the cornerstone of this Administration's Africa policy. Outlines a partnership with Africa on a number of economic fronts, most notably trade, investment and development.
- * Supports passage this year of the bipartisan African Growth and Opportunity Act which complements his "Partnership Initiative" and will strengthen US-Africa trade relationship
- * Substantial US involvement and financial commitment in peacekeeping operations on the continent in countries such as Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Central Africa Republic as well as humanitarian operations in Sudan, Guinea Bissau and Central Africa.
- * Hosted the first-ever White House Conference on Africa in July 1994 which brought together key American policy-makers and leaders to discuss future of US-Africa relations.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT African-American Outreach.doc
 PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE
 Working on Behalf of African Americans

ECONOMY

Balanced the Federal Budget. In 1992, the budget deficit was \$290 billion, a record dollar high. This year, the budget will be in surplus for the first time in 30 years.

Save Social Security First. President Clinton is committed to saving Social Security for the 21st Century. The President will fight any attempt to break the budget rules and drain the surplus. His commitment is unwavering: every penny of any future surplus must be reserved until a bipartisan plan to save Social Security is enacted.

Nearly 17 Million New Jobs. Under President Clinton, more new jobs have been created in 5 1/2 years than were created during the entire 8 years of the Reagan

Administration (16.7 million under Pres. Clinton vs. 16.0 million under Pres. Reagan).

Declining Unemployment. The unemployment rate for African Americans has dropped from 14.1 percent in January 1993 to 9.0 percent today -- one of the lowest African American unemployment rates on record.

The Lowest Inflation in More than 30 Years. Since 1993, the inflation rate has averaged just 2.5 percent -- the lowest average inflation rate since the Kennedy Administration. Over the past year, the Consumer Price Index has increased only 1.6 percent.

Strong Private Sector Growth. The private sector of the economy has grown 3.9 percent annually -- the fastest rate of private-sector growth since the Johnson Administration.

Family Income Up. After falling by almost \$2,000 between 1988 and 1992, African American median family income rose by nearly \$3,000 between 1992 and 1996.

Tax Cuts For Low-Income Working Families. President Clinton's 1993 Economic Plan provided tax cuts to 15 million hard-pressed working families by expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The average family with two kids who received the EITC received a tax cut of \$1,026. In 1996, the EITC lifted nearly 1.1 million African Americans out of poverty, including 578,000 African American children.

Poverty Down. The poverty rate for African Americans fell from 33.4 percent in 1992 to 28.4 percent in 1996 -- the lowest level since the published data began in 1959.

Minimum Wage Increased. The President raised the minimum wage to \$5.15 an hour -- directly benefitting 1.3 million African American workers.

Fighting for Paycheck Equity. The President has called on Congress to pass legislation to strengthen laws prohibiting wage discrimination. In 1996, the median earnings of African American women represented 65 percent of the median earnings for men.

Two and a Half Times More Small Business Loans to African American Entrepreneurs. Between 1993 and 1997 the Small Business Administration (SBA) approved more than 9,000 loans to African American entrepreneurs under the 7(a) and 504 loan programs. Last year alone, the Small Business Administration granted 1,900 loans, worth \$286 million, to African American small business owners, two and a half times the number of loans granted in 1992.

Supporting Minority Business Communities and Increasing Access to Capital. Building on the efforts of the SBA, Vice President Gore unveiled aggressive plans to increase lending and business services to the African American and Hispanic business communities nationwide. The SBA has set a goal of providing an estimated total of \$1.86 billion in loans to African American small businesses over a three-year period. In addition, the Vice President announced an unprecedented agreement between SBA and the "Big Three" U.S. automakers to increase subcontracting awards to minority businesses by nearly \$3 billion over the next three years -- a 50 percent increase over current levels.

Ensuring Minority Business Owners Have a Fair Opportunity to Compete. The President signed the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century into law on June 9, 1998. The Act protects the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, a program that ensures that minority and women owned businesses have an opportunity to compete for transportation projects. The Administration helped defeat an amendment to the House version of this bill that would have

eliminated the DBE Program. In a different measure, the President also approved the creation of a new program to target assistance to minority-owned businesses in industries that continue to reflect the effects of discrimination. As a result, thousand of minority-owned businesses will be able to compete more effectively for government contracts.

Working on Behalf of Minority Farmers. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is working to strengthen programs and increase outreach targeted to under-served communities, including increasing its lending to minority and women producers. In the past five years there has been a 74 percent increase in direct lending to these groups -- from \$46.5 million in FY93 to \$81 million in FY97.

Expanding Access to Capital with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). The President has expanded access to capital through the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. And the President's FY99 Budget includes a \$45 million increase in CDFI funding (from \$80 million to \$125 million) to allow the Fund to provide additional financial assistance and expand its training and technical assistance initiative.

Expanding Investment in Urban and Rural Areas. Thanks to President Clinton and the 1993 Economic Plan, 125 Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities have been created, programs that are spurring economic development in distressed communities. And the President's FY99 budget provides \$150 million a year for 10 years to fund 15 new urban Empowerment Zones (EZs) and \$20 million a year for 10 years to fund five new rural EZs. Additionally, the President's FY99 budget includes \$400 million -- nearly triple the FY98 appropriation -- for a new Community Empowerment Fund (CEF) that is expected to leverage an estimated \$2

billion in private-sector loans to help communities invest in businesses and create jobs.

Homeownership Is Up. In the last four years, 628,000 African Americans have become new homeowners.

Expanding Low-Income Housing Tax Credit by 40 Percent. In 1993, President Clinton fulfilled his promise to permanently extend the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, spurring the private development of low-income housing and helping to build 75,000-90,000 housing units each year. President Clinton now proposes to expand the credit by 40 percent. Over the next five years, this will mean an additional 150,000 to 180,000 quality affordable rental units.

Put Forth a "Play-by-the-Rules" Homeownership Initiative and a Homeownership Zones Initiative. The FY99 budget proposal for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation includes \$25 million for a new initiative that would make homeownership more accessible to families who have a good rental history but have difficulty purchasing a home, 10,000 lower-income and minority families who are currently renting would benefit. In addition, the President's FY99 budget includes \$25 million for Homeownership Zones, abandoned housing and distressed neighborhoods that communities could reclaim with this funding. Funds could be used for property acquisition, demolition, site preparation, housing construction or rehabilitation, homeownership counseling, relocation, and activities to further fair housing and homeownership.

FIGHTING FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Building One America. The President is leading the nation in an effort to become One America in the 21st Century: a place where we respect others' differences and, at the same time, embrace the values that unite us. Dr. John Hope

Franklin, Advisory Board Chair, and Rev. Suzan Johnson Cook serve on the Advisory Board to the President's Initiative on Race, which the President has charged with overseeing this effort. The President, the Administration and the Advisory Board are actively involved in public outreach efforts -- including holding numerous public meetings and town halls -- to engage Americans across the nation in this historic effort. One of the critical elements of the President's Initiative on Race is identifying, highlighting and sharing with the nation promising practices -- local and national efforts to promote racial reconciliation.

Creating an Administration that Looks Like One America. Appointed the most diverse Cabinet and Administration in history. The Clinton Cabinet includes three African Americans: Rodney Slater, Secretary of the Department of Transportation; Togo West, Jr., Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Alexis Herman, Secretary of Labor. Additionally, African Americans serve in the Administration as Surgeon General, Deputy Attorney General for the Department of Justice, Director of the National Park Service, Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Department of Education General Counsel and as the Department of Education's Chief of Staff. Thirteen percent of Clinton Administration appointees are African American, which is twice as many African Americans as any previous administration. White House appointees include: Bob Nash, Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel; Thurgood Marshall, Jr., Assistant to the President and Director of Cabinet Affairs; Minyon Moore, Assistant to the President and Director of Public Liaison; Cheryl Mills, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel and Robert (Ben) Johnson, Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Public Liaison.

Increasing the Number of Judicial Appointments. President Clinton has named 12 African Americans as U.S. Attorneys and 12 African Americans as U.S. Marshals. Over 54 African Americans have been nominated by Clinton to the Federal bench, which is 17 percent of his total Federal bench nominations.

Ordered an Assessment of Affirmative Action Programs. The President ordered a comprehensive review of the government's affirmative action programs which concluded that affirmative action is still an effective and important tool to expand educational and economic opportunity to all Americans. This review of federal affirmative action programs helps to ensure that they are fair and effective and that they can survive legal challenges. As a result, programs that benefit African Americans, including students, working men and women, and business owners, remain in effect and are more likely to be upheld by the courts.

Increasing Civil Rights Enforcement. On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 19, 1998, Vice President Gore announced the Administration's proposal for the largest single increase in funding to enforce existing civil rights laws in nearly two decades. Through new reforms and heightened commitment to enforcement, the Administration will seek to prevent discrimination before it occurs and to punish those who do discriminate in employment, education, housing and health care, and against those with disabilities. The Clinton Administration's FY99 budget contains \$602 million for civil rights enforcement agencies and offices -- an increase of \$86 million over last year's funding. And an additional \$1 million will allow the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division to enhance coordination of federal civil rights enforcement policy among agencies. Improved coordination will lead to more consistent enforcement of civil rights laws,

broader dissemination of best practices and improved data collection.

Increasing Funding for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The cornerstone of the improved civil rights enforcement effort is a \$37 million increase (15 percent) for the EEOC. Through increased use of mediation, improved information technology and an expanded investigative staff, the EEOC will reduce the average time for resolving private-sector complaints from over 9.4 months to 6 months and cut the backlog of cases from 64,000 to 28,000, by the year 2000.

Creating a National Memorial to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King. In July of 1998, President Clinton signing a new measure that will authorize the creation of a national monument to Dr. King on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Opposed California Prop 209 and Similar Measures. The Clinton Administration strongly opposes state and local initiatives to eliminate affirmative action programs that expand opportunities for African Americans and others. The Administration opposed Proposition 209 in California and filed amicus briefs opposing Prop 209, which prohibits state affirmative action programs. The Clinton Administration opposed a similar initiative in Houston, which was defeated and is currently opposing an initiative in Washington that is similar to Prop 209. In all these cases, representatives of the administration have spoken out strongly against these initiative as unfair and a barrier to equality.

Ensuring Election Fairness. The Clinton Administration defended racially fair redistricting plans against claims that they were unconstitutional and prevented election day discrimination against minority voters and voter intimidation and harassment by monitoring polling place activities in a record number of states

and counties.

Increasing Voter Registration. During 1995 and 1996, the National Voter Registration Act or "Motor Voter" law registered nearly 14 million new voters and made voting easier for millions more. Notably, 1996 saw the highest percentage of voter registration since 1960. [FEC, 6/97]

Working for Fair Housing. To respond to the increase in reported cases of serious fair housing violations, HUD will double the number of its civil rights enforcement actions by the year 2000. HUD has also committed \$15 million to 67 fair housing centers around the country to assist in fighting housing discrimination this year. In addition, the President's budget proposes \$10 million for a targeted enforcement initiative that will use paired testing -- identical applicants of different races or genders approaching realtors or landlords -- to detect and eliminate housing discrimination.

Defended Fairness. The Clinton Administration has filed more cases between 1993 and 1997 to enforce fair housing laws than any other Administration (more than 500 cases). For instance, this Administration desegregated a Vidor, Texas public housing complex and ordered a Mississippi bank to implement remedial lending plans for minority customers who were unfairly denied loans by the bank.

Eliminated Discriminatory "Redlining" Practices. The Clinton Administration negotiated agreements with health care agencies to eliminate discriminatory "redlining" practices denying home health care services based on residential location.

Apologized to the Victims of Tuskegee. President Clinton apologized to the victims of the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment and their families, and directed Health and Human Services Secretary, Donna Shalala, to issue a report about how

best to involve communities, especially minority communities, in research and health care. HHS awarded a planning grant to Tuskegee University to help it establish a center for bioethics in research and health care.

Working to Ensure a Fair and Accurate Census. The Clinton Administration is working to ensure that Census 2000 is the most accurate census possible using the best, most up-to-date scientific methods as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences. According to the Census Bureau, the 1990 Census missed 8.4 million people and double-counted 4.4 million others. Nationally, 4.4 percent of African Americans were not counted in the 1990 census. While missing or miscounting so many people is a problem, the fact that certain groups -- such as children, the poor, people of color, city dwellers and people who live in rural rental homes -- were missed more often than others made the undercount even more inaccurate. A fair and accurate Census is a fundamental part of representative democracy and is the basis for providing equality under the law. The President is determined to have a fair and full count in 2000.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Protecting Families. The Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) enables workers to take up to 12 weeks unpaid leave to care for a new baby or ailing family member without jeopardizing their job. Millions of workers have already benefited from FMLA since its enactment. The President also proposed expanding the Family & Medical Leave Act to allow workers up to 24 hours per year of unpaid leave for parent-teacher conferences or routine medical care for a child.

Eliminating Ethnic Health Disparities. President Clinton has announced a ten year, \$400 million initiative, to end racial and ethnic health disparities. Th

effort sets a national goal of eliminating the longstanding disparities by the year 2010 in six key health areas: infant mortality, diabetes, cancer screening and management, heart disease, AIDS and immunizations. For example, African Americans suffer from diabetes at 70 percent higher rates than white Americans. The President announced a five-step plan -- led by Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. David Satcher -- to mobilize the resources and expertise of the Federal government, the private sector, and local communities.

Focused Health Efforts. Established the Office of the Minority Health Research and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. Helped communities develop culturally-competent systems for care for children with serious emotional disturbances through the Comprehensive Mental Health Services for Children and Families program.

Providing Protection with the Patients' Bill of Rights. President Clinton has called on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. The bill should include important patient protections such as: assuring direct access to

specialists; real emergency room protections; continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment; a fair, timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances; and enforcement provisions to make these rights real.

Protected and Strengthened Medicare, Benefiting the 3.4 Million African Americans Enrolled in Medicare. The Balanced Budget Act extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund until at least 2008; expanded choices in health plans; and provided beneficiaries new preventive benefits. The President has also put forth a new proposal that will provide greater access to health insurance for Americans ages 55 to 65, including an option to buy into Medicare.

Extended Health Care to Millions of Children with the Children's Health Initiative. Because of the President's leadership, the Balanced Budget included \$24 billion to provide real health care coverage to up to five million more children, the largest children's health care budget increase since Medicaid was created in 1965. Minority children make up a disproportionate number of the over 10 million uninsured children. African American children make up 25 percent and Hispanic children make up 30 percent of all uninsured children -- more than twice their percentage of the overall population. The Administration is actively reaching out to communities to target and enroll eligible, uninsured children.

Increased WIC -- \$1 Billion Higher. Under President Clinton, participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) has expanded by 1.7 million -- from 5.7 million in 1993 to 7.4 million women, infants, and children in 1998, with funding rising from \$2.9 billion to \$3.9 billion. The President's budget proposes \$4.1 billion in WIC funding to serve 7.5 million women, infants, and children in 1999, fulfilling his goal of full participation in WIC. Research shows that every \$1 increase in the prenatal care portion of the WIC program cuts between \$1.77 and \$3.90 in medical expenses in the first 60 days following childbirth. In 1996, 25 percent of the infants who benefited from WIC were African American.

Expanded Head Start By Nearly 60 Percent -- Over \$1.5 Billion Higher Per Year. Since 1993, President Clinton has expanded Head Start by 57 percent, from \$2.8 billion in FY93 to \$4.4 billion in FY98. Of the estimated 830,000 children now enrolled in Head Start, 36 percent of the children are African American. The President's FY99 Budget increases Head Start funding by \$313 million, which would

mean Head Start funding would be 68-percent higher in 1999 than in 1993. The President is on track to his target of one million children in Head Start.

Proposed the Largest Single Investment in Child Care in the Nation's History.

The President's \$21 billion child care proposal will give child care subsidies to millions of children and increase tax credits for three million working families to help them pay for child care.

Providing After-School Opportunities for Up to Half a Million Children a Year.

Last year, the President fought for, and won, a \$40 million expansion of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. Building on the success of this program, the President's FY99 budget includes a \$200 million major expansion, which will provide safe and educational after-school opportunities for up to 500,000 school-age children in rural and urban communities across the country.

EDUCATION

Made the Largest Investment in Education in 30 Years. Maintaining his longtime commitment to education, the President enacted the largest investment in education in 30 years -- and the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill -- by signing the 1997 Balanced Budget Act.

Established the First African American Advisory Board. Established the President's Board of Advisors for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to strengthen the capacity of historically black colleges and universities to provide quality education and advised on ways to increase the private sector's role in these institutions.

Increased Funding and Grants for HBCUs. Increased funding for

Historically Black Colleges by over \$250 million between FY92 and FY98 -- an increase of nearly 25 percent. Today, America's 105 HBCUs are educating almost 300,000 African Americans.

AmeriCorps College Support. Since 1993, more than 100,000 people have had the opportunity to serve through AmeriCorps, with African Americans comprising 20 percent of all participants (1996 data). This year alone, nearly 50,000 young people will take advantage of the opportunity to serve and earn an award of up to \$4,725 to pay for college or repay student loans.

Expanding Investments In Youth Education And Training. One of the President's top priorities is fighting efforts by Congress to eliminate both the Summer Jobs Program, which provides jobs to roughly 530,000 disadvantaged young people, and the new Youth Opportunity Area Initiative, which would help provide job training and help finding jobs for up to 50,000 youth in the poorest communities nationwide. The Summer Jobs programs provides an estimated 25 percent of the summer jobs held by African American 14-15 years olds and at least 16 percent held by Hispanic 14-15 year olds. The Youth Opportunity Area Initiative program provides high school dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24 with academic and job-skills training, as well as apprenticeships building and rehabilitating affordable housing.

Record Enrollment. A record percentage of African Americans were enrolled in post-secondary education in 1996 -- 35.7 percent of African American high school graduates.

Expanding College Opportunity with Tuition Tax Credits, Education IRAs, and Largest Increase in Pell Grants in 20 Years. The President is making the first two years of college universally available with \$1500 HOPE

Scholarship credits and a 20 percent tax credit helps offset tuition costs for college or lifetime learning. The expanded IRA allows penalty- and tax-free withdrawals for education. And, in the coming school year, nearly 4 million students will receive a Pell Grant of up to \$3,000, 30 percent larger than when the President took office. In the 1995-96 school year, 57 percent of all African American students enrolled full-time in college received a Pell Grant. In addition, the FY99 budget proposes \$249 million more for Pell Grants, which would help increase the maximum by another \$100 to \$3,100 -- the highest ever. This would reach 3.9 million low- and middle-income undergraduates. If the President's budget were enacted, the maximum grant would be 25-percent higher than in 1996.

Modernizing Our Schools. The President, with the help of Senator Carol Moseley-Braun (D IL), is working to pass federal tax credits to help rebuild, modernize, and build over 5,000 public schools nationwide.

Reducing Class Size. The President is pressing Congress to enact his proposal to reduce class size to a national average of 18 in grades 1-3, by helping local schools hire an additional 100,000 well-prepared teachers.

Teaching Every Child to Read by the 3rd Grade. The President is working to enact an early literacy bill such as the America Reads Initiative that will provide tutors after school, improve teaching, and help parents help their children learn to read.

Greater Access to Education Technology. The President has made an unprecedented commitment to bringing technology into the classroom and has called for technology training for teachers and expanded access for teachers and students to computers in the classroom.

Striving for Excellence. Thanks to President Clinton's leadership, the Title I program is helping more than 10 million disadvantaged students reach high academic standards by giving them extra help with basic and advanced skills. In the 1994-95 school year, 26 percent of the children benefiting from the Title I program were African American.

Working to Pass the High Hopes for College Initiative. The High Hopes for College Initiative will inspire more young people to have high expectations, to stay in school and study hard, and to go to college. The Clinton Administration is working with Congressman Chaka Fattah (D PA) and other Members to pass this initiative which makes a long-term investment -- starting with \$140 million in FY99 -- to promote partnerships between colleges and middle or junior high schools in low-income communities. The President's High Hopes program will provide one million at-risk middle school students (over five years) the mentoring and tutoring needed to raise education expectations and eliminate barriers to college.

Proposing Education Opportunity Zones. The President proposed \$1.5 billion, over five years, to bolster reform efforts by high-poverty urban and rural school districts that demonstrate both a commitment to and a track record in improving educational achievement. Funds will be used to improve accountability, turn around failing schools, recognize outstanding teachers, deal with ineffective ones and expand public school choice. Added investments in these communities will accelerate progress and provide successful models of system-wide, standards-based reform.

FIGHTING CRIME

White House Conference on Hate Crimes. President Clinton hosted the first White House Conference on Hate Crimes, which examined laws and remedies that can make a difference in preventing hate crimes, highlighted solutions that are working in communities across the country, and continued the frank and open dialogue needed to build One America. The President announced significant law enforcement and prevention initiatives to get tough on hate crimes, including: support for legislation to expand the federal hate crimes law to cover crimes based on sexual orientation, gender, or disability; the creation of a network of local hate crime working groups; the addition of approximately 50 FBI agents and federal prosecutors to enforce hate crimes laws; improved collection of data on hate crimes; and the production of materials to educate the public -- especially youth -- about hate crimes.

Enhanced Penalties for Hate Crimes. As part of the historic 1994 Crime Act, the President signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act which provides for longer sentences where the offense is determined to be a hate crime.

Took Action Against Church Burnings. Focused the nation's attention and resources to help stop the rash of church burnings across the country, prosecuted those responsible, and sped the rebuilding process.

Falling Crime Rates. Violence crime is down six years in a row, the longest period of decline since 1960. Juvenile crime, which had been exploding, has declined 2 years in a row. Property and violent crime victimization rates are at their lowest levels in nearly 25 years.

Putting 100,000 New Police on the Streets and Providing COPS Grants to Underserved Areas. The President's Crime Bill, through the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, has already funded nearly 80,000

new officers.

As a part of the COPS Program, the President announced new grants to increase police presence and community policing in neighborhoods where the need is greatest. Under this initiative, 18 cities will share \$106 million to hire 620 new community policing officers. The pilot cities were selected following an analysis of crime, demographic and economic data. The 18 cities chosen face some of the highest per population levels of crime and/or economic distress in the United States.

Promoting Community Prosecutions. The President's FY99 budget includes \$50 million for grants to promote community prosecution, which builds on effective community policing strategies. The funds will enable local prosecutors across the country to play a more active role in crime fighting by spending more time in their neighborhoods, both helping to solve crimes and preventing them before they happen.

SAFE AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Justice and Redevelopment. Issued an Executive Order on Environmental Justice to ensure that low income citizens and minorities do not suffer a disproportionate burden of industrial pollution. Identified pilot projects to be undertaken across the country to redevelop contaminated sites in low-income communities, turn them into useable space, create jobs and enhance community development.

Issued Toughest New Air Quality Standards in a Generation. New air quality standards for smog and soot will provide new health protections for 125 million Americans including children and the elderly.

Cleaning Up Toxic Waste Sites and Redeveloping Brownfields. This Administration

has cleaned up twice as many Superfund sites in less than six years as previous administrations did in twelve. To date, the Administration has awarded 228 Brownfields grants, for over \$42 million, to states, cities, towns, counties, and tribes. These grants have leveraged nearly \$1 billion for redevelopment of industrial sites and created over 2,000 jobs.

Signed the Safe Drinking Water Act. This Act is ensuring clean drinking water for our families by protecting against contaminants.

Negotiated an International Treaty to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The historic agreement establishes a realistic framework to reduce the threat of global warming in an environmentally strong and economically sound way. The President's five-year \$6.3 billion package of tax incentives and research investment would reduce greenhouse gas pollution through energy efficiency and clean energy technologies.

Protecting Our Natural Treasures. Preserving millions of acres of scenic park land and defending precious natural areas such as Yellowstone and the Everglades. And the President is proposing a 43 percent increase over five years to acquire scenic historic lands.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

Restored Democracy for Haiti. Restored democracy to Haiti and ended the military dictatorship.

Assisting in the Transition to Democracy for South Africa. Assisted South Africa's transition to democracy by providing support for elections and development.

Promoting Democracy in Africa. Hosted the first White House Conference on Africa

in July 1994. Recognizing the valuable role that Africa plays in global affairs, President Clinton created the position of Special Envoy for the President and the Secretary of State for the promotion of democracy in Africa and appointed Reverend Jesse Jackson to serve in this role. President Clinton traveled to Africa in 1998 and is urging passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act which will deepen trade and partnership between Africa and the United States.

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