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AFL-CIO Convention [September 22 - 25, 1997, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania] [2]

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COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
Chief of Staff
Karen Tramontano
OA/Box Number: 17713

FOLDER TITLE:
AFL-CIO Convention [September 22-25, 1997, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania] [2]

2013-0306-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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

TO: KAREN TRAMONTANO
PAGES: 4
FROM: LOWELL WEISS

Draft 9/23/97 12pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS AT THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION
PITTSBURGH, PA
September 24, 1997

When I spoke at your last Constitutional Convention, it was two days before you elected the Dream Team of John, and Rich, and Linda. Haven't they done an outstanding job? [*Insert on AFL-CIO's call for soft-money ban to come.*]

With their passionate leadership and your rejuvenated organizing efforts, you are ensuring that America works for working Americans. Once again, American labor has a strong, clear voice. Once again, you are making it heard.

You made it heard loud and proud in the boardrooms of the United Parcel Service. You have made it heard in the halls of the Capitol, standing up to a barrage of anti-worker legislation. You are making it heard in the strawberry and mushroom fields of California, in the fiery tones of Arturo Rodriguez and with the noble echoes of Cesar Chavez. You are making it heard in nursing homes in Minnesota, focusing especially on giving new strength to women workers. You are making it heard right here in Pittsburgh, through the Steelworkers' biggest organizing campaign in more than 60 years.

This is a very proud time for the working men and women of the AFL-CIO. As the nation can clearly see -- and hear -- American labor is back.

Thanks in no small part to your leadership in the workplace and your involvement in the political process, America is back too. Organized labor has helped strengthen our families, our economy, and our future. Your strong voice has strengthened America.

Six years ago, when I announced my candidacy for President, I said that I had a vital mission for America in the 21st Century: I wanted to keep the American Dream alive for every person responsible enough to work for it. I wanted to keep America the world's strongest force for peace, freedom, and prosperity. And I wanted to bring our people together across all the lines that divide us, into one America. America's oldest and most incandescent ideals -- opportunity for all, responsibility from all, a community of all -- had to illuminate our path as we addressed the challenges of a new time.

We put in place a bold new economic strategy to shrink the deficit, invest in our people, and lower unfair trade barriers to our goods. The philosophy was solid and simple: remove the impediments that have restrained the American people and then give them the tools and training to help them race ahead. By reducing the nation's massive deficit, we would free our people of the deadweight that has slowed their every step. By investing in the education and health of our people, we would help enable them to run fast and strong over the long course of their lives. By reducing trade barriers, we would knock down the unfairly high hurdles they have had to leap over for far too long.

The strategy has succeeded. The nation is running stronger than it has in a generation. Nearly 13 million new jobs -- including millions of good construction, manufacturing, and health-care jobs. America is leading the world in auto production once again. Unemployment below 5%. The biggest drop in welfare rolls in history. Dramatic drops in crime year after year. We know we have more to do, but together we have made progressive government work again.

Let's look at the three crucial elements of our economic growth strategy -- reducing the deficit, investing in our people, and expanding exports -- one at a time. First, deficit reduction. Back in 1993, when I introduced my deficit-reduction plan, we both knew how important it was to get our fiscal house in order. We did it the right way. While increasing investments in our people -- and without a single Republican vote -- we cut the deficit by 87%. After a new majority took over Congress in 1994, they tried to cut the deficit the wrong way. When they sent me a budget that made deep cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, education, and the environment, I vetoed it. We stood firm until we achieved a balanced budget that honored our values.

The second element of our economic growth strategy is investing in our people, because in this new economy, our most precious resources are the skills and security of working Americans. Here, too, we are succeeding. After decades of working harder and longer for lower wages, millions of working Americans are finally getting a raise. And it's about time. Since I took office, the yearly income of the typical family is up $1,600 and wages are rising again. Together, we increased the minimum wage and dramatically increased the Earned Income Tax Credit. And this summer I signed into law a $500-per-child tax credit that will mean an increase of $1,000 in take-home pay for a typical family with two children. And I did not sign that bill until we made it work for rookie police officers, teachers, and others of modest means the Republicans would have left out.

From 1945 until the mid '70s, all of us grew together. From the mid '70s to the early '90s, our economy continued to grow, but we began to grow apart. Fortunately, it now looks like our hard work is paying off and America is starting to grow together again. But we cannot rest. We must keep working until every single American can reap the rewards of a growing economy.

And that is why investing in people, above all, means giving every American the best education in the world. Our balanced budget includes the largest increase in aid to education since 1965 and the biggest increase in higher education since the G.I. Bill 50 years ago. We created a new HOPE Scholarship and tuition tax credits for college and skills training, secured the biggest increase in Pell Grants in two decades, expanded Head Start by a billion dollars a year, and doubled aid for dislocated workers. Our next great challenge must be to insist on voluntary, high national standards of academic excellence so all our children master the basics.

Investing in people means protecting the rights of workers to demand their rights. Over the past four years, we have defeated callous attempts to repeal prevailing wage laws, bring back company unions, and weaken occupational safety laws. We cracked down on sweatshops. We fought to protect your pension funds, and made pensions more portable. We have fought to make sure every person moving from welfare to work will earn at least the minimum wage and receive the protections of existing employment laws that other workers enjoy. I have vetoed every piece of anti-labor legislation that has crossed my desk -- and I will continue to do so.

Let me say a word about the UPS strike. This Administration believes deeply in the collective bargaining process. And in that strike, collective bargaining worked. UPS and the Teamsters reached a historic settlement that recognizes that companies must invest in their workers in order to be competitive in the 21st Century.

And investing in people means expanding access to quality health care. The Family Leave law ensures that millions of people don't have to choose between being good parents and good workers. The Kennedy-Kassebaum law helps millions to keep their health care as they move from job to job. The new balanced budget includes $24 billion for children's health care -- the largest investment in health since the creation of Medicaid in 1965 -- and we must make sure that every dollar goes to quality care. And now we must pass sweeping legislation to keep tobacco out of the hands of our children.

The final component of our three-part economic strategy -- one that is just as essential for our future growth and future wages -- is our continuing work to open new markets and give American workers a fair break. I know we don't see eye to eye on this, but I think I owe it to you to explain in person why I feel so passionately about expanding markets. We simply cannot create jobs and increase wages if we do not expand trade. More than one third of the economic growth that has produced 13 million new jobs over the past 4 years came from selling more American products overseas. We have 4% of the world's population and 20% of its wealth. If you want to keep 20% of the wealth with 4% of the people, you must sell something to the other 96%.

In the next 15 years, the developing countries of Latin America and Asia will grow 3 times as fast as the United States, Europe, and Japan. We must participate in that growth. We must forge fair trade deals that allow us entry into markets where we have been excluded or at a significant disadvantage for far too long. Our markets are among the most open in the world. We must insist on the same treatment abroad. If we don't act -- and lead -- no one is going to level the playing field for us. And besides, when given a fair chance to compete, our workers will show that they are the best in the world.

Last year, I had a chance to visit the Jeep Cherokee plant in Toledo. That's a UAW plant, producing tens of thousands of right-wheel drive Jeeps for export to Japan and other markets we fought hard to open up. Expanded exports have accounted for 700 jobs at this plant alone. That's 700 UAW families supported by good wages and good benefits. That is how we make global trade work for us.

Say Labor protections here

Should we ask people to adhere to global standards so we can preserve the global environment? Absolutely. No Administration in history has done more to preserve and protect the environment. Should we acknowledge that global trade can, in the near term, pull the rug out from under some of our workers? Absolutely. No Administration in history has done more to aid displaced workers and help all Americans increase their skills. But we also must recognize that the global economy will not go away. If we do not make the global economy work for us, it

people had health security . . . where African-Americans enjoyed equal protection under the law . . . where working people had the right to organize and fight for a better life. Because they imagined it, and worked for it, we are living in that America today. Now it is up to us to imagine the America of the 21st Century -- an America in which every child has a world-class education, in which we lift living standards here and around the world, in which our oldest values of opportunity, responsibility, and community guide us in a new time. And if we imagine it, and build it, we can make it real. I ask for your help. Thank you and God bless you.

TO: KAREN TRAMONTANO

will work against us -- and overwhelm us. This nation -- and its workers -- will get left behind.

This debate will be tough. We both know that. But this I promise: The debate over fair trade will be a fair debate. We share far too many values and priorities to let this disagreement damage the partnership of those who stand for working America. Let us remember, there are many good members of Congress who support open trade -- and also fought for the minimum wage . . . ~~who support open trade~~ -- and also fought to provide health care to 5 million children . . . ~~who support open trade~~ -- and also fought to protect Medicare and Medicaid, to strengthen safety standards, and to make community college free for every American. They have done so in the face of intense pressure from the majority in Congress and the special interests. They have fought for working people, and they deserve our support. ~~America is far better off when all friends of working people stand together -- without letting one issue trump all others.~~ I pledge to do that, and I hope you will too.

Finally, I want to ask for your leadership in an area where you have always been out front: helping to preserve the bonds of community that bind us together as Americans. Tonight, I will travel to my home state of Arkansas, where tomorrow I will try to focus the nation on a haunting but hopeful moment in our country's struggle to make America the nation live up to America the idea. Forty years ago tomorrow, nine brave African-American boys and girls, shielded from a hateful crowd by U.S. Army paratroopers, walked through the doors of Little Central High School. I will honor the courage and vision of those whose eyes were fixed on the prize of integration. But I will also note how many doors we have yet to open -- not so much the doors of schools and lunch counters and clubs, but rather the doors of true understanding that are sometimes half-closed in the corners of our minds.

You are in a unique position to help. Thanks to the efforts of early visionaries like A. Philip Randolph, Walter Reuther, ~~and Rose Schneiderman,~~ the labor movement made it possible for generations of African-Americans and new immigrants to lend their skills to the ongoing work of building America. Your members have reached across racial and ethnic lines to fight for a common future. Few institutions in America have been so successful.

It is no coincidence that one of the members of my Race Advisory Commission is your dynamic Executive Vice President, Linda Chavez-Thompson. Working in the Texas cotton fields as a girl and organizing workers in the Southwest as an adult, Linda saw injustices against women, Hispanics, and blacks first-hand. As she has said, discrimination is not a thing of the past. When it comes to paychecks and power, it is still an everyday reality for millions of Americans of color.

A century ago, the working men and women of labor imagined an America where old people had health security . . . where African-Americans enjoyed equal protection under the law . . . where working people had the right to organize and fight for a better life. Because they imagined it, and worked for it, we are living in that America today. Now it is up to us to imagine the America of the 21st Century -- an America in which every child has a world-class education, in which we lift living standards here and around the world, in which our oldest values of opportunity, responsibility, and community guide us in a new time. And if we imagine it, and build it, we can make it real. I ask for your help. Thank you and God bless you.

Date: September 24
Location: David H. Lawrence Convention Center
Time: [Craig will need to check w/ advance]
From: Craig T. Smith & Karen A. Tramontano

I. Purpose

You will be speaking at the AFL-CIO's 22nd Bi-annual Constitutional Convention. The Convention will elect a slate of officers and an executive council for the next 2 years. The Convention's focus is to get International unions, locals and members more invested in organizing and political action.

II. Background

The Convention opened on Monday, September 22 under the Theme: Building a Movement of America's Workers. Among other events, 100 workers were brought to the stage to applaud their efforts to organize thousands of workers. On Tuesday, September 23, the banner was Making Government Work for Working Families. On this day, workers were honored for their grassroots political efforts. The banner for Wednesday is: A New Voice for Workers in a Changing Global Economy. The election of officers also will take place on Wednesday. On Thursday, the theme is: A New Voice for Workers in Our Communities.

III. Participants

Among the participants are:

Monday, Senator Daschle & Senator Spector.
Tuesday, Representative Gephart, Secretary of Labor, Alexis Herman
Thursday, Rev. Jesse Jackson

IV. Press Plan

Open

V. Sequence of Events

Please check w/ Gaines (advance for the sequence and times)

What I know is the following:

John J. Sweeney, Linda Chavez Thompson and Rich Trumka will meet you upon arrival at the Convention Center. Sweeney will talk w/ you for a few minutes before your speech. He will introduce you. [Chris please get the other facts for this section]

MEMORANDUM

TO: JOHN PODESTA
GENE SPERLING
RON KLAIN
MICHAEL WALDMAN

CC: KAREN TRAMONTANO

FROM: ANNE LEWIS (NEC) AL

RE: MATERIALS FOR AFL CIO CONVENTION

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 1997

Attached please find the packet of material I provided to Mike Burton for the Vice President's briefing book.

Attachments: Labor Issues Briefing
The Economy Remains on the Right Track fact sheet
Administration Labor Accomplishments
Response to AFL CIO Claims on NAFTA
Numerous Fast Track and trade related fact sheets
Numerous climate change fact sheets
Q&A on EPI Climate Change Study

LABOR ISSUES BRIEFING

September 18, 1997

WELFARE REFORM

Fair Labor Standards Act/Minimum Wage: As you know, this summer we worked with the labor unions in a successful effort to defeat Republican legislation that would have weakened labor protections for welfare recipients in workfare programs. The dispute began in May when the Department of Labor issued its legal opinion that labor protections in current law -- including the minimum wage, health and safety laws, and anti-discrimination protections. Governors of both parties argued strongly that this would make workfare prohibitively expensive and create excessive administrative burdens on states. They worked with Republicans on proposals to limit the application of labor laws, as well as to reduce the welfare law's work requirements to make it easier for states to comply.

Governors also objected loudly to having to pay payroll taxes for those on workfare, even though the Treasury Department has not yet ruled on whether FICA and FUTA taxes apply. (The Balanced Budget Act made them ineligible for the EITC, with our support.) The FICA/FUTA exemption is the only issue where we have indicated any willingness to compromise. In fact, we agreed to such an exemption as part of a last-minute compromise that fell apart for other reasons.

Since the signing of the Balanced Budget Act, the Republican leadership has called this a top priority for the remaining weeks of the session. In August, Speaker Gingrich said "the Clinton Administration, working with the unions and the bureaucrats, is trying to undermine and destroy welfare reform." Many Governors, including Carper and Chiles, remain very unhappy about our position on this issue.

Current Status: House Ways and Means Human Resources Subcommittee Chairman Clay Shaw is quietly trying to garner bipartisan support among Governors and House members for a bill to address state concerns. The Administration has taken no position on it yet, but the confidential draft we have seen has two major problems. First, it appears to weaken labor protections. Although Shaw has stated that it is not his intention to weaken labor protections, other Republicans may insist that these provisions remain in the bill. Indeed, we have heard that some Republicans will try to strengthen these anti-union provisions. Our preliminary understanding is that the unions very much dislike the draft bill.

Second, Shaw's draft bill significantly weakens the welfare law's work requirements. It requires states to pay the minimum wage for work experience and community service programs, but it limits the number of work hours to what states can afford to pay, based on the amount of their welfare grant plus food stamps. The balance of a recipients' time could be spent on job search and education activities. Thus, a welfare recipient could work 10 hours a week and do 10 hours of job search. Also, there is a concern that the legislation's definition of "work experience" and "community service" may be so broad that nearly all subsidized work could be defined as such, allowing low benefit states to require less than 20 hours of work from nearly all their "working" recipients. The bill would also exempt workfare positions from FICA and unemployment taxes, which we indicated during the balanced budget negotiations that we were willing to do.

Shaw originally planned to unveil this legislation this week, but problems with the Republican caucus have pushed it back at least to next week. He apparently plans to move the measure as a separate piece of legislation.

Privatization of Welfare Programs: Labor unions, particularly AFSCME and SEIU, have waged a major fight against state efforts to privatize their welfare, food stamp, and Medicaid functions. Last year's welfare law allowed states to privatize the TANF welfare program without federal approval, and some are moving to do so (Wisconsin, for example). However, states can privatize food stamps and Medicaid only with permission from the federal government.

After the Administration denied the state of Texas' request to privatize food stamp and Medicaid earlier this year, the Republicans launched an effort to overturn this decision through legislation. As part of negotiations for the balanced budget agreement, we agreed to a provision allowing Texas to privatize its Medicaid and food stamp provisions in part of the state. In the end, however, Governor Bush rejected this compromise approach, and the legislation did not allow for any privatization.

Current Status: In contrast to the workfare fight, the Republicans have not resurrected the privatization issue so far this fall.

The Administration has requests pending from Arizona and Wisconsin to privatize food stamp and Medicaid functions. The Department of Agriculture is required by law to take some action by October 3 on the Arizona request, which affects only 20% of the state. We are discussing how to respond. There is no such deadline for Wisconsin.

Welfare to Work: DOL has released $1.1 billion in welfare to work formula and competitive grants thus beginning implementation of the $3 billion Welfare to Work program we won in the Balanced Budget Agreement. The grants aim to create job opportunities for the hardest to employ welfare recipients.

PROCUREMENT REFORM

Background: On February 18, 1997, you announced to the AFL-CIO new initiatives (1) to deny federal contracts to companies with an unsatisfactory record of labor relations and (2) to prevent contractors from receiving reimbursement from the federal government for money spent defending against unfair labor practice charges and opposing union representation. You also announced that the President would issue an Executive Order encouraging federal agencies to consider using project labor agreements in their construction.

We prepared the Project Labor Agreement order first. When a draft leaked, Senate Republican leaders held Alexis Herman's nomination based on their objections. Ultimately, we negotiated a compromise whereby we issued essentially the same Executive Order as a Presidential Memorandum.

On the contracting responsibility proposal, we received objections from Senator Lott, Congressmen Hoekstra and Fawell, and industry groups, as well as a separate objection from 10 House leaders. A key issue regarding that proposal is how to determine if a contractor has a satisfactory record of labor relations -- whether the determination should turn on adjudicated violations of the labor laws, alleged violations, or a more general assessment of employee relations.

In the aftermath of the PLA experience, based on discussions involving, among others, the staffs of Senators Kennedy and Daschle, the AFL-CIO, and the White House, the drafting process was put on hold while we considered the appropriate standard. Based on recent discussions, we expect shortly to produce proposed regulations that do not take the broadest approach.

In addition, on an entirely different track, Congressman Evans and Senator Durbin have introduced legislation that would debar federal contractors for violations of the NLRA or OSHA provisions. The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

Talking Points: I announced on February 18, 1997 that the President would act to encourage federal agencies to consider project labor agreements on federal construction projects. After a great deal of give and take with Congress, the President issued a memorandum on June 5 directing all federal agencies to do just that. I am proud that of this sensible improvement in government contracting, which recognizes the efficiencies organized labor can offer.

I also announced in February that we would propose new initiatives to deny reimbursement of money spent by federal contractors in defending against unfair labor practice charges and seeking to influence union representation votes. And I suggested that in determining whether a company bidding for government contracts is a responsible contractor, we consider its record of labor relations and employment practices.

We are continuing to work on these proposals, to craft something that is fair, practical, and able to withstand the assault we can expect from Republicans in Congress. We hope to be presenting these proposals shortly.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Vouchers: The AFL-CIO opposes efforts in Congress to promote vouchers for private schools. The Administration has threatened to veto both (1) the Coverdell amendment, which would allow penalty-free withdrawals from IRAs for education expenses (this might move in the Senate independently or as an amendment); and (2) a voucher plan in the D.C. Appropriations bill.

Standards &Testing: The American Federation of Teachers (part of the AFL-CIO) has been a strong supporter of the standards effort, and of the national tests in reading and math. (The tests were dealt a blow last week in the House, but a deal was struck in the Senate. The issue will be settled in Conference, and may result in a veto).

Job Training: The Administration is making progress on its agenda to reform job training programs by empowering workers with Skill Grants. The House passed its version of reform legislation earlier this year and Senators Jeffords and Kennedy have just introduced a bill which incorporates many of the principles of the President's GI Bill for America's Workers.

SAFETY AND HEALTH

OSHA Funding: The Administration requested a 6% increase in funding for Fiscal Year 1998. House and Senate-passed appropriations bills reduced the increase to 3%, or $11 million over the FY 1997 spending level. We have consistently fought significant budget cuts.

OSHA Enforcement: As part of OSHA's reinvention efforts, the Agency has placed greater emphasis on compliance and less on enforcement. The AFL CIO was very critical of the resulting decline in inspections during the first Administration. In part because of this criticism, inspections in the first three quarters of 1997 are up 32% from Fiscal Year 1996.

Ergonomics: OSHA is working to combat cumulative trauma and other repetitive stress disorders - one of the fastest growing workplace injuries; its four part strategy includes education and outreach; study and analysis; enforcement; and rulemaking. There have been 91 federal OSHA ergonomic investigations so far in FY 1997, Though the FY 1998 bill prohibits OSHA from issuing a final or proposed rule before October 1, 1998, work continues on the development of a standard.

LABOR LAW

The TEAM Act: The TEAM Act would effectively repeal a key provision of the National Labor Relations Act which prohibits employers from dominating worker organizations. President Clinton vetoed the TEAM Act in 1996. The bill was reintroduced this year and reported favorably by the Senate Labor Committee. At the AFL CIO Executive Council in February you reiterated that the President will veto "any bill that undermines the collective bargaining process or permits company unions filled with employers' hand picked representatives."

You may be asked about an amendment that Senator Bingaman is circulating. Although the Bingaman amendment aims to narrow the scope of the TEAM Act, thereby making it acceptable to Democrats, it still allows many circumstances where employers may select employee representatives and create company unions. Thus it violates the basic premise of workplace democracy that employees should be able to democratically select their representatives when dealing with their employer over issues of wages, work hours and working conditions.

The Administration has not taken a **public** position on Bingaman's proposal.

Comp Time/Flex Time: The President has called for responsible comp time legislation and said he will veto any bill unless it: (I) gives employees real choice, (ii) protects workers against abuse and (iii)preserves the 40 hour work week. The Administration has said it will veto both the House passed Ballenger bill and the Ashcroft bill currently pending in the Senate because they fail the three part test.

Davis-Bacon & Service Contract Act

Davis-Bacon & the Service Contract Act require payment of prevailing wages and fringe benefits to workers engaged in federal construction & service projects. Both laws are regularly under assault in the Congress, but there are no pending legislative initiatives to repeal or amend the statute. If asked, you should reiterate as you did in February that we will veto attempts to repeal them.

The wage survey used by the Department of Labor to determine the prevailing rate have been flawed. The Department is working to improve their accuracy and timeliness. The building trades unions support the Department's efforts, but oppose using BLS data as a substitute for the current wage survey process.

LABOR DISPUTES

UPS Pilots: Negotiations between UPS and its 2,000 *pilots*, represented by the Independent Pilots Association (IPA), began in 1995. In late August, the IPA agreed to sent out the last UPS contract offer for a vote, but without a recommendation by the union. Results are expected on September 30. The National Mediation Board has indicated that if the contract is rejected, new talks will not be scheduled until early next year. The Teamsters union, which represents 185,000 UPS employees, has promised to honor a strike by the independent pilots union at UPS.

Amtrak: Amtrak's unions have been in negotiations since early 1995. On August 5, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees (BMWE) rejected the National Mediation Board's offer to arbitrate the dispute with Amtrak, triggering a 30-day cooling off period that was to end on September 5. However, on August 21, President Clinton appointed an emergency board to investigate and make recommendations within 30 days. The PEB's report will be followed by an additional 30-day cooling off period.

PRIVATIZATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Michigan: Governor Engler recently issued an Executive Order that would allow for the privatization of the Michigan Employment Service. Approximately 400 merit-staffed State employees, represented by SEIU, would be affected by the Executive Order, scheduled to effect on October 6. The Department of Labor directed the Michigan Jobs Commission to suspend implementation of the reorganization plan. The Department has not made a final decision on the legality of Michigan's plan.

Texas: A request by the State of Texas to privatize its Employment Service is on hold. Last spring, HHS rejected Texas' plan to privatize portions of its Medicaid and Food Stamps program. Other states are closely watching the Michigan situation; New York, Illinois and Pennsylvania are considering similar privatization efforts.

OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE AFL CIO & ITS MEMBERS

International Linkages and Offsets in Aerospace

The International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) is sharply critical of U.S. aerospace producers' willingness to provide foreign production contracts in exchange for aircraft sales, which they believe transfers jobs and technology in the short run and, over the longer run, creates new foreign competitors. Boeing and other U.S. producers defend these voluntary international linkages as essential for gaining access to the most rapidly growing markets (70% of Boeing aircraft are exported) and for sharing financial risk. In the case of mandatory offsets, U.S. producers maintain that -- while they would prefer not to provide them -- they are the price of getting foreign sales.

In June, the NEC sponsored a workshop at the National Academy of Sciences on "Policy Issues in Aerospace Offsets."

Although there is no consensus within the Administration on how to deal with the offsets issue, we are committed to analyzing and better understanding the offsets issue, encouraging dialogue among the various interests on this issue; and continuing to take action to reduce government-mandated offsets through multilateral agreements and bilateral discussions.

Pensions: Since the start of the Administration, we have taken strong legislative and administrative action to enhance the ability of Americans to save for retirement and to protect the security of those savings. The Retirement Protection Act, proposed in 1993 and enacted in 1994, has put traditional defined benefit plans and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation back on a firm footing, protecting the security of over 40 million workers who participate in those plans. In 1996, we passed major pension simplification legislation and took strong administrative steps, which appear to be meeting their goals of expanding coverage, increasing portability and enhancing security. Unfortunately, Congress has not supported the Administration's efforts to do right by the multi employer plans that many union members depend on. We will continue to work to increase the guarantee, and to make other simplifying changes that will enhance the benefits available under these plans.

Credit Unions: Credit unions and banks are engaged in a judicial and legislative battle over whether a single credit union can serve employees of many different and totally unrelated companies, or whether this violates both the letter and spirit of the Credit Union Act under which credit unions do not pay taxes (and are exempt from the Community Reinvestment Act). Credit unions generally have a good record of serving, at relatively low cost, lower income workers who have straight-forward and relatively small financial needs. The Treasury Department is in the middle of a statutorily-required study on the regulation of credit unions, and the Administration has carefully NOT taken a position on the bank/credit union issue, except that -- for reasons related to administrative law, not the substance of the case -- the United States is on the credit unions' side in the Supreme Court. This does not seem to be a top-of-mind issue for labor; labor unions sponsor both credit unions and banks.

Product Liability Reform: Labor has consistently opposed attempts to enact federal legislation that would alter state law concerning product liability, mainly because most federal legislation that has been proposed in the last 15 years has been extremely pro-defendant. The President vetoed a product liability bill in 1996, but stated that he was for "sensible product liability reform," and set out particular issues that needed to be addressed. Congress is currently considering new product liability legislation, which both House and Senate leadership hope to bring to the floor before the recess. Although the bills currently do not meet the President's standards, Senator Rockefeller is attempting to craft a solution that will meet our objections. Labor will probably not be happy if this effort succeeds.

Securities law preemption: While labor in general has been less interested in the issue of limitations on the right to sue under the securities laws than it is in product liability reform, they also opposed the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act, which was passed over the President's veto. Business is now trying to extend that statute by getting Congress to enact legislation to preempt most state securities fraud actions. Business thinks the President has indicated support of their position, but the situation is somewhat more murky. Even if we support some sort of preemption, it is unlikely to be as broad as that proposed by the business community.

Electricity Restructuring: Many states have begun restructuring their electrical utilities to afford consumers "retail choice"- the ability to select their electric power provider much like they now select their long distance company. Several federal bills have been introduced, too, and the Administration has been considering whether to offer its own bill. The Department of Energy has estimated that the savings to consumers resulting from retail choice could be over $10 billion per year. The policy process in the Administration on this issue has been underway since April, when the NEC began convening twice-weekly meetings of an interagency group to develop recommendations about the Administration's position. The interagency task force was made up of representatives from nearly all of the cabinet departments, including Labor, and many of the independent federal agencies in an expert advisor capacity.

The NEC staff (Kathy Wallman and Marc Silverman) have met with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and assured them that we will continue to consult with them throughout this process. A major concern of labor is that restructuring will lead to a reduction in the number of jobs available to their rank and file in the electricity industry. They also point out that the consumer benefits may not be shared by all, particularly residential customers, and warn that large consumers may benefit while residential rates increase. The IBEW feels strongly that there should be no federal mandate on electricity restructuring. Instead, labor would prefer that the process of restructuring be left to individual states to decide on competition. There is also concern on labor's part that competition could lead to diminished reliability as utilities cut back on spending to become more efficient and profitable.

THE ECONOMY REMAINS ON THE RIGHT TRACK: LOW UNEMPLOYMENT, STRONG JOB GROWTH, AND LOW INFLATION

September 5, 1997

TODAY'S DATA SHOW CONTINUED JOB GROWTH WITH HISTORICALLY LOW UNEMPLOYMENT.

- **Unemployment is at 4.9 percent, as low as its been in 24 years.**
  - The August unemployment rate was 4.9% -- its 36th consecutive month below 6% and as low as it's been since 1973. The unemployment rate has been at or below 5% for five months now with no signs of inflationary pressures. In 1992, the unemployment rate was 7.5%. [Source: BLS.]
  - The combined rate of unemployment and inflation has been lower under President Clinton than any other Administration since Lyndon Johnson was President. [Source: Based on data from BLS.]

- **Nearly 13 Million New Jobs.**
  - During the Clinton Administration, the economy has added nearly 13 million new jobs -- a faster annual rate of job growth (2.5 percent per year) than *any* Republican Administration since the Roaring 1920s. [Source: Based on data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey.]
  - The economy has added 2.5 million jobs over the past year.

- **Strong Private-Sector Job Growth.**
  - Over the past year, the private sector has added 2.2 million jobs -- much more than during the entire four-year period before President Clinton took office. [Source: Based on data from BLS.]
  - 92 percent of the nearly 13 million new jobs under President Clinton have been in the private sector -- that's a higher percentage than any Administration since Truman. [Source: Based on data from BLS.]

- **Turning The Corner In Basic American Industries.**
  - After losing 667,000 jobs in construction during the previous four years, 1.1 million new construction jobs have been added since January 1993 -- that's a faster annual rate than any other Administration since Harry S Truman was President. [Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey.]
  - After losing 35,000 jobs in the auto industry during the Bush years, we have 136,000 new auto jobs since President Clinton took office. [Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey.]

LAST WEEK, WE LEARNED THAT THE ECONOMY GREW AT A 3.6 PERCENT ANNUAL RATE LAST QUARTER, WHILE INFLATIONARY PRESSURES REMAIN LOW. BUSINESS INVESTMENT HAS GROWN BY 11 PERCENT PER YEAR SINCE PRESIDENT CLINTON TOOK OFFICE -- THE FASTEST FOR ANY ADMINISTRATION SINCE JOHN F. KENNEDY WAS PRESIDENT. THE ECONOMY CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE ROBUST GROWTH, STRONG INVESTMENT, AND LOW INFLATION.

EXPERTS AGREE THAT THE AMERICAN ECONOMY IS STRONG:

- **Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, 7/22/97:** "The recent performance of the economy, characterized by strong growth and low inflation, has been exceptional--and better than most anticipated."
- **David Berson, chief economist, Fannie Mae, 6/14/97:** "What we have now is the best combination of sustained growth and low inflation that we have had in at least a decade."
- ***Fortune*, 6/9/97**: "Business is booming, inflation is falling, jobs are plentiful, and American industry is way out in front. The U.S. economy is stronger than it's ever been before."
- ***Business Week*, 5/19/97:** "Clinton's 1993 budget cuts, which reduced projected red ink by more than $400 billion over five years, sparked a major drop in interest rates that helped boost investment in all the equipment and systems that brought forth the New Age economy of technological innovation and rising productivity."

Administration Labor Accomplishments

"A strong, growing economy -- and more people working for better wages -- are just the beginning. We must ensure that the people who fuel that growth, the people who have built every car, plane and bridge in our nation's history, can seize its opportunities. That's why our administration has always been pro-union, pro-worker, and pro-family -- and I have strived to promote and honor work, and ensure that it is rewarded and respected for all Americans."

President Clinton
April 20, 1997

Creating Good Jobs

13 million New Jobs: During the Clinton Administration, the economy has created 13 million new jobs, a faster annual rate of job growth than any Republican Administration since the 1920s.

High Wage Jobs: In the last two years more than two thirds (68%) of the new full-time jobs were in high-wage job categories.

Lowest Unemployment Rate in 24 Years: The unemployment rate is 4.9%, and has remained below 6 percent for 36 months.

Adding Jobs in Basic American Industries: After a decade of decline, more than 1.5 million new auto, manufacturing and construction jobs have been added since President Clinton took office.

Real Wages are on the Rise: Over the past two years, average hourly wages have increased 3.6% -- out pacing the rate of inflation, which means real wage increases for America's workers.

Supporting Working Families

Supported Collective Bargaining: President Clinton supported the right of workers to organize and join unions by:

- Vetoing the Teamwork for Employees and Managers Act, which would have abolished crucial worker protections and undermined the system of free collective bargaining.
- Issuing a Memorandum encouraging the use of Project Labor Agreements in federal construction.
- Issuing an Executive Order prohibiting Federal agencies from contracting with firms that hire permanent replacement workers during economic strikes.
- Defending the National Labor Relations Board from funding cuts and anti-union riders; and by appointing a Board that is fair to workers and their unions.

- Helping to resolve tough collective bargaining disputes including the Teamsters strike against the United Parcel Service and the Mine Workers strike against the Bituminous Coal Operators Association.
- Creating the National Partnership Council for federal government unions.
- Rescinding Bush Administration Executive Orders prohibiting pre-hire agreements on federal construction projects and requiring all government contractors to post notices telling workers they have the right not to join a union.
- Creating the Task Force on Excellence in State and Local Government through Labor Management Cooperation for non-federal public employees.

Protected Labor Standards and Worker Protections: President Clinton defended crucial labor protections and wage standards for workers by:

- Leading the fight to make work pay for millions of working families through an increase in the minimum wage that has benefited nearly 10 million workers.
- Stopping congressional action to repeal Davis-Bacon and the Service Contract Act by threatening to veto the measures.
- Stopping congressional action to gut OSHA funding for enforcement and defeating riders to prohibit work on an ergonomic standard.
- Threatening to veto any bill that undermines worker health and safety
- Fighting to help families balance work and family, while at the same time fighting to protect the 40-hour week and to preserve employee choice, protections against employer abuse, and employee protections in the congressional debate over comp time.

Fought for a Budget Agreement that Protects Working Families: President Clinton fought for a Balanced Budget Agreement that protects Medicare, Medicaid, education, worker protections and job training. He fought to ensure that welfare recipients entering the workforce would earn the minimum wage and be covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act and other important worker protection laws. President Clinton also kept anti-worker provisions out of the budget agreement. He successfully turned back attempts to

- Privatize the delivery of critical public services by merit-staffed government workers.
- Expand the use of independent contractors.
- Impose burdensome new reporting requirements on union political activity.

Strengthening Worker Rights Around the World: President Clinton has done more than any other president to press countries to improve labor standards and environmental protections -- and he will continue to do so, whether through the ILO, the WTO, the UN, or international trade agreements. The recently introduced Fast Track bill includes authority to seek stronger worker rights through the WTO & ILO.

Family and Medical Leave: President Clinton fought for and signed the Family and Medical Leave Act and supported its expansion to cover school visits and routine medical appointments.

Tax Relief for Working Families: President Clinton provided tax relief for 15 million low wage working families by increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Increased Access to Education: President Clinton provided new opportunities for working class parents to pay for their children's college with HOPE Scholarships and for workers to upgrade their skills with 20% tuition tax credits for college and for working Americans upgrading their skills.

Strengthening and Expanding Pension Coverage: By enacting the Retirement Protection Act, President Clinton helped protect the pensions of more than 40 million workers and retirees by strengthening the federal pension insurance program and requiring companies to keep their pensions adequately funded. President Clinton also enabled more Americans to save for their retirement by enacting legislation to increase pension portability, enhance pension protections, expands coverage, and make it easier for small companies to offer pensions to their employees.

Enhancing Health Security: President Clinton fought for and enacted meaningful health insurance reform to allow workers to keep coverage when they change or lose their jobs and prevent denial of coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

Improving Health Care Quality and Protecting Health Care Workers: President Clinton appointed the Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry Quality to assure that changes in the health care system do not jeopardize quality care, consumer protections or harm workers in the health care industry.

Cracking Down On Sweatshops: The President brought together leaders of labor, industry, and consumers to form the Apparel Industry Partnership to wipe out sweatshops in the garment industry. To date, the Department of Labor has recovered $12.5 million in back wages for over 40,000 garment workers as part of its effort to eradicate sweatshops in the garment industry. In addition, more than 80 firms across the country have agreed to monitor their contractors.

Improving Employment and Training Services: Under President Clinton, funding for dislocated workers has more than doubled. Over 500,000 dislocated workers are receiving job training each year, with nearly three-quarters making the successful transition to new employment. President Clinton also fought for a $3 billion Welfare-to-Work initiative that will create job opportunities for the hardest-to-employee recipients of welfare. The Clinton Administration created one-stop career centers to help unemployed and dislocated workers get the services and information they need. The President also has proposed consolidating overlapping, antiquated job-training programs into a simple skills grant that allows unemployed workers to choose the training programs that are right for them.

RESPONSE TO AFL-CIO CLAIMS ON NAFTA

Claim: THE ADMINISTRATION CLAIMS NAFTA HAS CREATED 700,000 JOBS, BUT ACTUALLY "ON NET, 420,000 JOBS HAVE BEEN LOST DUE TO THE UNFAVORABLE SWING IN OUR NORTH AMERICAN MERCHANDISE TRADE BALANCE."

The Facts: ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, NAFTA HAS BEEN A JOB CREATOR FOR AMERICA.

- **Increased Exports to Our NAFTA Partners Support Over 300,000 Jobs:** Exports to Mexico have grown 37 percent and exports to Canada have grown 34 percent under NAFTA, creating over 300,000 jobs (not 700,000). The jobs supported by new exports to Mexico have already surpassed 200,000 this year -- in line with Administration projections. And export jobs are good jobs, paying 13 to 16 percent more than the national average.

- **NAFTA Boosted Net Exports:** Even if you adopt our critic's methodology and look at net exports, NAFTA was a job creator. Several outside studies have concluded that when you isolate the effects of the peso crisis and America's strong economy, NAFTA itself caused an increase in the trade surplus with Mexico. For instance, DRI estimates that NAFTA boosted real net exports to Mexico by $7 billion in 1996, controlling for Mexico's financial crisis.

- **Most Imports Do Not Displace Jobs:** It is wrong to assume imports displace U.S. jobs. History shows that the U.S. trade deficit increases most when our job growth is highest because our demand for imports rises as our income grows

Claim: "IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SEPARATE THE IMPACT OF NAFTA FROM THAT OF THE PESO CRISIS. NAFTA WAS SOLD AS PART OF A PACKAGE DEAL THAT ALSO INVOLVED REWARDING PRESIDENT CARLOS SALINAS AND HIS ECONOMIC REFORMS. THAT SET OF REFORMS -- INCLUDING NAFTA -- DID CAUSE THE PESO CRISIS."

The Facts: **MANY COUNTRIES HAVE EXPERIENCED CURRENCY CRISES -- IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IN 1997, IN EUROPE IN 1994, IN LATIN AMERICA IN 1982, TO NAME JUST A FEW. THEY HAD MANY THINGS IN COMMON, SUCH AS UNSUSTAINABLE EXCHANGE RATES AND BUDGET IMBALANCES, BUT NOT NAFTA. MEXICO ITSELF EXPERIENCED SEVERE CRISES LONG BEFORE NAFTA. IF ANYTHING, NAFTA PROTECTED THE MEXICAN ECONOMY -- AND AMERICAN EXPORTS -- FROM THE FINANCIAL CRISIS BY LOCKING IN MEXICO'S ECONOMIC REFORMS AND PROVIDING SAFEGUARDS FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS.**

- **NAFTA Helped Mexico Recover Faster:** Following Mexico's 1982 financial crisis, it took seven years before international investors were sufficiently confident to resume lending to Mexico; in 1995, it took 7 months. Following the 1982 crisis, Mexican output did not recover to pre-crisis levels for five years, while following the 1995 crisis, Mexican output rebounded to pre-crisis peaks in less than 2 years.

- **NAFTA Locked in Preferential Access for American Products.** Following Mexico's 1982 financial crisis, Mexico raised tariffs by 100 percent, and American exports to Mexico fell by half and did not recover for seven years. In 1995, Mexico continued to implement its NAFTA obligations even as it raised tariffs on imports from other countries. As a result, American exports recovered in 18 months and were up 37 percent by the end of 1996 relative to pre-NAFTA levels.

Claim: "U.S. EXPORTS FELL LESS AFTER THE 1994 CRISIS THAN AFTER THE 1982 CRISIS FOR A SIMPLE REASON: MAQUILADORAS...THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT WITH MEXICO WAS ABOUT TWICE AS HIGH IN 1995 AS IN 1983, AND THE DROP IN MEXICAN GDP WAS GREATER IN 1995 THAN IN THE TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE 1982 DEBT CRISIS."

The Facts: IN FACT, UNDER NAFTA, THE IMPORTANCE OF MAQUILADORAS IN U.S. TRADE WITH MEXICO HAS DECLINED. IT IS TRUE THAT THE U.S. CONTENT IN IMPORTS FROM MEXICO REMAINS MUCH HIGHER THAN THE IMPORTS FROM ASIA AND ELSEWHERE THAT THEY ARE REPLACING -- BUT THIS SHOULD BE A NET POSITIVE FOR AMERICAN WORKERS.

- **Maquiladora Share is Down Under NAFTA:** Since NAFTA was signed, the share of U.S. imports from Mexico accounted for by maquiladoras has dropped from 49 percent to 38 percent. And the share of U.S. imports made up of U.S. products processed by maquiladoras has fallen by one-fifth.

- **NAFTA Reduces Maquiladora Role:** NAFTA contains explicit provisions expanding the share of maquiladora production that can be sold directly to Mexican consumers rather than to U.S. consumers from 0 in 1993 to 70 percent in 1996 and to 100 percent in 2001.

- **Mexican Imports Displace Imports with Lower U.S. Content:** In many industries, Mexican imports have come at the expense of imports from other regions, which have lower U.S. domestic content. In the apparel industry, the share of U.S. imports supplied by Mexico rose from 4.4 percent in 1993 to 9.6 percent in 1996, while the share supplied by China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea fell from 39 percent in 1993 to 30 percent in 1996. Close to two-thirds of the value of U.S. apparel imports from Mexico in 1996 was comprised of U.S. content -- much higher than Asian imports.

Claim: IT IS WRONG TO CLAIM THAT IF WE DON'T NEGOTIATE A TRADE DEAL WITH LATIN AMERICA, OTHER COUNTRIES WILL GET THERE FIRST. "IN FACT, SIGNING NAFTA DID NOT GUARANTEE THE UNITED STATES EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO THE MEXICAN MARKET. THE EU AND JAPAN RAN TRADE SURPLUSES WITH MEXICO IN 1995, AS THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT BALLOONED."

The Facts: THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE 10 PERCENTAGE POINT TARIFF ADVANTAGE NAFTA HAS GIVEN U.S. SUPPLIERS OVER THEIR FOREIGN COMPETITORS HAS HELPED OUR FIRMS CAPTURE A 75.5 PERCENT SHARE OF MEXICO'S IMPORT MARKET -- UP BY 6.2 PERCENTAGE POINTS IN ONLY THREE YEARS.

- **EU and Japan Trade Balances Fell Dramatically Following Peso Crisis:** In fact, the EU's trade balance with Mexico deteriorated by two-thirds following Mexico's peso crisis and Japan's trade balance fell by over a quarter. The fact that Japan and the EU maintained small trade surpluses with Mexico -- despite those declines -- reflects the large overall trade surpluses in both countries associated with their weak growth.

- **Our Exports Fell Less than Other Trade Partners:** Because of NAFTA, our exports to Mexico fell substantially less following the peso crisis than those from other countries. European exports to Mexico fell by 29 percent and Korean exports fell by 27 percent -- compared to a short-lived 9 percent drop for the United States.

- **Other Countries Are Concluding Agreements Without Us:** The facts are clear: if we do not move ahead, we will get left behind. Chile has already negotiated a free trade agreement with countries such as Canada and Brazil. If we do not move forward with trade negotiations, our exporters will face a cost disadvantage of 11 percent in Chile's fast-growing market. American telecommunications suppliers have already suffered from that cost disadvantage, losing contracts to their Canadian competitors.

Claim: "IT IS TRUE THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS LOW TARIFFS RELATIVE TO THOSE IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES. BUT THIS IS NO GUARANTEE THAT WE WILL SELL MORE PROPORTIONALLY THAN OUR TRADE PARTNERS AFTER SIGNING TRADE AGREEMENTS. IF ANYTHING, THE OPPOSITE TENDS TO HAPPEN."

The Facts: PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS NEGOTIATED TOUGH TRADE AGREEMENTS THAT ARE BRINGING DOWN FOREIGN TRADE BARRIERS MUCH MORE THAN OUR OWN -- RESULTING IN MEASURABLE GAINS. THE FACT THAT WE ALREADY HAVE RELATIVELY LOW TRADE BARRIERS MEANS THAT WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE FROM MARKET OPENING AGREEMENTS -- AND EVERYTHING TO GAIN.

- **Mexico's NAFTA Tariff Cuts Five Times Greater:** Since NAFTA went into effect, Mexico has cut tariffs on U.S. exports five times more than the U.S. With a 10 percentage point advantage over their foreign competitors, U.S. suppliers have expanded their share of Mexico's import market by 6.2 percentage points to 75.5 percent.

- **Share Gains in Key Sectors:** Since NAFTA was signed, the U.S. share of Mexican imports is up 19.2 percentage points to 83.1 percent in the transportation equipment sector, where Mexican tariff cuts are more than 9 times greater than U.S. cuts. And the U.S. share is up 5.7 percentage points to 74.3 percent in the electronic goods and appliances sector, where Mexican tariff cuts are more than 4 times greater than U.S. cuts.

Claim: "IT CERTAINLY SEEMS AS THOUGH U.S. COMPANIES ARE ENJOYING PRETTY GOOD ACCESS TO LATIN AMERICAN MARKETS, EVEN WITHOUT OUR OWN REGIONAL AGREEMENT."

The Facts: PRETTY GOOD IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH. OUR EXPORTS COULD BE GROWING FASTER -- CREATING MORE HIGH-WAGE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN WORKERS -- IF WE HAD FAST TRACK AUTHORITY TO LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD WITH FAST-GROWING FOREIGN MARKETS.

- Although U.S. exports to Chile have achieved respectable growth of 14 percent since 1995, Mexico's exports to Chile have growth 3 times faster with the help of a bilateral free trade agreement.

- Although it is true that U.S. exports to South America and the Caribbean grew by 20 percent last year, U.S. exports to Mexico grew by 23 percent, with the help of NAFTA's preferential access.

- American fresh fruit producers have a respectable 39 percent share of Venezuela's market. But we could increase our share to 67 percent if we didn't face a tariff disadvantage relative to countries such as Chile that have a free trade agreement with Venezuela

Claim: IN 1995 AND 1996, U.S. JOB GROWTH WAS CONCENTRATED IN THE NON-TRADED SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY. THE FACT THAT THE OVERALL ECONOMY WAS GROWING PREVENTED MORE UNEMPLOYMENT FROM BEING VISIBLE. BUT MANY WORKERS LOST THEIR JOBS FROM THE GROWTH IN THE TRADE DEFICIT WITH MEXICO.

The Facts: ACTUALLY, TRADE WAS A MAJOR SOURCE OF DYNAMISM IN THE U.S. ECONOMY IN 1995 AND 1996, AND JOBS SUPPORTED BY EXPORTS GREW RAPIDLY -- DESPITE MEXICO'S PESO CRISIS. ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY OF AMERICAN JOBS ARE IN TRADITIONALLY NONTRADED SECTORS, IN FACT MANY OF THESE JOBS ARE NOW SUPPORTED BY TRADE.

- **Exports Support Jobs in Traditionally Nontraded Sectors:** Fully 57 percent of the 11.5 million jobs supported by exports are indirect. Many of the jobs that are traditionally categorized as "nontraded" -- food service workers, truck drivers, hotel workers -- are in reality indirectly tied to our dynamic export performance.
- **Overall Exports and Export Jobs Grew Fast in 1995:** In 1995, jobs supported by exports grew by 8.3 percent and trade contributed over half of our overall growth -- despite Mexico's financial crisis.

Claim: "THE ADMINISTRATION CAN AND DOES NEGOTIATE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITHOUT FAST TRACK AUTHORITY. ALL THIS MEANS IS THAT THE AGREEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AND INPUT FROM CONGRESS."

The Facts: MAJOR OPINION LEADERS AND OUR FOREIGN NEGOTIATING PARTNERS BELIEVE OTHERWISE. FAST TRACK IS VITAL FOR SUSTAINING AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY AND GIVING THE PRESIDENT THE CREDIBILITY TO NEGOTIATE TOUGH DEALS. EVERY PRESIDENT FOR OVER 20 YEARS HAS HAD FAST TRACK AUTHORITY.

- In 1994, the *New York Times* declared: "Mr. Clinton needs fast track if he is to secure the trade agreements called for in his economic strategy." [11/7/94]

- *Business Week* said fast track "is vitally important as an instrument to help break down global trade barriers." [5/19/97]

- The *Arizona Republic* stated "Without fast track, the United States will not have the credibility it needs..." [7/10/97]

Claim: "THE WAGES IN INDUSTRIES THAT COMPETE WITH MEXICAN IMPORTS ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THE WAGES IN INDUSTRIES THAT EXPORT TO MEXICO. SECOND, IT IS WRONG TO DISMISS A LARGE CLASS OF JOBS AS "DISPOSABLE...""

The Facts: PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS CONSISTENTLY FOUGHT TO ENSURE THAT TRADE BENEFITS ALL WORKERS. OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS, EXPORTS HAVE GENERATED ONE THIRD OF OUR ECONOMIC GROWTH, SUPPORTING 1.7 MILLION ADDITIONAL JOBS. ANY WAY YOU MEASURE IT, FOR ANY SKILL LEVEL, EXPORT JOBS ARE GOOD JOBS, PAYING 12 TO 16 PERCENT ABOVE THE NATIONAL AVERAGE.

- **The President has worked hard to address the concerns of low-wage and dislocated workers.**

  - **NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance (NAFTA TAA).** The President fought for and won a NAFTA-TAA program that or the first time provides retraining and reemployment assistance and income support to workers displaced by production shifts as well as trade and income support for "secondary" workers.
  - **Dislocated Worker Training.** President Clinton has doubled funding for the Dislocated Worker assistance program helping an additional 300,000 workers get training and job search assistance.

  - **Health Benefits for Job Changers.** The 1996 "Kassebaum-Kennedy" law ensures that as many as 25 million more Americans will no longer have to fear that they will lose their access to health insurance if they lose their job or change jobs.

  - **One-Stop Career Centers.** To help workers make a rapid transition between jobs, the Administration is transforming a fragmented array of employment and training programs into a "One-Stop" coordinated information and delivery system. The President's budget proposed $150 million in funding to expand One-Stop Career Centers to all states in 1998.

- **HOPE Scholarships and Tuition Tax Credits.** To help workers enhance their skills throughout their working lifetimes, the President fought for and won a $1,500 two-year HOPE Scholarship and a 20% tuition tax credit.

WHY CONTINUING TO GIVE AMERICA THE ABILITY TO OPEN FOREIGN MARKETS IS IMPORTANT TO AMERICAN WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

As the American people prepare for the challenges of the 21st century, we face a critical choice: We can meet the challenges of the future, write the trade rules and continue America's remarkable economic growth -- or we can turn our back on the world and fail to compete for new markets, new contracts, new business and new jobs. All over America, jobs have been created in small, medium and large companies that would not be here today if we did not have the ability to negotiate tough, fair trade agreements.

AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

- **Over 2.3 million workers are directly employed in the automotive industry.** U.S. vehicle exports totaled over $24 billion in 1996 and should grow 5% *per year* through 2002. U.S. automotive parts exports totaled $41 billion in 1996 and are expected to grow 9% *per year* through 2002.
- **U.S. vehicle sales in Japan jumped 34%** and exports of US.-made automotive parts rose to $2 billion in 1996 -- an increase of 20% over 1995 when the agreement was signed.
- **Auto sales in Asia (excluding Japan) grew 65% between** 1990-1995 and may grow another 60% by 2005. Sales in Brazil are expected to grow 55% in the next five years.
- **From 1990-1996, U.S. auto exports to the biggest emerging markets (excluding Mexico) rose $500 million and are estimated to reach $6.1 billion by 2010.** U.S. parts exports to these emerging markets are expected to more than triple from the current $3 billion to $10 billion in 2010.

MANUFACTURING

- **18.5 million American workers -- over 15% of total workforce -- are employed in manufacturing.** Exports of goods and services have risen from about 4% of GDP in the early 1960's to over 13% today.
- **U.S. exports have grown three times faster than Japan's, five times more than Germany's since the mid-1980's.**
- **13 of the 20 largest medical technology companies in the world are U.S. owned.** The U.S. medical device industry is expected to grow 6% *per year* over the next 5 years.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- **The information technology industry generates 3.5 million domestic jobs** directly and indirectly. America is number one in the world in semiconductors, computers and software. Over the last four years, U.S. semiconductor exports have grown 139%, its telecommunications exports have grown 113% and U.S. computer and parts exports have grown 54%.
- **Nine of the world's top ten software companies are based in the U.S.**
- **U.S. software exports to the Asia-Pacific expanded 57% last year alone,** and over one-third of U.S. computer equipment exports now go to the Asia-Pacific region.

SERVICES

- **Exports of services by U.S. firms supported 3.5 million U.S. jobs in 1994.** U.S. service exports have more than doubled over the last ten years, increasing $135 billion since 1987, and $84 billion just since 1990.
- **U.S. exports to emerging markets have grown at impressive rates:** nearly 30% to China, Taiwan and Korea; and over 20% to Hong Kong and Argentina.

AGRICULTURE

- **U.S. agricultural exports support nearly a million jobs** -- more than 60 percent of those jobs off the farm in processing, transportation, and trade.
- **The U.S. is once again the world's largest exporter of food and farm products,** commanding around a 22% share of global agricultural trade. Last year, our agricultural exports were twice the level of our agricultural imports -- a claim no other industry sector can make.

COSTS OF INACTION: WHY AMERICA WILL NOT GET A FAIR SHARE OF JOBS WITHOUT FAST TRACK?

IF CONGRESS FAILS TO GIVE THE PRESIDENT FAST-TRACK AUTHORITY – THE SAME POWER EVERY PRESIDENT HAS HAD FOR 20 YEARS – AMERICA WILL NOT GET HER FAIR SHARE OF JOBS. Congress' failure to grant fast-track authority will leave America sitting on the sidelines as trade agreements are negotiated without our participation. This will cost America high-paying jobs, while blocking American workers from competing against the world on a level playing field.

- **Lost Jobs in Telecommunications Industry.** In November 1996, Canada and Chile reached a comprehensive trade agreement that eliminated Chile's 11 percent across-the-board tariff starting this year. As a result, American telecommunications companies competing for contracts in Chile will do so at a significant competitive disadvantage.

  Lost Jobs In Fresh Fruit Industry. Chilean fresh fruit pays a 2-percent duty when entering Venezuela (due to the Chile-Venezùela FTA), whereas American producers pay a 15-percent tariff. The U.S. Embassy estimates that the U.S. market share would grow from its current 39 percent to 67 percent if US producers had equivalent access to the Venezuelan market.

- **Lost Job Opportunities In South Asia Without Fast Track.** The South Asian countries -- India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives – are creating a free trade zone. Without fast-track authority, America will not be able to make fair trade agreements with this region and will American workers will not have a fair chance to sell their goods to roughly 20 percent of the world's population.

- **Lost Job Opportunities In Textile Industry Without Fast-Track Authority.** Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia comprise a market of 100 million people and a GDP of over $260 billion. As part of the effort to develop a common external tariff, the import tariff on textile goods, for example, was raised from 5 to 15 percent. Without fast track authority, America will be unable to knock down this barrier to goods made by American workers – thus costing the United States jobs.

- **Lost Job Opportunities In Latin America Without Fast Track.** Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay comprise the largest market in Latin America: 200 million people and a GDP of nearly $1 trillion. These four countries have entered into free trade agreements raising tariffs on most items imported from outside their boundaries. Thus, American firms *not located and producing within* these countries face a competitive disadvantage; this disadvantage will only grow as these countries expand the free-trade zone. Fast-track authority will give the President the chance to pry open this market and allow America to have her fair share of the jobs.

EXAMPLE: 1.8 MILLION REASONS WHY THE PRESIDENT SHOULD HAVE FAST-TRACK TRADE AUTHORITY

- **Quaker Fabric Company Lost Bid For A $1.8 Million Contract Because They Had To Pay High Tariffs.** Quaker Fabric Company -- located in Fall River, Massachusetts -- is a $200 million a year corporation with 1,750 employees. Recently, Quaker was informed by its Sales Representative in Chile that it had lost a bid for a $1.8 million a year account to a competitor from Mexico, solely because of the 11-percent tariff that Quaker must pay, while its competitors can import tariff free.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S TRADE POLICY: A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

Employment growth is strong. Unemployment is low. Inflation is stable. And incomes for American families are rising again. Part of the reason the American economy has enjoyed such remarkable success is because we are opening foreign markets to American goods and increasing the amount of American-made goods sold abroad.

- **13 Million New Jobs.** Since January 1993, the economy has created nearly 13 million new jobs, including more than 1.5 million new jobs in basic industries (1.1 million in construction and 445,000 in manufacturing). [Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics survey.]

- **Unemployment Rate Down To 24-Year Low.** In 1992, the unemployment rate was 7.5 percent. Today, it is under 5 percent -- as low as it's been at any time in the last 24 years. [Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey.]

- **Exports Are Up More Than $300 Billion.** Since the beginning of 1993, exports from the United States have grown by nearly 50 percent -- up $318 billion, after adjusting for inflation. Exports have accounted for 38 percent of the overall growth in the economy since 1993. [Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis]

- **1.7 Million New Export-Related Jobs -- Paying On Average 15 Percent Higher Wages.** Since President Clinton took office, the number of export-related jobs has increased by 1.7 million . These job pay an average of 15 percent more than non-trade related jobs. [Source: Department of Commerce.]

- **Smallest Deficit Among Major Economies.** After climbing to $290 billion in 1992, the deficit declined to $107 billion last year and is expected to fall to $37 billion this year -- down more than 80 percent from 1992. [Source: CBO] As a share of GDP, the general government deficit is smaller than in any major economy. [Source: OECD Economic Outlook, 6/97]

- **Family Income Up $1,600.** After stagnating for 20 years, family incomes are rising again. Since 1993, the income of the typical American family increased by $1,631, after adjusting for inflation. [Source: Bureau of the Census.]

- **High-Tech Exports Are Soaring.** Exports of semiconductors have grown 139 percent under the Clinton Administration; telecommunications exports have grown 113 percent; and exports of computers and computer-related goods have grown 54 percent. [Source: Council of Economic Advisers/Department of Treasury, April 10, 1996]

- **The World's Most Competitive Economy.** The United States has now been ranked Number One on competitiveness for five years in a row -- and up from Number Five in 1992. [Source: World Economic Forum and IMD.]

- **The World's Automobile Leader Once Again.** The United States is the world's Number One producer of automobiles for the first time since the 1970's -- overtaking Japan. [Source: American Automobile Manufacturers Association.]

- **The World's Semiconductor Leader Once Again.** The United States has regained its position as the world's Number One producer of semiconductors -- surpassing Japan. [Source: Dataquest.]

THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA)

Several outside studies conclude that NAFTA has contributed to America's economic expansion. DRI estimates that NAFTA boosted real exports to Mexico by $12 billion in 1996, compared to a smaller increase in imports of $5 billion, and contributed $13 billion to U.S. real income and $5 billion to business investment, controlling for Mexico's financial crisis. Since NAFTA was signed, exports have grown 37 percent to Mexico and 34 percent to Canada, reaching record levels. Before NAFTA, Mexico had virtually one-way free trade into the United States. Under NAFTA, Mexico's tariff cuts have been 5 times greater than ours, leveling the playing field.

ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, NAFTA HAS BEEN A JOB CREATOR FOR AMERICA'S WORKERS.

- **Jobs Supported by Exports to Mexico and Canada Have Increased More Than 300,000.** Under NAFTA, jobs supported by exports to Canada have gone up by 189,000 and jobs supported by exports to Mexico by 122,000. Export jobs are good jobs -- paying 13 to 16 percent more than the national average. [Study on the Operation and Effects of the NAFTA, 1997; Department of Commerce]

- **NAFTA Increased Net Exports to Mexico.** It is wrong to assume imports displace U.S. jobs: history shows that the U.S. trade deficit increases most when our job growth is highest. But even if you adopt the critics' methodology and look at net exports, NAFTA was a job creator. Outside studies conclude that -- isolating for the effects of the peso crisis and America's strong economy -- NAFTA caused an increase in net exports of roughly $7 billion in 1996. [DRI, 1997]

EXPERTS AGREE: IF ANYTHING, NAFTA PROTECTED THE MEXICAN ECONOMY -- AND AMERICAN EXPORTS -- FROM THE FINANCIAL CRISIS BY LOCKING IN MEXICO'S ECONOMIC REFORMS AND PROVIDING SAFEGUARDS FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS.

- **NAFTA Helped Mexico Recover Faster:** Following Mexico's 1982 financial crisis, it took Mexico 7 years to return to international capital markets, while in 1995, it took 7 months. Following the 1982 crisis, Mexican output did not recover to pre-crisis levels for five years, while following the 1995 crisis, Mexican output rebounded to pre-crisis peaks in less than 2 years. [Study on the Operation and Effects of the NAFTA, 1997]

- **NAFTA Protected American Jobs and Exports by Locking in Preferential Access:** Following its 1982 crisis, Mexico raised tariffs by 100 percent, and American exports to Mexico fell by half and did not recover for seven years. In 1995, Mexico continued to implement its NAFTA obligations even as it raised tariffs on imports from other countries. As a result, American exports recovered in 18 months and were up 37 percent by the end of 1996 relative to pre-NAFTA levels.

SINCE NAFTA WENT INTO EFFECT, MEXICO HAS CUT TARIFFS ON U.S. EXPORTS FIVE TIMES MORE THAN THE U.S.

- Taking Share from Foreign Competitors: U.S. suppliers have increased their share of Mexico's import market from 69.3 percent to 75.5 percent, reflecting a 10 percentage point tariff advantage over foreign suppliers.

TRADE AND LABOR PROTECTIONS UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

President Clinton is committed to ensuring that trade expansion benefits all American workers and international competition is consistent with internationally accepted labor standards. Internationally, he has done more than any other President -- advancing core labor standards through the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Labor Organization (ILO), and the Organization of American States (OAS), and encouraging the voluntary adoption of codes of conduct through Model Business Principles and the Apparel Industry Partnership. At home, he has fought to expand opportunities for dislocated and low wage workers through increases in training, the security of pension and health benefits, the minimum wage and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS DONE MORE TO PROMOTE LABOR STANDARDS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE THAN ANY OTHER PRESIDENT. GAINING INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF THE LINK BETWEEN TRADE AND LABOR ISSUES WILL BE A GRADUAL PROCESS, REQUIRING PERSEVERANCE AND COMMITMENT. DESPITE SIGNIFICANT OBSTACLES, THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ON LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD FOR AMERICAN WORKERS, OBTAINING COMMITMENTS ON CORE LABOR STANDARDS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATIONS, AND IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF LIVING FOR WORKERS EVERYWHERE.

- **Winning International Recognition of Core Labor Standards:** At the UN Summit for Social Development in 1995, the Administration succeeded in obtaining a commitment by over one hundred heads of State and government -- for the first time in history -- to recognition of those "core" worker rights that the Administration believes should be protected in every country, regardless of the level of economic development.

- **Protecting Labor Rights in the Hemisphere:** At the OAS Labor Ministerial in 1995, the Administration obtained a commitment from all countries in our hemisphere recognizing the importance of protecting worker rights as we negotiate the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

- **Advancing Labor Standards in the WTO:** At the Singapore Ministerial Meeting of the WTO in 1996, the Administration fought for and won -- for the first time in the GATT/WTO's existence -- a formal commitment by 128 nations to the observance of core labor standards. The WTO also endorsed collaboration with the ILO to advance this agenda.

- **Encouraging Private Sector Codes of Conduct:** In 1994, the Administration developed and disseminated Model Business Principles protecting core worker rights and encouraged private sector adoption through conferences and a best practices award. In 1996, President Clinton helped launch the Apparel Industry Partnership: a collaboration between labor, business and nongovernmental organizations to encourage adoption of a code of conduct prohibiting exploitative child labor and encouraging humane working conditions through external monitoring and consumer awareness.

- **Suspension of Trade Benefits:** The Administration suspended full trade preferences for Burma, Sudan, Mauritania, and Syria and partial preferences for Pakistan for inadequate observance of basic worker rights.

- **International Monitoring of Labor Standards:** In 1997, Administration support was decisive in the adoption of an ILO proposal to establish a mechanism to monitor countries' implementation of core labor standards. The Administration has supported examination of labor standards implementation through the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), conferences on core labor standards in developing economies in Asia and Latin America, and ILO Programs to combat child labor in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Brazil.

NAFTA IS THE FIRST TRADE AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE PROTECTIONS FOR WORKERS. THE NORTH AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON LABOR COOPERATION (NAALC) HAS ENHANCED OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT OF NATIONAL LABOR LAWS AND CREATED NORTH AMERICAN COOPERATION ON FUNDAMENTAL LABOR ISSUES – FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SCRUTINY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NAFTA SUBMISSION PROCESS HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT IMPETUS FOR CHANGE IN MEXICO.

- **Union Recognition and Secret Ballots:** The NAALC submission process subjects member governments to public and international scrutiny for alleged violations of labor laws; it can also lead to economic sanctions. To date, the United States has received seven submissions against Mexico, and Mexico has reviewed one submission against the United States. The review of these submissions has yielded concrete remedies. In one case, a Mexican labor tribunal granted recognition to the petitioning union, reversing an earlier decision, and afforded a new hearing for workers dismissed for union activity. In other cases, workers were permitted secret ballot elections, a practice not common in Mexico. In addition, a number of Mexican labor disputes have been settled by companies wishing to avoid the negative publicity associated with the NAFTA review process.

- **Legal Advances:** Important legal advances on labor rights have taken place in Mexico since NAFTA was signed. In 1996, the Supreme Court of Mexico issued two decisions finding state statutes restricting freedom of association unconstitutional. Mexico's Department of Labor has issued recommendations providing for greater autonomy and professionalism of tripartite labor tribunals and making the union registration process a purely administrative decision.

- **Stronger Mexican Enforcement:** Since NAFTA was signed, Mexico's Secretariat of Labor and Social Welfare reports a nearly 250 percent increase in funding for enforcement and a 30 percent reduction in the number of workplace injuries and illnesses.

PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS CONSISTENTLY FOUGHT TO ENSURE THAT THE NEW ECONOMY BENEFITS ALL WORKERS. INDEED, NO PRESIDENT CARES MORE ABOUT THE CONCERNS OF LOW-WAGE AND DISLOCATED WORKERS.

- **NAFTA Transitional Adjustment Assistance (NAFTA TAA).** The President fought for and won a special NAFTA-TAA program that or the first time provides retraining and reemployment assistance and income support to workers displaced by production shifts as well as trade, and provides income support for "secondary" workers.

- **Dislocated Worker Training.** President Clinton has doubled funding for the Dislocated Worker assistance program helping an additional 300,000 workers get training and job search assistance.

- **HOPE Scholarships and Tuition Tax Credits.** To help workers enhance their skills throughout their working lifetimes, the President fought for and won both a $1,500 two-year HOPE Scholarship and a 20% tuition tax credit.

- **Health Benefits for Job Changers.** The 1996 "Kassebaum-Kennedy" law ensures that as many as 25 million more Americans will no longer have to fear that they will lose their access to health insurance if they lose their job or change jobs.

- **One-Stop Career Centers.** To help workers make a rapid transition between jobs, the Administration is transforming a fragmented array of employment and training programs into a "One-Stop" coordinated information and delivery system. The President's budget proposed $150 million in funding to expand One-Stop Career Centers to all states in 1998.

TRADE AND THE ENVIRONMENT UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

President Clinton is committed to ensuring that trade expansion and increased international competition contribute to environmental protections at home and abroad. The President negotiated the first trade agreement to include explicit environmental provisions and fought to ensure that NAFTA contained mechanisms to address the unique environmental problems that have long challenged communities along the 2000-mile shared border with Mexico. President Clinton fought for and won important advances on the environment in the WTO Agreement, including a permanent forum to address the link between trade and the environment in the World Trade Organization (WTO). He has strongly and effectively implemented U.S. environmental laws to obtain improvements in other countries' environmental practices, including using, where called for, the threat of trade sanctions.

PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS DONE MORE TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE FORA THAN ANY OTHER U.S. PRESIDENT.

- **Advancing Environmental Protections in the WTO:** The Administration fought for and won important environmental advances in the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, including recognition in the Preamble of the WTO Agreement of sustainable development as a key objective of the WTO; strengthened agreements on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade to protect legitimate environmental measures from challenge under the Agreements; improvements to the Dispute Settlement Understanding to provide for the use of environmental experts in disputes and to make the process more transparent by allowing disputing parties to make their submissions public and requiring that a public version be provided of all panel submissions; and securing the creation of a Committee on Trade and Environment in the WTO, for the first time creating a permanent forum for addressing the linkage between trade and the environment.

- **Improved Environmental Practices Worldwide:** The Administration has aggressively implemented U.S. environmental laws, using the threat of trade sanctions where appropriate to obtain improvements in other countries' environmental practices. For example, President Clinton imposed trade sanctions on Taiwan for its failure to curb illegal trade in rhino horn and tiger bone. These sanctions were lifted when Taiwan made demonstrable progress in halting this trade.

- **Proposed an APEC Environmental Technologies and Services Sector Liberalization Initiative:** The Administration is working to advance APEC-wide sector liberalization in an industry ignored by previous administrations. High tariffs and disguised barriers to trade have limited the ability of developing countries to use the most advanced and useful technologies and services to address environmental problems from basic water and wastewater treatment needs to the need for the most advanced bioremediation technologies.

- **Forged Agreement For A Global Phaseout of Persistent Pollutants:** The Clinton Administration led the way on an agreement to phase out the use of 12 dangerous, persistent organic pollutants worldwide, such as PCBs and DDT.

THE NORTH AMERICAN AGREEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION (NAAEC) HAS LED TO UNPRECEDENTED REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION AND IMPROVED ENFORCEMENT OF MEXICO'S ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS. THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SCRUTINY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NAFTA SUBMISSION PROCESS HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT IMPETUS FOR CHANGE IN MEXICO.

- Cleaning Up the U.S.-Mexico Border: NAFTA's environmental institutions are addressing critical environmental infrastructure needs.

  - **$2-3 Billion in Lending:** Over time, the North American Development Bank (NADBank) will be able to leverage its capital into $2 to $3 billion in lending. To date, 16 projects have been certified with a combined cost of nearly $230 million, and construction has already begun on seven projects.

  - **Border Cleanup Projects:** The NADBank, together with the NAFTA Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC) and federal and state officials on both sides of the border, have identified more than 30 environmental projects along the border with a total cost of about $500 million for their 1997-99 work plan.

- **Affordable Water Cleanup for Poor Border Communities.** NADBank is establishing co-financing mechanisms with U.S. and Mexican grant programs to provide affordable financing for poor border communities. A recent agreement will enable NADBank to combine its loans with up to $170 million in grants from the Environmental Protection Agency for border water and wastewater projects.

- **Border XXI:** The United States and Mexico have established a five-year blueprint for achieving a clean border environment. We are already cooperating to abate emissions from vehicles at border crossings, tracking transboundary shipments of hazardous wastes, and operating a U.S.-Mexico Joint Response Team to minimize the risk of chemical accidents, to name just a few activities.

- **Submission Process on Environmental Enforcement:** The NAAEC submission process -- which subjects member governments to public and international scrutiny for alleged violations of environmental laws, and can also lead to economic sanctions -- is working as intended. Under NAFTA, Mexico's enforcement of its environmental laws has improved and there has been an unprecedented amount of cooperation between the United States and Mexico on environmental enforcement.

  - **Oversight of Enforcement:** The NAFTA Commission for Environmental Cooperation's (CEC) review of citizen submissions alleging nonenforcement of environmental laws has led to an investigation of the adequacy of environmental reviews of a cruise ship pier in Cozumel, Mexico and a report on water use in the Fort Huachuca, Arizona area.

  - **Banning Pesticides.** Through the CEC, Mexico has agreed to join the United States and Canada in banning the pesticides DDT and chlordane, ensuring that these long-lived, toxic substances no longer cross our border.

  - **Improved Mexican Enforcement.** Mexico has increased the number of environmental enforcement actions from roughly 3,100 in 1991 to between 12,000 and 13,000 annually since NAFTA was signed. Mexico reports a 72% reduction in serious environmental violations in the maquiladora industry and a 43% increase in the number of maquiladora facilities in complete compliance.

CLAIM ON ECONOMIC DAMAGE

CLAIM: *The Administration's plans on climate change would devastate the economy -- raising unemployment, significantly reducing GDP, and costing hundreds of thousands of American jobs.*

FACT: **The Clinton Administration has made no determination about specific emissions reduction policies to be implemented, and has consistently emphasized the importance of securing reductions in the most cost-effective way possible.**

- President Clinton's priority is and will remain sustaining a healthy and robust economy. Since the President took office, the private sector of the economy has grown at more than twice the rate of the previous four years, business investment has boomed at a rate not seen since the Kennedy Administration, unemployment is at a 24 year low, and 12.9 million new jobs have been created. (Sources: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Department of Commerce; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor)

- More than 2,300 economists, including eight Nobel Laureates, agree that taking preventive steps to confront climate change is justified and that it is possible to do so without harming American living standards. In fact, they state that long-term productivity could be improved by such steps. (Source: Economists' Statement on Climate Change, January 1997)

- A review of the economic literature suggests that the costs of achieving emissions reductions would vary enormously, from substantially negative to slightly positive, depending on which specific policies are chosen. (Source: "The Costs of Climate Protection: A Guide for the Perplexed", Robert Repetto and Duncan Austin, World Resources Institute, 1997)

- While the Administration has not decided on a specific level or timeframe for emissions reductions, nor the policies by which reductions would be achieved, it has tended to favor policies, such as joint implementation, which are widely regarded as having the greatest potential to reduce the overall costs. (Sources: U.S. Climate Protocol Framework, January 1997; "The Costs of Climate Protection: A Guide for the Perplexed", Robert Repetto and Duncan Austin, World Resources Institute, 1997)

"I have devoted my passion and the best ideas I could come up with to try to get this country in good shape economically and socially. But I do believe it is folly for us to believe that we can go into the next century without a strategy that says we're going to be responsible and we're going to do our part and lead the world on environmental issues... Let's find a way to preserve the environment, to meet our international responsibilities, to meet our responsibilities to our children, and grow the economy at the same time."

-- President Clinton

CLAIM ON U.S. COMPETITIVENESS/JOBS MOVING OVERSEAS

CLAIM: ***A global warming treaty, particularly one without developing country commitments, would injure U.S. competitiveness and send jobs overseas.***

FACT: **There is no substantive evidence to support this claim.**

- A review of the academic literature demonstrates, "that there is little to document the view that environmental regulations have had a measurably adverse effect on competitiveness... studies attempting to measure the effect of environmental regulations on net exports, overall trade flows, and plant-location decisions have produced estimates that are small, statistically insignificant, or not robust to tests of model specification." (Sources: Jaffe, Peterson, Portney, and Stavins, "Environmental Regulation and International Competitiveness: What Does the Evidence Tell Us?" Resources for the Future, Discussion Paper 94-08)

- While there is limited empirical literature on the specific impacts of carbon policies, a number of factors suggest that reducing carbon emissions is unlikely to have a serious negative effect on U.S. jobs and competitiveness:

  ✓ Most emissions come from sectors which cannot move overseas. Transportation and buildings, for example, account for roughly two-thirds of U.S. emissions. (Source: U.S. Climate Action Report, 1997)

  ✓ Energy costs for manufacturing industries average just 2.2 percent of total costs (Source: 1995 Annual Census of Manufacturers), making it highly unlikely that shifts in the relative price of energy would affect location decisions or trade flows.

  ✓ Substantial differentials in energy prices between countries already exist. For example, the price of a barrel of heavy fuel oil in Venezuela in 1994 was $5.06 compared with $13.65 in the United States, yet American firms did not generally flee to Venezuela. (Source: *Statistical Abstract 1996*, Table 1359, page 848)

- Certain energy intensive industries, accounting for some 2-3 percent of total industrial output, are more sensitive to shifts in relative energy prices. However, the economic literature illustrates that the effects on these industries would vary tremendously depending on which emissions reduction policies are chosen. (Source: "The Costs of Climate Protection: A Guide for the Perplexed", Robert Repetto and Duncan Austin, World Resources Institute, 1997)

- The Clinton Administration has made no determination about emissions reductions policies to be implemented, yet has tended to favor those, such as joint implementation, which are widely regarded as having the greatest potential to reduce the overall costs. (Sources: U.S. Climate Protocol Framework, January 1997; "The Costs of Climate Protection: A Guide for the Perplexed", Robert Repetto and Duncan Austin, World Resources Institute, 1997)

- The Clinton Administration has taken a firm stand on developing country obligations, consistently making it clear that any climate treaty must include meaningful developing country commitments. (Sources: U.S. Climate Protocol Framework, January 1997; Speech by President Clinton to the UN General Assembly, June 1997)

CLAIM ON ENERGY INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES

CLAIM: *Industries that are particularly energy intensive would be especially hard hit by any actions to limit or reduce carbon emissions. This conclusion is supported by the Department of Energy's own Argonne Lab study.*

FACT: **Impacts on energy intensive industries and on the economy as a whole from limitations on carbon emissions will depend on the level of reductions sought and on the policies used to achieve them. The Administration has made no decisions in either area.**

- The Department of Energy's Argonne Lab study assumes fuel price scenarios that fail to account for key policies that have the potential to substantially reduce the cost of emissions reductions, including multi-year emissions budgets, international emissions trading, and joint implementation. These are policies for which the Administration has expressed support. (Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Climate Protocol Framework, January 1997)

- While the six energy intensive industries that the Argonne study focused on would tend to be more sensitive to shifts in relative energy prices, the economic literature illustrates that such shifts would vary tremendously depending on the specific emissions reduction policies chosen. (Source: "The Costs of Climate Protection: A Guide for the Perplexed," Robert Repetto and Duncan Austin, World Resources Institute, 1997)

Talking Points on EPI Climate Change Study
September 17, 1997

* The report released today by the Economic Policy Institute ("Accelerating Globalization? The Economic Effects of Climate Change Policies on U.S. Workers") examines one possible approach to addressing climate change. But there are many possible approaches, and the Administration has not yet settled on a particular set of new policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

* The Administration is working to develop the right policies to achieve needed environmental gains without sacrificing continued economic prosperity.

* President Clinton's top priority, since his first days in office, has been revitalizing the U.S. economy, creating jobs and investing in people and technology to enhance long-term growth. And we have made tremendous progress. The President is not going to jeopardize that progress. Any policy he ultimately endorses on climate change will be informed by his commitment to sustaining a healthy and robust economy.

* We can do this smart or we can do it dumb. By using flexible, market-based policies, we can slow climate change without harming the American economy. 2,500 economists, including 8 Nobel laureates, have signed a statement supporting measures to reduce the threat of climate change.

* The study released today fails to take into account certain measures that have the potential to significantly reduce the costs of emissions reductions, such as international emissions trading. For this reason, the results may be misleading.

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The AFL-CIO Executive Council

The officers of the AFL-CIO were elected in October 1995 to a two-year term.

President John Sweeney -- formerly the President of the Service Employees International Union. Sweeney took over SEIU in 1980, having previously served as president of a large building maintenance workers local union in New York City. Sweeney is carrying out an ambitious agenda for the Federation, reorganizing both its headquarters staff and field operations. In 1996, the AFL-CIO reportedly spent $35 million on grass roots political action and in 1997 has focused its energies on organizing - devoting $20 million to help its affiliates win new members.

Secretary-Treasurer Richard Trumka -- formerly the President of the United Mine Workers. Trumka was a rank-and-file coal miner who rose through the union and in 1981 at age 33 was elected president. Trumka led the UMWA through several major strikes (including one against the Pittston Coal Co. in 1989 and a nationwide strike in 1993 - both of which were settled with the help of a special mediator appointed by the Secretary of Labor). He is a strong proponent of labor law reform. In 1994, President Clinton appointed Trumka to the Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement and Tax Reform, where he defended social security, Medicare, and other federal entitlement programs. At the AFL-CIO, Trumka has been developing a program to use worker pension funds and other assets to force changes in the governance of U.S. businesses.

Executive Vice President Linda Chavez-Thompson -- formerly a vice president of AFSCME. Chavez-Thompson was the first person of color to become an officer of the AFL-CIO, and is the highest ranking woman in the labor movement. Born in [redacted] (b)(6) [001] Chavez-Thompson was the daughter of sharecroppers and, as a union organizer, rose through the ranks of AFSCME to become one of its Vice Presidents. Since the AFL-CIO election, Chavez-Thompson has traveled across the country speaking to state federations of labor and local central labor bodies.

The Executive Council (by union in order of size):

Bob Georgine -- President of the Building and Construction Trades Department. The Building Trades top priorities remain Davis-Bacon and the Service Contract Act, construction safety, and regulations governing multi-employer health and retirement funds (Taft-Hartley funds

The building trades have decided not to pursue a Davis-Bacon reform bill as long as the Republicans remain in control of

Congress. While the trades are willing to discuss making improvements in the collection of prevailing wage data, they remain opposed to making any major changes in the wage survey system that is currently administered by the Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division.

In addition to being President of the Building Trades Department, Georgine is President and CEO of Union Labor Life Insurance Company (ULLICO) - an insurance company that provides pension and health coverage for multi-employer funds. As a result, Georgine was named to the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry. The Building Trades oppose state taxation of multi-employer plans to fund public health care institutions and argue that states are pre-empted from doing this by ERISA. AFSCME is on the other side of this contentious issue.

1. **Ron Carey** -- President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Carey was re-elected at the end of last year to another five year term, defeating James Hoffa, the son of the legendary union leader. Carey's re-election may be overturned by a court-appointed election monitor, who issued a report in late August accusing the Carey campaign of violating union election rules and, possibly, federal laws governing the conduct of union elections. Carey, himself, may be disqualified if he is found to have personally participated in the illegal fundraising schemes.

In 1989, the union entered into a consent decree with the federal government to settle a racketeering complaint brought by the Justice Department. Carey is credited with making impressive strides against the union's corrupt old guard, taking control of over 60 locals and removing or disciplining hundreds of local and regional union officials.

Carey was a vocal opponent of Fast Track, particularly the trucking provisions that will eventually allow Mexican trucks access to the entire U.S. He has taken a strong stand against Fast Track as well. The border opening has been delayed because of concerns about truck safety. DOL is consulting with DOT on the need to negotiate an agreement with Mexico that would give DOL greater access to company records so that it can enforce labor protection statutes, including the minimum wage and OSHA.

A majority of the strikers at Detroit News and Detroit Free Press were members of the Teamsters, and the union continues to support a boycott of USA Today which is owned by Gannett, the co-owner of the Detroit News and Free Press. After a 16 day strike and five days of around-the-clock bargaining sessions, the Teamsters negotiated a new contract for the 185,000 workers it represents at the United Parcel Service.

(Mr.) Carroll Haynes -- Haynes is a Vice President of the IBT from New York City and is a Carey supporter.

2. **Gerry McEntee** -- President of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. McEntee chairs the Executive Council's political action committee, and remains among the Administration's most vocal and enthusiastic supporters. He was critical of the President's decision to sign the Welfare bill, raiseing concerns about the displacement of public sector workers by welfare recipients and the need to assure that these new workers are protected by the minimum wage and other labor laws. He has strongly opposed state efforts to privatize the delivery of Medicaid, Food Stamps, and certain employment-related services.

AFSCME, SEIU and CWA have announced a coordinated plan to organize welfare recipients who will be required to work under the new welfare law. In addition to protecting welfare recipients from exploitation, the unions want to prevent state and local governments from using them to replace higher-paid union

AFSCME led a large coalition of public interest groups opposed to the Balanced Budget Amendment and will work to protect Medicaid funding for disproportionate-share hospitals. Because AFSCME represents workers in public hospitals, McEntee follows health care issues and has been named to the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and quality in the Health Care Industry.

He was instrumental in the creation of the Secretary of Labor's Task Force on Excellence in State and Local Government Through Labor Management Cooperation. The report, which was released in March 1996, argues that greater employee involvement leads to improvements in public service. The report cites numerous examples where collective bargaining relationships in state and local government have led to improved service.

Bill Lucy -- Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Lucy is active on welfare, civil rights and international affairs. He was a leader in U.S. anti-apartheid movement.

3. **Andy Stern** -- President of the Service Employees Union. Stern, the union's young and aggressive former organizing director, was elected last year on a reform ticket that ousted Richard Cordtz, Sweeney's Secretary-Treasurer and successor as SEIU President. Stern has completely restructured the staff around an ambitious program to organize new workers.

Stern believes that the government should use its massive purchasing power to help workers improve their standard of living. He was extremely pleased with the Vice President's announcement that the Administration will amend its procurement procedures to ensure that government contractors maintain good labor relations practices.

As part of its "Justice for Janitors" campaign, SEIU asked the Administration to use its clout as a major tenant to pressure Washington, D.C. landlords to provide better pay and benefits to janitorial workers; At DOL's urging, GSA has been working cooperatively with SEIU on this. Under Stern, the union had a history of using aggressive tactics to organize low wage service workers, particularly in hospitals, nursing homes, and commercial buildings.

Stern believes that the Administration should use its massive involvement in the health care system to press for better treatment of health care workers. He has asked the White House to examine how the Administration's health care spending priorities affect health care workers.
Stern was very supportive of the Administration's decision to appoint SEIU Secretary-Treasurer Betty Bernarczyk to the National Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Health Care Industry.

4. **Doug Dority** -- President of the United Food and Commercial Workers. Dority chairs the Executive Council Committee on Public Affairs. Dority was UFCW's organizing director and is a vocal critic of the anti-union tactics of many large businesses. He led a well publicized battle against Food Lion, exposing the company's mistreatment of employees and its poor safety and health record.

Because UFCW represents workers in poultry and meat packing plants, Dority is anxious to get an ergonomics standard that would protect his members against repetitive motion injuries. Dority is also interested in health care and pensions.

5. **Steve Yokich** -- President of the United Auto Workers. In November 1996, the UAW wrapped up the last of its Big Three auto contracts, signing a three-year agreement with GM after several weeks of difficult bargaining over job security, and local strikes that involved nearly 15,000 autoworkers at several major U.S. assembly plants. Negotiations over local agreements led to a number of strikes through the summer of 1997, but Yokich has said that they are at an end. The Big Three contracts all included corporate commitments to maintain 95 percent of current UAW jobs.

Fast Track is a major issue for the UAW, as well as OSHA, labor law reform and striker replacement.

While the second of the UAW's two national strikes against Caterpillar ended in 1995, the union is still in litigation against the company for alleged unfair labor practices committed during and after the strike.

The UAW-Machinists-Steelworkers merger plan is on track to be completed by the year 2000.

Carolyn Forrest -- Vice President, United Auto Workers.

6. **Jack Barry** -- President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. One-third of IBEW's membership is in construction; one-third in the utility industry, and one-third in manufacturing, broadcasting and telecommunications. IBEW has written DOL to express its very serious concerns over the deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry. The union argues that policy makers have so far ignored the adverse effects of deregulation on communities and workers. Davis-Bacon and other construction industry issues remain a top priority of the IBEW.

7. **Sandra Feldman** -- Elected by the AFT Board on May 6, 1997 to replace the late Al Shanker. Feldman has led the New York City teachers union for many years. Informal talks continue between the AFT and the National Education Association about a possible merger. The union is pushing a national program of teacher accountability and quality standards called "Lesson for Life." Shanker had been a strong supporter of public education and lobbied hard for education funding at all levels.

8. **George Becker** -- President of the United Steelworkers of America. The Steelworkers, UAW and Machinists have agreed to merge into one union by the year 2000. In November, 1996 the Steelworkers won a new 4-year agreement with Bridgestone/Firestone after a lengthy labor dispute that included a 10 month strike and the hiring of 4,000 permanent replacement workers (The USW merged with the Rubber Workers in 1995). As a result of the new agreement, every striker will be recalled.

A 19-day strike by 13,000 Steelworkers at Goodyear Tire Co. ended in May. A 10-month strike involving 4,500 steelworkers at Wheeling-Pitt, where the union and the company were at odds over pension issues, was settled on August 1. John Sellars is the union's V.P. for the rubber industry.

Trade, comp time, job safety, striker replacement, and labor law reform are key legislative issues for the USW and for Becker, a former union organizer. Becker personally lobbied the Administration to reject compromises on the TEAM Act and comp time.

Leon Lynch -- Vice President of the United Steelworkers.

9. **Morty Bahr** -- President of the Communications Workers of America. Bahr is concerned about corporate mergers and the potential for layoffs in the extremely volatile telecommunications industry. ATT and the all the regional bell systems are unionized, but CWA has not been able to organize ATT's main rivals, Sprint and MCI. CWA initially opposed the proposed Bell Atlantic-NYNEX merger, but Bahr recently announced that after months of negotiations, he was satisfied that a positive labor relations framework has been agreed to.

Bahr was a vocal NAFTA critic and has closely followed the accord's implementation with respect to the protection of labor union rights in both the U.S. and Mexico.

Bahr has criticized the Administration for commending Sprint's participation in welfare to work less than a month after the company was found guilty of illegally firing 235 workers at La Conexion Familiar - Sprint's spanish-language facility in San Rafael, Ca. Bahr has asked several Administration officials to help establish a dialogue between CWA and Sprint.

There are no major telephone negotiations in 1997. However, CWA is in the middle of negotiations with Disney/ABC and its contract with NBC expires later this year.

10. **Thomas Buffenbarger** - newly-elected President of the International Association of Machinists. IAM will merge with the UAW and Steelworkers in the year 2000. In September, 1996, the IAM agreed to a new contract with McDonnell-Douglas after a 94 day strike that idled 6,700 hourly workers at the company's aerospace facility in St. Louis

Like the previous president, George Kourpias, Buffenbarger is a vocal critic of U.S. trade policy, particularly the export of critical aerospace technology and the practice of outsourcing airplane parts manufacture to foreign companies. After a lengthy strike against Boeing in 1995, the IAM reached an agreement on outsourcing that protected much of its U.S. workforce.

11. **Doug McCarron** -- President of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. McCarron is focused on building trades issues. Prior to his election as UBC President in September 1995, McCarron was the top carpenters union official in Los Angeles.

12. **Arthur Coia** -- President of the Laborers International Union. Coia chairs the Executive Council's Organizing Committee. Coia

is expanding his union's organizing efforts to include non-building trades occupations, and he is a strong supporter of labor-management cooperation. Under an agreement reached with the government in 1994, the Justice Department maintains strict oversight of the union's activities and can take direct action if Coia does not take sufficient steps to clean up the union himself. The union just held its first secret ballot election for the union's top officers (Coia won re-elected by an overwhelming vote).

The Laborers major legislative issues include Davis Bacon and construction safety. The Labor Department has continued the suspension of regulations -- opposed by the building trades and supported by nonunion contractors - that would permit contractors to use lower paid "semi-skilled helpers" on federal construction projects.

13. **Frank Hanley** -- President of the Operating Engineers. The OEs are mainly a construction union, but 25% of the membership work as stationary engineers in large commercial buildings, hospitals and schools. The OEs maintain an interest in Davis-Bacon, construction safety and training for specialized skills like hazardous cleanup.

14. **Moe Biller** -- President of the American Postal Workers Union. Biller is focused on protecting the postal service from privatization and preserving the integrity of the federal health insurance and retirement systems -- particularly in light of effort to balanced the budget. APWU views Hatch Act reform and Family and Medical Leave as the greatest accomplishments of the first term. In 1984, President Biller and two other federal union presidents were charged with violating the Hatch Act for their support of Presidential candidate Walter Mondale.

15. **Jay Mazur** -- President of UNITE. Mazur was president of the International Ladies Garment Workers before it merged with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers to form UNITE (Union of Neddletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees). ACTWU and the ILG have lost hundreds of thousands of jobs to imports and trade remains a major concern to the new union. Mazur chairs the AFL-CIO Committee on Trade, and has been a very vocal critic of the Administration's trade policies, particularly NAFTA and CBI.

UNITE supports the Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division's program to wipe out garment industry sweatshops, but believes that unionization is a more reliable method of protecting workers than government enforcement of the wage and hour laws, and Mazur has occasionally been critical of the department for specific enforcement decisions. Mazur served on the Apparel Industry

Partnership, a committee that was convened by President Clinton to develop strategies to assure consumers that goods are not manufactured under sweatshop conditions. The Partnership, which was made up of industry leaders, union representatives and consumer organizations, made its recommendations public at a White House event in April, 1997.

UNITE has been lobbying to protect legal immigrants and welfare recipients from cuts in federal aid.

Clayola Brown -- Vice President of UNITE.

16. **Ed Hanley** -- President of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union. HERE represents workers in many of the major hotels, restaurants and casinos in the U.S., and has won some impressive organizing victories during the last year. HERE entered into consent decree with the Justice Department in December, 1995 to rid the union of organized crime.

17. **Boyd Young** -- Newly-elected President of the Paperworkers International Union, headquartered in Nashville. Young replaced retiring President Wayne Glenn. The Paperworkers recently achieved a settlement with Staley, a manufacturer of sweeteners for soft drinks and other products. Staley was one of the three major employers being struck in Decatur, Illinois (the others were Caterpillar and Bridgestone/Firestone). The Paperworkers initiated the effort to ban the use of permanent replacement workers after the bitter International Paper strike in Jay, Maine.

18. **Martin Maddiloni** -- Newly-elected President of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters. Apprenticeship and training, as well as Davis-Bacon and job safety, are important to the UA.

19. **Vincent Sombrotto** -- President of the National Association of Letter Carriers. NALC remains deeply concerned about the federal budget and worries that the Administration will not support adequate funding for the postal service as well as for federal retirement and health benefits.

20. **John Sturdivant** -- President of the American Federation of Government Employees. On January 2, the Washington Post reported that Sturdivant is undergoing treatment for Leukemia, a conditions that was diagnosed on December 20.

AFGE has played a key role in the Administration's reinvention efforts and in keeping the focus on the Republicans in Congress during the government shutdown. During the last Congress the Administration worked with Sturdivant to kill an amendment that would have denied union representatives official time to conduct union business.

21. Al Whitehead-- President of the International Association of Firefighters. In addition to federal safety regulations, the Firefighters are interested in public employee bargaining and pensions. Whitehead requested the Administration's help in a number of areas prior to his union's August convention and was able to announce to his membership that the White House was being responsive to each request. Specifically, the union requested that OSHA clarify its regulations with regard to the so-called "2 in/2 out" rule which requires that two employees remain outside a building fire to provide emergency assistance. On July 29, OSHA issued a memorandum strengthening the regulation.

22. Arthur Moore -- Sheet Metal Workers International Association. The majority of the union's membership is engaged in commercial and industrial construction (they build most U.S. auto plants); about 25% of the union's membership works in the manufacture of construction materials. In addition to Davis-Bacon and construction safety, Moore is concerned about the misclassification of construction workers as independent contractors.

Edward Fire -- Newly-elected President of the International Union of Electronic Workers. Fire defeated long-time President Bill Bywater at the union's November convention. Bywater had been a vocal critic of NAFTA and a strong supporter of striker replacement legislation. Major IUE employers are GE and Westinghouse. Contracts covering nearly 50,000 GE workers were re-negotiated without a strike earlier this year.

Gloria Johnson -- Vice President of International Union of Electronic Workers. She is also the President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women. She served on the President's Advisory Committee on Social Security.

24. Frank Hurt -- President of the Bakery, Confectionery, and Tobacco Workers. Hurt is concerned about FDA jurisdiction over tobacco, but supports the proposed tobacco settlement. He prefers a legislative rather than a regulatory solution to control teenage smoking.

25. Jim LaSala -- President of the Amalgamated Transit Union. ATU represents city bus and subway systems, as well as some long distance bus lines, including Greyhound. ATU's most important issues are mass transit funding and statutory labor protections for transit workers. DOL enforces Sec. 13 © of the Federal Transit Act, which requires that employees of mass transit systems receive employment protections when federal funds are used to operate a transit system. DOL decisions in this area can be controversial with the ATU.

26. **Mike Monroe** -- President of the Painters and Allied Trades.

27. **James Norton** -- President of the Graphic Communications Union. Norton is working in close cooperation with the unionized printing industry to preserve jobs that have been threatened by rapidly changing technologies.

28. **Michael Goodwin** -- President of the Office and Professional Employees Union.

29. **Jack Joyce** -- President of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsman. Joyce is interested in foreign affairs and health care policy, as well as the more traditional building trades' concerns. He supports labor management cooperation efforts in his industry and is concerned about the shortage of skilled tradesmen. He has approached DOL about getting the federal government more involved in labor-management training programs.

30. **Robert Wages** -- President of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union. Wages is outspoken in his criticism of both political parties and has lent financial support to Labor Party Advocates, a group which held a convention last year to consider forming a labor party in the U.S. Wages has spoken up at previous council meetings on the need to focus on the relationship between global environmental issues and U.S. industrial policy. Wages chairs the AFL-CIO Committee on the Environment.

31. **Jake West** -- President of the Ironworkers. West is primarily interested in Davis-Bacon and construction safety. He credits OSHA for a successful negotiated rulemaking on steel erectors.

32. **Mike Sacco** -- President of the Seafarers International Union and the Maritime Trades Department of the AFL-CIO. Sacco's main legislative priorities are the protection of cargo preference laws - requiring that government cargo (foreign aid and military shipments) be shipped on U.S. flagged vessels; and the Jones Act - requiring that sea going cargo within the U.S. be moved on U.S.-built, U.S.-flagged, and U.S.- crewed vessels.

33. **Lenore Miller** -- President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union. Miller represents department store workers as well as poultry processing plant workers throughout the south. She is a member of the Apparel Industry Partnership. RWDSU will soon merge into the UFCW.

34. Sonny Hall -- President of the Transport Workers Union. TWU represents transit, airline and railroad employees. Maintaining federal funding for mass transit and fighting privatization are major issues for TWU.

35. James Hatfield -- Chairman of the Glass, Molders, Pottery, and Plastics Union.

36. Robert Scardelletti -- President of the Transportation Communications Union. During 1996 TCU the other major rail unions negotiated new five-year agreements with the major freight railroad carriers (there are nearly a dozen rail unions, representing over 145,000 workers). TCU was the second to last carrier to reach an agreement. For the first time in nearly a decade, the contracts were hammered out without strikes or imposed settlements.

Under the Railway Labor Act, either side in a contract negotiation may request mediation from the National Mediation Board, and neither party can resort to self help (strike or lockout) until 30 days after they are released from talks by the NMB. The President then has the discretionary authority to appoint an Emergency Board (PEB), which has 30 days to investigate the dispute. (The 1996 talks involved three Presidential Emergency Boards). Another 30-day cooling off period follows the release of the PEB's recommendation.

37. Randy Babbitt -- President of the Airline Pilots Association (ALPA). ALPA represents pilots at most of the major U.S. carriers, including United, U.S. Air, TWA, and Northwest. American's pilots are independent. Pilots are covered by the Railway Labor Act rather than the National Labor Relations Act, and cannot strike until 30 days after being released from negotiations by the National Mediation Board. A strike at American Airlines during President's Day weekend was stopped after a few hours by the appointment of a PEB.

Babbitt has expressed concerns about the effect of airline mergers and bankruptcies on retiree health care and pensions. ALPA waged a lengthy campaign to represent the pilots at Federal Express and, after winning an election there, was unable to win a first contract. Federal Express pilots recently voted to decertify ALPA as its union.

38. Pat Friend -- President of the Association of Flight Attendants.

39. Mac Flemming -- President of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees. During 1996 the BMWE and the other major rail unions negotiated new five-year agreements with the major freight railroad carriers (there are nearly a dozen rail unions, representing over 145,000 workers). BMWE was the last union to reach an agreement. For the first time in nearly a decade, the contracts were hammered out without strikes or imposed settlements.

On August 21, 1996, the President appointed an emergency board to make recommendations in the Amtrak-BMWE collective bargaining dispute.

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40. Arturo Rodriguez -- President of the United Farm Workers Union. Following the death of Caesar Chavez, Rodriguez signaled his intent to continue aggressive organizing in the agricultural fields. The AFL-CIO is currently backing a Farm workers effort to organize Strawberry workers in California.

41. Joe Greene -- President of the American Federation of School Administrators.

42. Sumi Haru -- President of the Screen Actors Guild.

43. Andrew McKenzie -- President of the Leather Goods, Plastic Novelty and Service Workers Union.

44. Gene Upshaw -- President of the Federation of Professional Athletes.

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Josh

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 637-5000

September 12, 1997

Ms. Karen Tramontano
Deputy Assistant to the President
The White House
Room 522, OEOB
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Karen:

The 1997 AFL-CIO National Convention will be held September 22-25 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

On behalf of the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO, I would like to extend a cordial invitation to you to attend all or part of the convention as an honored guest.

If you will be able to join us, we will arrange to have a special guest badge prepared for you that will provide you with access to the convention hall and seating in our reserved guest section on the convention floor. I have enclosed a brief summary of the convention program for your convenience.

If you will be able to join us in Pittsburgh, please call Ms. Digna Emmanuelli of my staff, 202/637-5224, so that we can prepare your special guest registration materials and your guest badge, and discuss your hotel accommodations with you.

I look forward to the opportunity to welcome you to the AFL-CIO Convention.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,

John J. Sweeney

John J. Sweeney
President

Enclosure
cc: Secretary-Treasurer Richard L. Trumka
Executive Vice President Linda Chavez-Thompson
Gerry Shea
Digna Emmanuelli

Debbie Justice
412.803.4153

AFL-CIO
1997 Convention at a Glance

Location

The AFL-CIO Biennial Convention for 1997 will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, at the corner of 10th Street and Penn Avenue. While the convention plenary, as well as many of the convention events, will be held at the Convention Center, numerous activities have been planned for other locations. Most significantly, public space has been provided in each of the convention hotels.

Housing

There are three hotels that have been reserved for the convention:

		Single Rate:
Doubletree	Adjoining Convention Center, 10th & Penn Avenue	$107
Westin William Penn	William Penn Place & 6th Avenue	$122
Hilton	Commonwealth Place	$113

Room reservations are made through the AFL-CIO Meetings & Travel Department at (202) 637-5228.

Dates

The convention opens on the morning of September 22 at the Lawrence Center. However there are numerous pre-convention activities, including convention committee meetings, starting as early as September 17 for some delegates. The AFL-CIO is also sponsoring conferences for organizing, politics, capital strategies and state & local central bodies starting on Friday and running throughout the weekend. Convention business will be completed by Noon on Thursday, September 25.

Registration

Convention delegates and guests should all be pre-registered by their union or labor body. To obtain a badge, all participants are asked to register in the lobby of the convention center in Pittsburgh. Registration opens on Friday, September 19 at Noon and will run until 6:00 PM. Registration will be open from 8:30 until 6:00 on Saturday the 20th and from 8:30 until 8:00 PM Sunday the 21st.

Transportation

The nearest airport is Pittsburgh International Airport, which is located 18 miles west of downtown. Allow at least 30 minutes travel time from the airport. Starting on Friday, September 19, shuttle buses will run between the Hilton, Westin and the convention center regularly throughout the convention days.

AFL-CIO -- 1997 Pre-Convention Conferences

Friday, September 19

Workers Investing in America: A Conference for Union Pension Trustees

9:00 AM to Noon   Hilton Hotel

A national conference of union leaders who serve as pension fund trustees will discuss new pro-worker investment initiatives and strategies. The conference — conducted by the federation's Office of Investment — will focus on the AFL-CIO's Capital Stewardship Program. The Capital Stewardship program seeks to promote pension investment strategies that foster retirement security and long-term economic growth and development.

Building a Political Voice for American Workers: A Conference for Political Activists

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM   Doubletree Hotel

The AFL-CIO's Political Department presents a working session for leaders and executive staff from unions as well as community labor bodies. The conference will focus on labor's strategies for increasing workers' political voices and approaches in the fight for the right to organize.

Saturday, September 20

Building a Movement of American Workers: A National Conference on Organizing

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM   Doubletree Hotel

This conference will focus on the ways labor is successfully changing to organize. Unions and community labor bodies will share strategies for organizing as the cornerstone of labor's comeback effort. Participants will hear from leaders and strategists as well as important allies — including Vice President Al Gore.

Sunday, September 21

Building a Voice for Workers in Our Communities: A Conference for State and Local Central Bodies

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM   Hilton Hotel

Participants will discuss the growing partnership between international unions, state federations, central labor councils and local unions in community-based programs. The conference will focus on the role of the state and local labor communities in educating, motivating and mobilizing union members, defending the right of workers to join unions, organizing new members as well as creating a powerful political and legislative voice for labor. The conference will also focus on ways to leverage labor's influence with political and community allies to increase union membership.

AFL-CIO Convention Calendar (draft as of 8/1)

David L. Lawrence Convention Center / Pittsburgh, PA / September 1997

Wed 9/17

FAST Board Mtg.

Maritime Trades Board Meeting

Thu 9/18

8:00 A AFL-CIO Policy Resolutions Breakfast Meeting

Noon AFL-CIO Program Resolutions Full Committee Lunch Meeting

Noon AFL-CIO Constitution Committee Lunch Meeting

1:00 P AFL-CIO Resolutions Subcommittees:

- Organizing
- Politics
- Global Economy
- Community

4:00 P AFL-CIO Policy Resolutions Meeting

FAST Convention

Maritime Trades Convention

Fri 9/19

8:00 A AFL-CIO Rules Committee Breakfast Meeting

8:00 A AFL-CIO Credentials Committee Breakfast Meeting

9:00 A AFL-CIO Program Resolutions Full Committee Meeting

9:00 A ***Workers Investing In America***: A Conference for Union Pension Trustees

11:00 A AFL-CIO Finance Committee Lunch Meeting

Noon Registration Opens

1:00 P ***Building a Political Voice for American Workers***: A Conference for Political Activists

4:00 P AFL-CIO Constitution Committee Meeting

Maritime Trades Convention

ILCA Exec. Council

Sat 9/20

8:30 A Registration Continues

9:00 A AFL-CIO Executive Council Meeting

1:00 P ***Building a Movement of American Workers***: A National Conference on Organizing

ILCA Convention

Sun 9/21

8:30 A Registration Continues

9:00 A Service at St. Nicholas Croatian Church

10:00 A ***Building a Voice for Workers in our Communities***: A Conference for State & Local Central Bodies

1:30 P Pittsburgh Teach - In Sponsored by local labor community

5:00 P **Welcome to Steel Town Block Party**

ILCA Convention

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
9/22	9/23	9/24	9/25
Day 1: ***Building a Movement of American Workers***	*Day 2:* ***Building a Political Voice for Workers***	*Day 3:* ***Providing a New Voice for Workers in a Changing Economy***	*Day 4:* ***Creating a New Voice for Workers in our Communities***
Opening Ceremonies Recognition of Union Organizing Victories Keynote Address: President Sweeney ***LUNCH RECESS*** Senator Tom Daschle Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Organizing Presentation of the Murray-Green-Meany-Kirkland Community Services Award Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Report of Committee on the Constitution *Evening*: Boat Ride Hosted by Steel Workers	Representative Dick Gephart Report of Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Political Action Bob White, President, CLC* ***LUNCH RECESS*** Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Report of Committee on the Constitution Kweisi Mfume, President, NAACP*	President Bill Clinton Recognition of GE workers from around the globe Presentation of George Meany Human Rights Award to Muchtar Pakpahan Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Representing Workers in the Global Economy Margaret Prosser, National Organizer, British Transport and General Workers' Union Report of Committee on the Constitution Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions ***LUNCH RECESS*** & lunch for international labor guests & council members Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Recognition of significant labor strikes Nominations for Office Evening:Labor Rock Concert	Senator Ted Kennedy Kent Wong, APALA Salute to Union Cities Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Workers in the Community Reverend Jesse Jackson Report of the Committee 2000 Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions ***Noon Adjournment*** AFL-CIO Executive Council Meeting

*TIME TO BE CONFIRMED

AFL-CIO Convention Briefing
September 18, 1997
Agenda

I. Review Schedule

- AFL-CIO (See Attached)
- Vice President
- Secretary of Labor Tuesday, Wednesday [unionized factories – exports]
- President

II. Message

- VP's remarks
- Secretary of Labor's
- President's * level the playing field
- Others * Right/wrong

III. Announcements

- Procurement
- Team Act
- FLSA
- Privatization
- Other

IV. Fast Track

- AFL-CIO
- Administration
- Congress

V. Other issues

- Firefighters
- Climate control

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David L. Lawrence Convention Center / Pittsburgh, PA / September 1997

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Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
9/22	9/23	9/24	9/25
Day 1: ***Building a Movement of American Workers***	*Day 2:* ***Building a Political Voice for Workers***	*Day 3:* ***Providing a New Voice for Workers in a Changing Economy***	*Day 4:* ***Creating a New Voice for Workers in our Communities***
Opening Ceremonies Recognition of Union Organizing Victories Keynote Address: President Sweeney ***LUNCH RECESS*** Senator Tom Daschle Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Organizing Presentation of the Murray-Green-Meany-Kirkland Community Services Award Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Report of Committee on the Constitution *Evening*: Boat Ride Hosted by Steel Workers	Representative Dick Gephart Report of Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Political Action Bob White, President, CLC* ***LUNCH RECESS*** Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Report of Committee on the Constitution Kweisi Mfume, President, NAACP*	President Bill Clinton Recognition of GE workers from around the globe Presentation of George Meany Human Rights Award to Muchtar Pakpahan Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Representing Workers in the Global Economy Margaret Prosser, National Organizer, British Transport and General Workers' Union Report of Committee on the Constitution Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions ***LUNCH RECESS*** & lunch for international labor guests & council members Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions Recognition of significant labor strikes Nominations for Office Evening:Labor Rock Concert	Senator Ted Kennedy Kent Wong, APALA Salute to Union Cities Report of the Committee on Program Resolutions: Subcommittee on Workers in the Community Reverend Jesse Jackson Report of the Committee 2000 Report of Committee on Policy Resolutions ***Noon Adjournment*** AFL-CIO Executive Council Meeting

*TIME TO BE CONFIRMED