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Daily Press Guidance

**Thursday
May 1, 1997**

For Internal Use Only

Press Guidance

Thursday, May 1, 1997

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Tuskegee
May 1, 1997

On May 16, 1997, the President will hold a Rose Garden ceremony at which he will formally apologize on behalf of the government for the Tuskegee syphilis study. There are 14 surviving members of the original study. They range in age from 87 to 100 years old, but we hope that some of them will come for the ceremony. (CDC will pick up the tab for their flights to Washington.)

Q: Why weren't the people responsible for the study prosecuted?

A: In the 1940s, and even in 1972, when the study was finally ended, the standards for informed consent for medical experiments were much lower. This particular case was litigated in 1973 -- restitution was made to the victims of the experiments. In the last 25 years, we have worked hard to change those standards, so that something like the Tuskegee syphilis study can never happen again.

If they want more information, they can call the CDC -- Kent Taylor at 404/634-3286. He can give a full history of the Tuskegee study and the ensuing litigation.

Drafted: MEGlynn
Cleared: Melissa Skolfield

GUIDANCE ON DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL
MAY 1, 1997

- * We've called on the Congress to pass a disaster relief bill that is free of extraneous provisions that will slow it down.
- * **They should not take advantage of the suffering of hundreds of thousands of disaster victims to force through extraneous and controversial proposals.**
- * **If Republicans insist on attaching to this bill their proposal to impose drastic cuts in education and other domestic programs as the condition for keeping the government open at the end of the fiscal year, the President will be forced to veto it.** It seems particularly unhelpful when we are negotiating in good faith right now to achieve a bipartisan balanced budget agreement. We hope they will seek to achieve their budget goals through that process and not politicize the disaster relief legislation.
- * **We have other objections to this bill as well. These include provisions related to the 2000 census and the Endangered Species Act.**
- * (The bill has been adopted now by the Senate Appropriations Committee. We don't know exactly when it will be considered, but next week seems likely. House has not passed its version yet either.)

TOIV



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

(background only)

*Hold for
Mrs. book
brief
-M*

THE DIRECTOR

April 30, 1997

The Honorable Ted Stevens
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As the Senate Appropriations Committee develops its version of the bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, we ask that you consider the Administration's views. These views supplement those included in my letter to the Senate Committee of April 28, 1997, which provided the Administration's views on the bill as reported by the House Appropriations Committee.

It is our understanding that the draft bill provides \$5.6 billion in urgently needed disaster assistance funds. To ensure that these funds reach the hundreds of thousands of citizens in approximately 23 States who desperately need our help and to support the efficient operation of our troops abroad, it is essential that this bill remain free of extraneous provisions that could slow its progress. Unfortunately, we understand that the Committee will include a number of such provisions in the bill.

The President has indicated that he will veto this bill if it includes strongly objectionable extraneous provisions. It is our understanding that the draft bill includes:

- o a provision that would create an automatic continuing resolution for FY 1998. While the goal of ensuring that the Government does not shut down again in the absence of enacted appropriations is a worthy one, such a provision is clearly extraneous to this emergency disaster relief legislation. The particular version that we understand will be included in the Committee bill is premature, prejudging the outcome of the budget talks by locking in low levels of discretionary spending. Such language is unacceptable and as a result, the President would veto this bill if this language is included.
- o a provision prohibiting the Department of Commerce from developing a plan for the 2000 decennial census that would use sampling. The Administration strongly opposes the provision. The Secretary of Commerce has indicated that he would recommend veto of the bill if it contains this provision. Without sampling, the cost of the decennial census will increase as its accuracy, especially with regard to minorities and groups that are traditionally undercounted, will decrease. The

1990 decennial census was the first to be less accurate than the one that preceded it. Congress instructed the Census Bureau to consult with the National Academy of Sciences to find a way to improve the results. These experts unanimously recommended the use of statistical sampling.

- o a provision that would waive certain provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Administration strongly opposes the provision. The Secretary of Interior has indicated that he would recommend veto of the bill if it contains this provision. Such a waiver is unnecessary and would lead to needless uncertainty and litigation over the definition of what constitutes a covered "repair" or "maintenance" activity under the waiver. Current law allows Federal agencies to implement effective emergency procedures in order to accommodate the ESA during emergency responses to floods, and these procedures are routinely utilized.
- o a provision that would prevent the Department of the Interior from promulgating rules on RS 2477 and prohibit implementation of the Department's January 1997 policy guidance on that legislation. The Administration strongly opposes this provision. The Secretary of Interior has indicated that he would recommend veto of the bill if it contains this provision. The scope of this provision far exceeds a similar but more limited provision in the FY 1997 Interior Appropriations Act. The Administration believes that the January 1997 policy fairly balances the interests of a right-of-way claimant with Federal land planning and management responsibilities.
- o a provision establishing a block grant to States to assist legal immigrants losing their eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid. The Administration would oppose a block grant for this purpose. A block grant would fail to ensure that legal immigrants are provided protections wherever they live in our country and would not provide long-term protection. It would also force States to recreate an administrative structure that already exists for SSI and Medicaid. The Administration has proposed legislation to restore SSI and Medicaid benefits for legal immigrants. The Administration would be supportive of a simple extension of benefits through the end of the fiscal year to ensure that the Congress has sufficient time to enact our legislative proposals.

Finally, the Administration understands that an amendment may be offered that would prohibit implementation of an executive order that encourages Federal agencies to consider using project labor agreements where it will promote economical and efficient Federal construction projects. The Administration would strongly oppose such an amendment.

The Administration's views discussed here are based on incomplete information and are, necessarily, preliminary. Additional concerns with other issues will be provided to the Committee as information becomes available.

We must work together to ensure that this bill gets enacted as quickly as possible. The recovery of hundreds of thousands of Americans from the tragedy of the recent natural disasters depends upon our action. We urge the Senate Committee to work toward our mutual goal of helping these victims of disaster by reporting a bill that is free of extraneous provisions.

Sincerely,



Franklin D. Raines
Director

Identical Letter Sent to Honorable Robert C. Byrd



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

April 30, 1997
(House)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

(THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN COORDINATED BY OMB WITH THE CONCERNED AGENCIES.)

H.R. 2 - Housing Opportunity and Responsibility Act of 1997 (Lazio (R) NY and 3 cosponsors)

The Administration supports many of the objectives of H.R. 2, and appreciates the passage of several amendments that improve the bill as well as the determination to enact long overdue program reforms. However, the Administration remains opposed to passage of H.R. 2 unless it is amended to address the concerns summarized below (and explained in more detail in the attachment).

H.R. 2 would codify much of the Administration's agenda for transforming the Nation's public housing system by: (1) facilitating the demolition and replacement of severely distressed housing developments, including replacement with mixed-income housing through partnerships with the private sector; (2) demanding prompt improvement of troubled public housing agencies (PHAs) or replacing their management; (3) promoting rent policies and coordination with supportive service efforts that encourage work; and (4) getting tougher on crime.

Administration Concerns. Although the Administration appreciates the purposes of H.R. 2 and the improvements in the bill, the Administration remains opposed to H.R. 2 unless it is amended to:

- Provide more targeting of scarce housing assistance to the neediest families;
- Set the payment standard at no higher than the Fair Market Rent;
- Set the minimum rent at \$25 per month for public housing and tenant-based assistance and allow HUD to grant hardship exemptions;
- Address the serious flaws in the home rule flexible grant option;
- Delete the "Housing Evaluation and Accreditation Board";
- Delete the "self-sufficiency agreement" between PHAs and public housing residents or recipients of tenant-based assistance;
- Delete Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) sanctions against local governments contributing to the troubled status of a PHA; and
- Delete the apparent requirement that private owners of federally assisted housing be provided with information regarding the criminal conviction records of adult applicants for, or tenants of, that housing.

Pay-As-You-Go Scoring. H.R. 2 would affect direct spending; therefore, it is subject to the pay-as-you-go requirement of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990. OMB's preliminary scoring estimate of this bill is under development.

* * *

Equal Employment Opportunity Guidelines on the Mentally Ill
April 30, 1997

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with Title I of the Americans Disabilities Act of 1990, employers may not discriminate against qualified workers with mental illness, may not ask job applicants if they have a history of mental illness and must take reasonable steps to accommodate employees with psychiatric or emotional problems. In order to provide practical guidance to employers who might have questions about this complicated law, the EEOC regularly issues guidelines -- both internally, to inspectors, and externally, to employers.

The New York Times wrote about these guidelines today, but they were in fact issued last March. Attached is the press release and introduction to the guidelines.

Q: Was the President involved or informed of these new guidelines?

A: No. This is already a matter of law. These guidelines were issued several weeks ago. The EEOC is an independent agency.

Drafted: MEGlynn
Cleared: Dawn Chirwa, WH Counsel
Ellen Vargas, EEOC

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**NEWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, March 26, 1997

CONTACT: Claire Gonzales
Reginald Welch
(202) 663-4900
TDD: (202) 663-4494

**EEOC RELEASES POLICY GUIDANCE CONCERNING THE APPLICATION
OF THE ADA TO PERSONS WITH PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES**

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) announced today the release of a policy guidance that answers various questions concerning the application of the employment provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to persons with psychiatric disabilities. The enforcement guidance is entitled *The Americans with Disabilities Act and Psychiatric Disabilities*.

In releasing the document, EEOC Chairman Gilbert F. Casellas said, "The guidance answers the most commonly asked questions about how the ADA affects persons with psychiatric disabilities. It provides practical instruction to employers and persons with psychiatric disabilities on their respective rights and responsibilities."

The guidance addresses the issue of what constitutes a psychiatric disability that is protected by the ADA. It makes clear that a qualified individual with a psychiatric disability is covered by the ADA even if medication is taken to control the effects of the disability.

Other issues addressed in the guidance include:

- when an employer may ask applicants or employees about psychiatric disabilities or require medical examinations (including psychiatric examinations);
- what types of reasonable accommodations may be effective for persons with psychiatric disabilities; and
- when an employer may hold a person with a psychiatric disability to workplace conduct standards.

-- more --

ADA and Psychiatric Disabilities – page 2

The text of the policy guidance will be available on EEOC's web-site at www.eeoc.gov shortly after the release of the document. Also within a few days of the release date, hard copies of the publication may be obtained by calling the Commission's Publications Distribution Center at 1-800-669-3362 (TDD 1-800-800-3302), or writing to EEOC's Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs, 1801 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20507.

In addition to enforcing Title I of the ADA, which prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in the private sector and state and local governments, EEOC enforces Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act; the Equal Pay Act; prohibitions against discrimination affecting individuals with disabilities in the federal government; and sections of the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

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Press Guidance

May 1, 1997

FDR MEMORIAL DEDICATION

Historical Background: The FDR Commission was created by a 1955 Act of Congress, in order to formulate plans for design, construction and location of an FDR Memorial and make recommendations to Congress and the President. In 1982, Congress and the President approved the general design developed by the FDR Commission. Yesterday, Senator Inouye (D-HI and FDR Commission Co-Chairman) introduced legislation modifying the FDR Memorial with the construction of an additional statue, bas relief or similar sculpture of President Roosevelt in his wheelchair. The Department of Interior has been working very closely with Senator Inouye.

POTUS Schedule for tomorrow:

- 9:30am POTUS arrives at FDR Memorial and gives remarks at conclusion of extensive program.
- 10:30am POTUS walks over and cuts ribbon to memorial and then proceeds with FLOTUS to private walking tour with Lawrence Halprin (memorial architect).

Q and A:

- Q: Are you concerned that protests by the disability community will disrupt the dedication?
- A: It is our understanding the National Organization on Disability, which is running the FDR in a Wheelchair Campaign, plans to have a celebration rather than a protest.

FYI for briefer: Tomorrow, NOD plans to place an ad in the Washington Post thanking both President Clinton and Senator Inouye.

See attached fact sheets.

Silverman

Conversation with Bill White/OPL x67032



FDR
MEMORIAL

FACT SHEET

THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL

On May 2, 1997 in Washington, D.C., the Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) Memorial, located along the famous Cherry Tree Walk on the Tidal Basin of the national Mall, will be dedicated. The site for the FDR Memorial is located on an axis of the 1901 McMillan Plan which also includes the locations of the nation's Presidential monuments and memorials to Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln.

**FRANKLIN DELANO
ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL
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Dorann H. Gunderson

Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Memorial Commission
652 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202.228.2491

Encompassing over seven acres, the FDR Memorial provides a historical narrative of President Roosevelt's twelve years in office from 1933 to 1945 in a park-like setting of four outdoor gallery rooms, one for each of FDR's terms in office. San Francisco architect Lawrence Halprin has created an emotionally compelling design of natural landscaping, water, sculpture and quotations carved in walls of carnelian granite. From the stark days of the Great Depression to the powerful drama of World War II, the Memorial depicts the great social, economic and cultural upheavals which marked FDR's presidency. Artists Leonard Baskin, Neil Estern, Robert Graham, Thomas Hardy and George Segal have created vivid images in bronze of President Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and the people and events of the Roosevelt administration. Master stone carver John Benson has beautifully carved FDR's memorable words on the granite walls throughout the Memorial.

Various uses of water, from waterfalls to reflection pools, are found throughout the Memorial. Water is symbolic of many of the events of President Roosevelt's life, from his home at Campobello, to the time he spent convalescing at Warm Springs, as well as the historic wartime meetings held on ships in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

The development of the FDR Memorial dates back to 1946, when Congress introduced a resolution authorizing the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission. Public Law 84-372, passed in 1955, made it official. A site in West Potomac Park was approved by Congress in 1959. After several design competitions, Lawrence Halprin was selected by the Commission in 1974 to design the Memorial and his design was approved in 1978. In 1991, ground was broken for the Memorial in West Potomac Park and construction began in 1994.

Following a 1996 directive from the FDR Memorial Commission's Co-Chairmen, the National Park Service's Harpers Ferry Center is creating a replica of President Roosevelt's wheelchair for display in the Memorial's Entry Building. One of President Roosevelt's original wheelchairs was initially sought, however, the condition of the existing chairs required that a replica be used instead. The chair is being constructed under the supervision of a cabinet maker, wheelmaker and metalsmith. The FDR

Memorial is the first memorial in Washington, D.C. to be purposely designed to be wheelchair accessible.

The total cost for the Memorial is approximately \$48 million, of which \$42.5 million came from federal appropriations and the remainder is being raised from private, non-federal funds. Approximately \$5.5 million in cash and pledges from private sources has been raised by the Commission's Capital Campaign.

In commemoration of the Memorial's opening, an FDR \$5.00 gold coin will be issued May 15, 1997. Pre-release sales of the coin will be available through the U.S. Mint.

A Walk Through The Memorial

Visitors can stroll through a series of outdoor gallery rooms as they enter the Memorial. First they will pass by the Eagle Alcove with this inscription: *"This Generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny."*

Room One sets the stage for FDR's presidency with Tom Hardy's large bas-relief bronze sculpture of the Great Seal of the President as it appeared at President Roosevelt's first inauguration. Next, a life-sized bas-relief depicts FDR waving from an open car during the parade of his first inaugural. The following are inscriptions of FDR's immortal words carved into carnelian granite by master stone carver John Benson that appear in Room One: *"No Country, however rich, can afford the waste of its human resources. Demoralization caused by vast unemployment is our greatest extravagance. Morally, it is the greatest menace to our world order." "I pledge you, I pledge myself, to a New Deal for the American people." "Among American citizens there should be no forgotten men and no forgotten races." "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."*

As visitors move through the passageway to Room Two, these words are inscribed: *"Men and nature must work hand in hand. The throwing out of balance of the resources of nature throws out of balance also the lives of men." "In these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and shall choose the path of social justice...the path of faith, the path of hope and the path of love toward our fellow men."*

As visitors stroll to Room Two, images of the Great Depression appear. Three sculptural ensembles by George Segal capture the mood of the times: DESPAIR - A worn and weary rural couple; HUNGER - Life-sized figures in a breadline; and HOPE - An intent figure of a man listening to one of FDR's famous "fireside chats" on a radio. Roosevelt's New Deal legislation is commemorated in a wall-sized bas-relief sculpture which faces five free-standing columns by artist Robert Graham. The inscriptions in Room Two include: *"I never forget that I live in a house owned by all the American people and that I have been given their trust." "I see one-third of a nation ill-housed, ill-clad and ill-nourished. The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." "It is time to extend planning to a wider field, in this instance comprehending in one great project many states directly concerned with the basin of one of our greatest rivers." "I propose to create a Civilian Conservation Corps to be used in simple*

work...more important, however, than the material gains will be the moral and spiritual value of such work."

The passageway to Room Three includes these words: *"We must scrupulously guard the civil rights and civil liberties of our citizens, whatever their background. We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization." "We must be the great arsenal of Democracy."*

With Roosevelt's third term came the upheaval of World War II. In Room Three, the granite wall which has guided visitors through the Memorial is reduced to rubble, symbolizing the havoc of war. The room is dominated by a 9-foot-tall sculpture by Neil Estern of FDR, seated, his cape draped around him and his dog Fala at his feet. Inscribed throughout Room Three are these words: *"We have faith that future generations will know that here, in the middle of the twentieth century, there came a time when men of good will found a way to unite, and produce, and fight to destroy the forces of ignorance, and intolerance, and slavery, and war." "They (who) seek to establish systems of government based on the regimentation of all human beings by a handful of individual rulers...call this a new order. It is not new and it is not order." "I have seen war. I have seen war on land and sea. I have seen blood running from the wounded...I have seen the dead in the mud. I have seen cities destroyed...I have seen children starving. I have seen the agony of mothers and wives. I hate war."*

As visitors move to the final room, the words inscribed are: *"More than an end to war, we want an end to the beginnings of all war."*

As visitors enter Room Four, the theme becomes The Seeds of Peace as Roosevelt enters his last term in office at the end of World War II. A dramatic waterfall cascades to a series of sparkling pools, creating a water garden on the edge of a dramatic plaza. Eleanor Roosevelt is depicted in a sculpture by Neil Estern with the United Nations symbol in the background -- the first time a First Lady has been so memorialized. A 30-foot-long bas-relief by Leonard Baskin depicts Roosevelt's funeral cortege -- his bier on a caisson pulled by horses with mourners following. Room Four includes a timeline of the landmark events of FDR's life carved in the granite. Also included are the following words: *"Unless the peace that follows recognizes that the whole world is one neighborhood and does justice to the whole human race, the germs of another world war will remain as a constant threat to mankind." "Freedom of speech, Freedom of worship, Freedom from want, Freedom from fear." "The structure of world peace cannot be the work of one man, or one party, or one nation...it must be a peace which rests on the cooperative effort of the whole world." "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith."*

Visitors may exit the Memorial at the Tidal Basin's Cherry Tree Walk with spectacular views of both the Washington Monument and the Jefferson Memorial. The FDR Memorial will be maintained by the National Park Service, and it will be staffed from 8 a.m. to midnight every day of the year except Christmas.

A RENDEZVOUS
WITH DESTINY



FDR
MEMORIAL

FRANKLIN DELANO
ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL
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Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Memorial Commission

632 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

202 224 2491

FACT SHEET

**INTERESTING FACTS AND STATISTICS ON THE
CONSTRUCTION
OF THE FDR MEMORIAL**

The May 2, 1997 Dedication of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) Memorial in West Potomac Park, Washington, D.C., will mark only the third time this century that the nation has dedicated a presidential memorial. The last time was in 1943 when President Roosevelt dedicated the Jefferson Memorial. The following lists some of the interesting facts and statistics surrounding the construction of this Memorial to our nation's 32nd President:

- The FDR Memorial is comprised of approximately 7.5 acres along the famous Cherry Tree Walk at the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C.
- The Memorial will be built at a precise point designated for such a monument by the originators of the 1901 McMillan Plan. Anchored at both ends of the plan by the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, and focused on the Washington Monument across the waters of the Tidal Basin, the appropriateness of this being the fourth major presidential memorial site is as clear today as it was when it was so designated by the McMillan Commission.
- Designer Lawrence Halprin started work on the project in 1974. He chose Cold Spring Granite in 1975 for the walls and floors of the Memorial. He wanted to use a stone similar to the stone used on the Roosevelt Estate at Hyde Park in New York.
- Quarried in South Dakota and fabricated in Cold Spring, Minnesota, the majority of the granite is Carnelian with a small amount of Academy Black. Carnelian granite is characterized by the reddish-pink veins which run through the stone. Other Washington, D.C. structures using carnelian granite include the National Catholic Shrine and the Vietnam Women's Memorial.
- More than 6,000 tons of granite, enough to erect an 80-story building, is used in the construction of the FDR Memorial. That includes 75,000 square feet of granite pavers and 31,000 pieces of stone. The approximate weight of the granite supplied is 4,500 tons. The heaviest stone is for a foundation block in Room #4, weighing 76,000 pounds. The largest single stone in the Memorial is located in Room #3 and measures 21 feet long by 6 feet high.

-MORE-

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-2-

- Approximately 8,200 cubic yards of concrete has been used plus steel piling which stretches 10 miles long.
- Plantings in the FDR Memorial include 300 major trees and 3,000 shrubs which were added to existing plantings.
- The FDR Memorial is the first presidential memorial to honor a First Lady. A bronze statue of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt by sculptor Neil Estern, depicts her standing in front of a symbol of the United Nations, to which she was the United States' first Delegate.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COLD SPRING GRANITE COMPANY, PLEASE CONTACT: Rose McKinney, Foley Sackett at 612/338-8000 or John Mattke, Cold Spring Granite at 320/685-5073.

Press Guidance
May 1, 1997

FCC Spectrum Probe

- I would refer you to the Department of Justice. It is our understanding that they are investigating possible anti-competitive conduct by bidders in connection with the FCC's auctioning of spectrum (for Personal Communications Services).

Q: What do reports of the DOJ investigation of rigged bids for the FCC auctions mean for the budget?

A: Spectrum auctions are an effective way to allocate a scarce public resource irrespective of their budgetary impact. They get licenses into the hands of people who value them quickly, efficiently, and fairly.

There was an allegation of bid-signaling during the auction that ended in January. The FCC referred that allegation to the Department of Justice. It is our understanding that both the FCC and the Department of Justice are reviewing that allegation. We do not have any comment on those ongoing DOJ investigation, but I can say that this is very unlikely to have any serious budget implications. If these allegations prove to be true, in addition to any civil and criminal penalties, the licenses can be taken back and reauctioned.

Melody per Myron Marlin, DOJ and Jake Siewert, NEC

Press Guidance

May 1, 1997

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Background: Yesterday, a Federal Judge in San Francisco ruled that the federal government cannot penalize California doctors who recommend marijuana to their patients. The administration has been opposed to both Proposition 215 (CA) and Proposition 200 (AZ) and will likely appeal this decision.

- The Department of Justice is carefully reviewing the judges opinion and will consider all available legal avenues, including an appeal.

Silverman

Conversation Greg King/DOJ

GUIDANCE ON DC/CAP. PUNISH./MAYOR BARRY/MEMO. OF UNDERSTANDING
APRIL 21, 1997

- * As far as we know, there is no direct connection between the Mayor's statement and the memorandum of understanding.
- * The proposed memorandum of understanding does not require that the District impose capital punishment. It establishes a process for creating sentencing guidelines for the District that would be comparable to Federal guidelines. Those guidelines do not deal with capital punishment; they deal only with minimum sentences.
- * (If asked about President's view) Obviously, the President's position on capital punishment is well known. But I don't know whether he has a view specifically on the District's policy.

TOIV

Conversation with Haas

Press Guidance
April 29, 1997

DNC Gala

On Thursday, the President will attend a large DNC fundraiser at the D.C. Armory followed by a Saxophone Club smaller low-dollar fundraiser at the Hyatt Regency. He is scheduled to depart the White House at 7:15pm and return at 9:45pm. All money raised Thursday goes to the DNC.

Washington Gala

- The 1997 Presidential Victory Fund Gala (or Washington Gala) event is the largest national DNC fundraising event. This seated dinner includes representatives from all fifty states.
- *The event is open press.*
- The DNC expects 2,500 people in attendance at the Armory. Their goal is to raise \$4 million. They are still hoping to meet that target.
- Upon arrival, the President will attend a private reception with 45-50 people. He will then proceed to the dinner.
- Comedian Tommy Lee Jones, MC, will introduce the President, the First Lady and Tipper on stage. Each will make remarks. The President will conclude.

Saxophone Club

- All four principals will then proceed to the Saxophone Club event at the Hyatt Regency.
- *The event is either pool or open press depending on the size of the room.*
- The DNC expects 400-500 people to attend this event. The DNC was hoping to raise ~~\$600,000~~. At this point, they are short of that goal.
\$100,000
- Billy Baldwin is the MC.

Mellody per scheduling and Melissa Bonney, DNC Press Secretary

DNC GALA ON MAY 1st AND PRESIDENTIAL FUNDRAISING

April 29, 1997

Background: The *Wall Street Journal* reported today that fundraising for the Democratic Party's Gala on Thursday (5/1/97) is significantly down in comparison to previous years because of questions about fundraising and the '96 election. Contrary to what the *Journal* reported, it is not unusual for cash on hand to be at this level before an event. It is also important to note that political giving always drops off during a non-election year and that the DNC is confident we will meet the goals set for the Gala and Saxophone event.

The goal for the Gala is \$4 million. The DNC has collected over \$700,000. Tickets for the Gala are \$1,500 per person or 15,000 a table. The event is at the DC Armory.

The goal for the Saxophone Club event is \$100,000. The DNC has collected \$5,000. Tickets for the Saxophone Club event are \$250. The event will be at the Hyatt Regency.

The *Journal* also reported that labor union support is down from previous years. As DNC Chairman Steve Grossman explained in the article, not a single labor union, union president or political director has declined to support the DNC when that support was requested.

CNN's *Inside Politics* is working on a story on this subject for today's broadcast.

Suggested talking points per Amy Weiss Tobe, DNC Communications Director:

- Political giving always drops off during a non-election year. In 1993, just after the President was elected, the DNC's Gala raised \$3-4 million. In both 1994 and 1995 the Gala raised \$4-5 million. This is not at all unusual. The DNC is confident that they will meet their goals and that the Gala will be a terrific event.
- The Republicans are raising money for their Gala from big business and wealthy people who can afford to give more than \$100,000. The DNC is selling one ticket at a time for significantly less.
- The American public is supporting the Gala and the Democratic Party because they believe in what the Clinton Administration stands for. They are continuing to stand with this President and this Party because this Administration is moving the country in the right direction.
- DNC fundraising is going well. In the first quarter the DNC raised \$8 million -- exceeding their goal of \$7 million.

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- There are several important races in 97 and 98 that the DNC is focused on and wants to make sure that Democrats are competitive in. For example, there is a special election in New Mexico on May 13th, there are gubernatorial elections in New Jersey and Virginia this fall and they are busy recruiting new candidates for House and Senate races in 1998.
 - The President is the titular head of the Democratic Party. Helping the Democratic Party raise money to be competitive in those races is the reason the President is helping with the Gala.

I hope this is helpful. If you have questions or would like more information, please give me or Melissa Bonney, the DNC's new Press Secretary, a call at 202/863-8148.

ZAIRE

RICHARDSON MISSION

Q: Will Mobutu/Kabila hold talks: details about talks; what's the U.S. role in talks?

A: Ambassador Richardson has secured agreement in principle by President Mobutu and rebel Alliance leader Kabila to meet aboard a South African ship off the African west coast.

We understand the South African Government still plans for talks to take place tomorrow, May 2, under the auspices of United Nations mediator Mohamed Sahnoun and President Mandela. We expect President Mobutu to board the vessel in Point Noire and Alliance leader Kabila to arrive by helicopter shortly after.

We need to stress that the Mobutu-Kabila meeting is an important next step, but many difficult issues remain to be resolved.

Ambassador Richardson's role has been to help facilitate this meeting; however, conducting the actual meeting is the responsibility of UN mediator Sahnoun and South African President Mandela.

Q: Will Ambassador Richardson be present for talks? Will the U.S. mediate?

We do not know yet whether Ambassador Richardson will be present at the talks. As we noted, mediation will be the responsibility of the United Nations and the Government of South Africa. Ambassador Richardson is discussing with UN Special Representative of the Secretary General (UNSRSG) Sahnoun and the South African Government how best to be helpful to their efforts.

Q: What is Ambassador Richardson's travel schedule?

A: Today Ambassador Richardson is in Libreville, Gabon and Luanda, Angola. Tomorrow morning he will be in Point Noire, Congo.

Q: What is the security situation in Kinshasa?

A: Despite advances of the rebel Alliance into the Kikwit region, and the reported capture of Bumba yesterday, Kinshasa remains calm. The airport and ferry are functioning normally, and markets are open.

Q: Do we think the rebels have infiltrated Kinshasa?

We have seen some reports, but we have no information that suggests that the rebel Alliance has infiltrated Kinshasa.

EASTERN ZAIRE: UPDATE ON RWANDAN REFUGEES

Q: Would you give an update on the refugees in eastern Zaire?

A: The United States is deeply disturbed by continued reports of humanitarian abuses in eastern Zaire. As more and more reports on mass killings and abductions of refugees come to light, it is imperative that the UN human rights team which was prevented from entering eastern Zaire yesterday be allowed to investigate. Those responsible for these heinous crimes must be brought to justice.

The United States calls on the Alliance to cooperate fully with UNHCR and other relief agencies in locating, assisting, and repatriating the remaining refugees in eastern Zaire.

There must not be any further attempts to hinder relief and repatriation efforts.

This message was delivered to Alliance leader Kabila yesterday by U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Bill Richardson, during their meeting in Lubumbashi.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata who is visiting Washington is meeting with senior White House and State Department officials today about the situation in eastern Zaire.

Q: Could you give a readout of Ambassador Richardson's meeting with Kabila on the refugee situation?

Ambassador Richardson underscored the U.S.'s deep concern about the treatment of the Rwandan refugees who remain in eastern Zaire and the reports of mass killings and pressed for Alliance cooperation on humanitarian assistance, including repatriation, and protection of civilians in accordance with international humanitarian law.

Mr. Kabila indicated that the 60 day deadline for repatriating all the refugees was not firm. He also offered to accept a UN human rights team to investigate reports of mass killings but rejected the inclusion of UN Human Rights Commission's Special Rapporteur for Zaire, Roberto Garreton.

Ambassador Richardson traveled today from Kisangani to Biaro to visit some of the approximately 10,000 refugees who have re-emerged from the forest.

Q: Is assistance reaching the refugees now and what is happening on the repatriation front?

A: A trainload of 900 refugees arrived in Kisangani from Biaro today. They are being transported to a transit site near the airport for repatriation to Rwanda.

Some 200 refugees, mainly unaccompanied children, are scheduled to be airlifted from Kisangani to either Kigali or Gisenyi today.

55 refugees have been evacuated by air since Sunday including 21 seriously ill refugees who were flown from Kisangani to Gisenyi yesterday. One of these died and two others required amputations.

3 UNHCR trucks with food and other supplies were able to reach Biaro yesterday and bring out the 21 critically ill refugees. 8 other trucks were refused permission to proceed by Alliance authorities.

Another convoy of 3 trucks drove to Biaro this morning to deliver food and pick up more refugees and bring them to Kisangani.

Teams of UN and other relief agency personnel as well as USAID DART members who have established contact with the refugees who are now emerging from the forests report appalling conditions among the refugees.

All were tired, hungry and weak. Some bore machete wounds; others were barely alive, suffering from starvation as well as wounds. Several dozen were found dead. One of the most disturbing aspects was the large number of unaccompanied children.

Q: Have the children who were abducted from Lwiro been found?

A: There are initial reports this morning that the 50 children who were abducted by soldiers from a pediatric hospital in Lwiro, some 20 miles from Bukavu, have been found near Buakavu.

Q: What is the U.S. doing to help?

A: As I have said, Ambassador Richardson is in Zaire now.

Special Envoy to the Great Lakes, Ambassador Dick Bogosian has called Mr. Kabila to express concern and call for his cooperation; a similar demarche has been made by our Embassy political counselor who is based in Goma.

The United States made a recent contribution of \$3 million to UNHCR in support of its airlift repatriation plan.

The U.S. has provided over a billion dollars in humanitarian assistance to the Great Lakes region since late 1993.

A USAID DART is in Kisangani working closely with relief agencies.

MARZOOK

- **"We are precluded by a court order from speaking about the case."**

(FYI for info only: We have accepted the Jordanians offer and are working on our response.)

MEXICO

Drug Agency Overhaul, Money Laundering

- We recognize the drug cartels in Mexico have used the profits of their illegal trade to try to corrupt the law enforcement institutions who go after them. And we recognize that they have managed to corrupt officials both in Mexico and the United States.
- We are fully committed to working with Mexico to turn this situation around. Very pleased about Mexico's announcement yesterday to abolish its drug enforcement agency and to replace it with a new organization staffed with personnel specially screened for taking on the tough assignment of prosecuting the major criminal organizations. This important step by Mexico recognizes dimensions of problem and their desire to take serious, remedial action.
- We look forward to assisting Mexico to fight what is a common problem and common endeavor for both countries.

Human Rights

- Acknowledge that Mexico is undergoing significant political and economic change, opening its political process and becoming more pluralistic. Political and electoral reforms passed last year promise further change in this direction. These changes inevitably raises tensions, particularly before elections (in July).
- USG makes human rights a high priority topic in our relations with Government of Mexico. State Department's annual human rights report on Mexico is good example of our ongoing attention to these concerns.
- Cannot comment on specifics of Americas Watch report until we have a chance to study it.
- Our security assistance program with Mexico is dedicated to counternarcotics purposes and we have in place a strict monitoring procedure to ensure equipment is used for that purpose.
- A key goal in the fight against international narcotics trafficking has been and continues to be to break up major narcotics trafficking cartels and prevent drug traffickers and companies and individuals fronting for them from enjoying their ill-gotten profits.
- We do not accept the notion that there is such a thing as a legitimate commercial venture by a drug trafficker. The United States has taken measures against the Colombian cartels and their front companies to prevent them from laundering their illicit gains into the market place.
- This is both illegal and an unfair advantage to legitimate business. We will not tolerate it.

If pressed about Mexico:

- In the fight against narco-trafficking and related international organized crime, we will consider all appropriate tools available. However, we will not comment on specifics.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

- **Ambassador Ross will travel to the Middle East at the beginning of next week.**
- **We are trying hard to get the process back on track.**
- **The President and Secretary Albright are sending Ross back again to consult further with the parties on the steps they are prepared to take to reenergize the process.**
- **When Dennis returns, the President will be making some judgments about how the United States can best help the parties make progress.**
- **President Clinton is committed to helping the parties make progress after five decades of violence and war. There are no quick fixes or easy answers.**
- **Talks we've had in recent weeks have been to develop an approach which will move the process toward the goal of a comprehensive peace.**
- **For these efforts to succeed, two things necessary: zero tolerance for terror, including a 100% effort to prevent it, and a readiness by both sides to take steps that build confidence in the integrity of the negotiating process.**
- **We need to make sure that both sides are ready to take the steps necessary for credible negotiations.**

(FYI: Trip plan is still developing. Dennis probably will depart on Monday night, going first to Israel and Gaza, then onto to Egypt and probably Jordan).

Q: Some commentators have accused the Administration of not taking on the responsibility it should to save the Middle East peace process, even if that means putting some pressure on Israel to compromise. What are you doing?

A: At a time when the peace process is experiencing serious difficulties, there is a temptation to look for quick fixes or easy answers to explain the lack of progress.

-- That's not our approach. President Clinton has made it clear since the beginning of his Administration that he is committed to helping the parties to make peace after five decades of war and violence.

-- The President and Secretary Albright and are in regular and constant contact with Arab and Israeli leaders in order to do everything we can to get the negotiations back on track. The talks we have had over the past two months, including two meetings with Prime Minister Netanyahu, have been for the purpose of developing an approach which will move the process closer to our goal of a comprehensive peace.

-- For these efforts to succeed, two things are necessary: Zero tolerance for terror, including a 100% effort to prevent it, and a readiness by both sides to take steps that build confidence in the integrity of the negotiating process.

-- We understand the urgency of moving ahead, but we're not going to be rushed. We need to make sure that both sides are ready to take the steps necessary for credible negotiations.

Q: Will the decision not to indict Netanyahu help with your efforts to revive the MEPP?

A: We are continuing our efforts to get the process back on track. I'm not going to speculate how Israeli internal matters might influence that.

Q: Are you satisfied with the level of Palestinian security cooperation with the Israelis?

A: Security cooperation is obviously a crucial element. Amb. Ross had a positive meeting with senior Palestinian and Israeli security officials last week. Security cooperation serves the interests of both sides. We've been working with the parties on this and will continue to do so.

Q: Will Secretary Albright visit the Middle East soon?

A: The Secretary will go when she and I believe a visit would be useful and productive.

SAUDI ARABIA -- KHOBAR BOMBING

Q: Are we getting cooperation from Syria on the Khobar bombing investigation?

A: The investigation into the Khobar bombing is ongoing. We do not comment on investigations in progress.

Regarding Syria, I'm not going to discuss the details of our diplomatic exchanges with other governments, particularly when they involve a matter under investigation.

Q: Are the Saudis helping? What have we learned from the suspect detained by Canada?

A: As I've said before, we have gotten cooperation from the Saudis and we've been assured at the highest levels of the Saudi Government that more cooperation will be forthcoming.

As has been reported, Canada has detained an individual who may have information about Khobar. I'd refer you to the FBI for any comment on that.

Q: But the Canadians charged this guy with participating in the bombing and the papers they filed indicate he has links to Syria and Iran. Do you concur with the Canadian assessment of his culpability? Does this mean we're going to finally take action against Iran? Will it be military action?

A: Canada did make some specific allegations in the papers the Canadian government filed with its own courts. As you know, we, too, have an investigation ongoing.

At this time in our own investigation, it is neither necessary nor appropriate to make specific public charges or allegations. The FBI, the agency in our government that is in charge of this investigation and the agency that has been working with Canada, will follow all leads and will take them to their appropriate conclusion.

We are treating this as a criminal, law enforcement investigation. I'm not going to speculate about the outcome of the investigation or any actions that outcome might require.

Q: So you're ruling out any military action against Iran based on the clear and convincing evidence Canada's authorities have submitted to their courts?

A: I'm declining to speculate on the outcome of the case. Nothing more, nothing less.

CENTRAL AMERICA -- OPEN SKIES

- We hope to sign in San Jose our first Open Skies Agreements in Latin America. This is another example of our building block approach to free trade, and will tie the region together through cheaper and improved air links. Although we have liberal agreements with several countries in the region, our carriers will gain important new rights in areas such as codesharing, intermodel transportation and computer reservation systems (CRS).
- Only the Guatemala agreement has been initialed and made ready for signature. We are working hard to bring the others to cloture before the President's visit to Costa Rica.
- Open Skies agreements are our most liberal civil aviation agreements, providing for open routes (with the exception of cabotage) and freedom from government limitations on capacity, pricing and other key operating variables.
- Critical Mass: In exchange for opening up the large U.S. market to our partners, we insist that Open Skies be treated as an essentially non-negotiable package and that enough countries in the region agree to Open Skies to allow us to have a "critical mass" of smaller markets.
- Pending Alliance: Open Skies agreements are a necessary but not sufficient precondition for anti-trust immunity between U.S. and foreign airlines. American Airlines has proposed a business alliance with TACA, the most influential regional airline. It is not clear this alliance would receive anti-trust immunization even with Open Skies, because of market concentration concerns.

KOREA

Q: Does North Korea possess nuclear weapons as reported by the recent defector?

A: Have long believed that North Korea might possess nuclear ambitions. That's why we negotiated the framework agreement in 1994 that froze North Korea's nuclear program, placed it under international safeguards, and will eventually dismantle it.

Not sure the defector's allegations add anything to our knowledge about North. ROK has agreed to provide us access to him so that we can make independent evaluation.

We always are alert to the possibility that conflict could erupt on the peninsula. We, U.S. Forces Korea and our South Korean allies are vigilant in monitoring the military situation in the North. Our forces in combination with the South are the best deterrent to a North Korean attack.

Food Aid

- The United States has maintained a consistent policy of reviewing requests for humanitarian aid by international organizations on a case-by-case basis, without linking the aid to foreign policy objectives. In the case of North Korea the UN World Food Program made an appeal for food aid based on its own on-the-ground inspection.
- The WFP estimates of the amount of food shortages North Korea suffers are in line with U.S. and South Korean government estimates. The United States targeted its \$25 million contribution to those most at risk - children under six. (If needed: Children have little control over their destiny and do not deserve to starve because of type of regime that is in control of the country.)

Four Party Talks

- President Clinton and South Korean President Kim made their offer of Four Party peace talks without conditions, and we urge North Korea to accept the talks without conditions.
- We and South Korea met North Korean representatives in NYC 2 weeks ago to listen to the North's reaction to the March 5 joint briefing we gave them regarding the scope and content of the four party talks.
- The talks were helpful in clarifying some issues, but no agreements were reached. Working level discussions provided a valuable opportunity for the North and South to speak directly to each other, but we are no closer to initiating the hoped for four party process. We are prepared to continue working toward that end, but the North has yet to say that it is willing to enter talks aimed at establishing a permanent peace on the peninsula.

- We and South Korea believe that long-term structural economic reform is needed to meet the North's continuing food shortage, and that the four party process holds the best prospect for initiating economic development projects.

CHINA

MFN

Q: What is the Administration position on a short, e.g., 3 or 6 month, extension of China's MFN status?

A: We do not support a short-term extension. We share the concerns of those in Congress who want to express support for continuation of Hong Kong's current way of life and freedoms. However, it should be understood that a short-term extension would be no favor to Hong Kong. A short-term renewal would create uncertainty and damage confidence in Hong Kong, whose economy is intertwined with that of the PRC. This would weaken Hong Kong just at the time it most needs to maintain its strength and vitality. That is why residents of Hong Kong and their elected representatives overwhelmingly favor unconditional MFN for China.

In addition, I'd note that the President in 1994 delinked trade and human rights. Continuing MFN supports our strategy of engagement and promotion of our broader goals in China. A short-term extension of MFN would constitute a defacto relinking of trade to other issues, helping neither our trade nor our other interests.

Q: (If asked) Will the President renew China's waiver of MFN status this year?

A: The Administration will seek renewal of MFN for one year.

Q: (If asked) Does the Administration support permanent MFN for China?

A: Continuation of MFN -- i.e., normal trading -- status for China supports U.S. national interests, a conclusion reached by every American President of both parties since 1979. There has been a view expressed by some in Congress and elsewhere that the annual review of China's MFN status no longer serves a useful purpose, and that it produces tensions and anxieties in our relationship that are not productive. A decision to grant permanent MFN status to China would be up to Congress. We would want to consult closely with the Congress were such an effort to go forward. We do not expect such an effort in 1997.

Meetings with Foreign Minister Qian

Qian was here at invitation of Albright to continue the regular Foreign Minister-SecState dialogue established between Qian and Christopher. The meeting covered all the core issues--regional concerns such as the Korean peninsula, Hong Kong transition and bilateral issues such as nonproliferation and trade.

Timing for the exchange of state visits discussed, but no decisions have yet been made.

Q: Will the President agree to the Chinese proposal for a State visit in late October?

A: The President and President Jiang have agreed to an exchange of state visits. Details for that are being worked out. The Chinese have suggested a late October timeframe, and we are considering that request.

Q: Did top Chinese officials approve plans to buy influence/is it continuing?

A: Number of allegations have appeared in the newspapers. As you know, on-going investigation; because issue is law enforcement matter, dissemination of information limited to protect the investigation. Under the circumstances, not appropriate for me to comment.

Q: Effect on US policy

A: As we have said in the past, should allegations of illegal activity/ funneling campaign contributions prove true, would be a serious matter and take appropriate action. Both the Vice President and the Secretary of State have communicated that message to senior Chinese officials. Since the investigation is on-going, it would premature to speculate on just what response would be appropriate.

Q: Does this change plans for summit meeting/would it change your plans if proven true?

A: Planning to go forward with exchange of state visits; not going to speculate on hypotheticals.

Q: Should AG share more info with you?

A: As have said in the past, difficult balancing question between national security and law enforcement concerns.

Q: How come FBI briefing intelligence committee and not you?

A: Not aware of the content of any briefing to the Hill.

Machine Tools

- In September 1994, the Department of Commerce issued licenses allowing the export of a number of machine tools to be used in the production of parts for civilian aircraft to be built in China.
- Licenses were approved only after careful interagency review, including the Departments of Defense and State, to ensure that all national security and foreign policy interests were protected.

- When then Commerce Department became aware that some of the machines had been moved to an unapproved location, it immediately began to work with the company and the Chinese government to secure return of the machines to an approved facility. This was accomplished, and all the machines remain in an approved location.

EU DECLARATION ON IRAN

Q: What is your reaction to the EU declaration on Iran?

A: We welcome the EU declaration. We strongly share the EU view that Iran must respect the norms of international law, refrain from acts of terrorism and live up to international commitments on non-proliferation and human rights.

We also welcome the new measures that the EU has decided on to stimulate a more positive Iranian approach to the international community.

We look forward to continuing our close dialogue on Iran with our EU partners in the weeks ahead.

Q: What about the EU decision to send its Ambassadors back to Iran?

A: The EU has taken a strong public position in the aftermath of the Mykonos trial. We expect that EU Ambassadors will take this strong political message back to Tehran.

Q: What about the absence of economic sanctions from the EU approach?

A: We believe that the EU initiative would be even more effective if it included the prospect of additional economic measures in case Iranian behavior does not improve.

We hope the EU will keep this option in mind as it conducts its close review of the relationship with Iran.

We look forward to working toward close coordination of our approaches in the weeks and months ahead.

FRANCE-CUBA

Q: What do think about France's decision to sign a bilateral investment accord with Cuba? Isn't it a rejection of U.S. entreaties to cooperate in efforts to isolate the Castro regime?

A: France has chosen to sign agreement at a time that Castro regime continues to repress pro-democracy human rights activists and independent journalists and reject economic reform.

Our differences over certain aspects of Helms-Burton are well known, but we are working to overcome them and join efforts to promote positive change on the island.

France last week ratified U.S.-EU agreement to begin talks on binding steps to inhibit and deter investment in Cuba.

Last December, France, with rest of EU, agreed to "Common Position" conditioning improved relations with Cuba on clear steps toward democracy and respect for human rights on the island.

We continue close consultations with our friends and allies, including France, on concrete steps to promote our shared goal peaceful democratic transition in Cuba.

While we discourage any investment in Cuba, we feel strongly that foreign companies that do operate there should follow "best-business" practices that promote workers' rights to organize, workplace safety, and direct payment instead of through government hiring agency.

BURMA

Q: Why did you wait so long to invoke Cohen-Feinstein sanctions?

A: We have been watching closely events in Burma to determine whether conditions of the law have been met.

As indicated in the President's [Secretary's] statement, the regime has perpetrated a range of abuses over the past seven months, which have had the cumulative effect of triggering the requirements of the Amendment.

Q: What would it take to lift the sanctions?

A: We would expect to see progress by the Burmese authorities on critical human rights and democracy issues, which include the lifting of restrictions on Aung San Suu Kyi and the political opposition, respecting the rights of free expression, assembly and association, and undertaking a dialogue on Burma's political future that includes leaders of the NLD and the ethnic minorities.

[Note: Lifting of the sanctions could be accomplished in a number of ways, including through a waiver provision in the law, which requires a Presidential determination that application of sanctions would be contrary to the national security interests of the United States.]

Q: What are Aung San Suu Kyi's views on sanctions?

A: We are reluctant to attempt to characterize Aung San Suu Kyi's position on sanctions; rather we would encourage you to refer to her many public statements on this issue.

Q: Why are sanctions appropriate for Burma but not for China?

A: Our values and goals in the area of human rights promotion are constant, but our approach from one country to another can and does vary based on our judgment on what may be effective.

In case of Burma, there is a stronger international consensus on the need to bring pressure to bear upon the government. For example, the European Union has imposed a visa ban and restricted trade preferences, and all members of the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Commission have joined consensus in resolutions critical of Rangoon. Thus, our action on Burma is part of a collective effort to pressure the regime, and may encourage other governments to take stronger actions. Moreover, given the relatively high degree of repression and state control over aspects of civic and economic life in Burma [i.e., greater than in China], a policy of engagement with Rangoon is less likely to bring about positive change over time.

IRAQ

Q: What is your reaction to Iraq's continued helicopter flights in the No Fly Zone and its claims to have "defeated" the U.S.?

A: We should keep this issue in perspective.

Iraq is cynically manipulating the Hajj to score propaganda points.

The containment of Iraq is not endangered by these flights. The sanctions regime remains firmly intact and we will ensure it remains in place.

The no fly zone remains in effect and we will enforce any military challenge to it. We will not tolerate any attempt to change the military status quo south of 33 and we have the ability to do so. We can discriminate between propaganda stunts and military threats.

Q: Don't Iraq's actions show the coalition is falling apart?

A: No. Support for continued enforcement of the UN Security Council resolutions remains strong.

Q: What is the impact of these actions on the sanctions regime?

A: There is no impact. Sanctions will remain in place until Iraq meets its obligations under all the UNSCRs.

RUSSIA/NIS

Current

Tajikistan

- April 30 grenade blast injured President Rakhmanov, killed two bystanders. Condemn terrorism in any form, anywhere.
- Unclear if attack related to Tajik peace process; hope peace talks will resume soon and lead to durable settlement in Tajikistan.

Romanov Jewels Dispute

- Jewels moved April 28 from Corcoran Gallery to Russian Embassy, per agreement worked out over weekend. Parties continuing to sort out disagreement over terms of contract, hope to resolve this shortly.

General

Prospects for May NATO-Russia "Summit"

- Russians have expressed interest in May NATO-Russia summit to sign NATO-Russia document. Depends on whether or not we can conclude NATO-Russia document. Being discussed in NATO-Russia and U.S.-Russia channels; still need to resolve certain differences.
- **Secretary Albright in Moscow today, discussed NATO-Russia with Primakov and in phone conversation with Yeltsin.**

NATO-Russia

- Plans for NATO enlargement proceeding on schedule -- Madrid summit on track; will issue first invitations to prospective new members at July 8-9 meeting.
- Enlargement part of broader effort to build comprehensive European security system, which includes strong NATO-Russia relationship. Going forward in way that does not threaten any nation's security, enhances stability in Europe.
- In Helsinki, President and Yeltsin disagreed over enlargement but agreed to work together to build cooperative NATO-Russia relationship.
- See Russia as partner of NATO in shaping more secure, stable and undivided Europe. That is good for United States, Russia and Europe.

Denver Summit of the Eight

- Denver meeting will be Denver Summit of Eight; will build on increased Russian involvement; Yeltsin to arrive and depart with others; will be one press conference by leaders of the Eight.
- Seven will still discuss economic, financial matters; expect this to be small part of agenda.

BOSNIA

U.S. Soldiers Stoned

- A U.S. military recreational bus with U.S. soldiers inside was stoned as it went through the town of Brcko early today. Preliminary reports do not indicate that anyone was injured. We are working with DoD to get more information for full press guidance ASAP.

Indicted War Criminal Aleksovski to the Hague

- The Croatian government has delivered indicted war criminal Zlatko Aleksovski to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) at The Hague. We are encouraged by this step on the part of the Croatian government to cooperate with the tribunal and comply with their Dayton obligations.
- We know of no other indicted war criminals in Croatia at this time, but we continue to press Croatia to comply with other tribunal requests for information about indicted war criminals and will continue to monitor and take note of Croatia's record of cooperation with the tribunal in our bilateral relationship and in consideration of international loans.

War Criminals

- We continue to remain deeply concerned with the slow progress on war crimes front in Bosnia. We continue to press the parties to fulfill their obligations to turn over indicted war criminals. We are also examining a variety of ways we can help the Tribunal to bring indicted war criminals to justice. We have made no decisions on how to assist the Tribunal. We are reviewing many different options.

If pressed about sending teams of special police or commandos to arrest war criminals:

- We have been examining several options to assist and enhance the ability of the Tribunal to bring indicted war criminals into custody. One option may be to establish some sort of capability to execute the court's arrest warrants. We are studying the feasibility of these options but have made no decisions yet.

Radovan Karadzic

- Karadzic was removed from office and remains banned from any public or political role under an agreement with Republika Srpska. We continue to monitor the situation and will insist that Republika Srpska live up to their agreement. We remain concerned about his potential influence and will not be satisfied until he is brought to justice in the Hague.

Problems with Dayton Implementation/Izetbegovic Letter

- Implementation of Dayton and bringing long term peace and reconciliation to Bosnia remains a long term process and much work remains to be done. Nevertheless, we should not lose sight of how far we've come.
- Only 18 months ago, the bloodiest conflict in Europe since World War II continued to rage in Bosnia. Today, the market massacres, sniper alleys, and grim campaigns of ethnic cleansing are over; since Dayton, we have maintained a secure peace, separated and demobilized the former warring parties, held successful national elections, created new national institutions that are beginning to govern, and made real progress toward the difficult long term challenges of political reconciliation and economic reconstruction.
- Most recently, the parties agreed on a new central bank and common currency. So we continue to see progress on a day-to-day basis but our work in Bosnia is not yet done.
- The President discussed ongoing challenges with President Izetbegovic in a meeting just a few weeks ago. The Presidents agreed we need to see more progress in many areas, such as cooperation on refugee returns and national institutions. We expect President Izetbegovic and other Bosnian leaders to continue to express their concerns about the remaining challenges in Bosnia.
- The Dayton process brought peace to Bosnia and remains the best hope for long-term stability and reconciliation. We continue to reexamine our implementation efforts and look for ways to more effectively bring about the conditions needed for a self-sustaining peace. But it is the Bosnian parties themselves who bear primary responsibility for fulfilling the vision of the Dayton Accords.

SFOR Mission Duration

- We believe that SFOR's mission should be completed in 18 months. 18 months should give sufficient extra time needed to establish conditions to maintain security and stability without an outside military presence.

Kasich Legislation/Premature Withdrawal from Bosnia

- We strongly urge that this legislation not be pursued. Passage of the proposed legislation and unilateral withdrawal of U.S. troops could lead to a resumption of the war in Bosnia, a serious crisis in the NATO alliance, and an abdication of U.S. credibility and leadership in Europe and around the world.

Train and Equip Program

- The international Train and Equip program is successfully helping to establish a stable military balance in Bosnia, which is one of the keys to establishing a lasting peace in the region.

- The T&E program continues to facilitate concrete progress in the formation of joint Federation defense structures that will be critical to strengthening the Bosniak-Croat Federation.

TRIPS AND VISITORS

- President's visit to Mexico begins May 5. Mexico visit May 6-7. Regional summit meetings in Bridgetown, Barbados and San Jose, Costa Rica will go forward as scheduled May 7-10.
- Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma will be in Washington May 14-16 to conduct the inaugural meeting of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission with Vice President Gore. He will meet with President Clinton during his visit. *(FYI: POTUS meeting tentatively scheduled for Friday 5/16)*
- President will travel to Netherlands May 28 for U.S.-EU Summit and Marshall Plan commemoration event. No details yet.
- Denver Summit June 20-22.
- POTUS will travel to Denmark in July in conjunction with the July 8-9 NATO Summit in Madrid.
- President's visits to Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela rescheduled to October 12-17.
- APEC Summit in Vancouver, Canada November 24-25.

NORTHERN IRELAND

PEARSON DEPORTATION

Background: DOJ has decided to appeal the lower court's ruling that Brian Pearson is eligible to stay in the U.S. Pearson served time for an IRA bombing (of a military/ police barracks--no one injured) before coming to the U.S.

- This decision was made by the Department of Justice on legal grounds. Questions concerning the case should be referred to DOJ.
- If asked: This is a deportation case; our policy toward Northern Ireland was not at issue. That policy is clear --we strongly condemn IRA terrorism and will continue to support efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

MITCHELL RESIGNATION AS SAPASS FOR ECONOMIC INITIATIVES IN IRELAND

[Background: It has not been made public yet but Senator Mitchell has submitted a letter to POTUS resigning his position as Special Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Ireland -- a position he has held since late 1994. Ideally, we would prefer to announce it at same time his successor is named, which will take a few weeks.]

- Yes, Senator Mitchell has decided to give up position as Special Advisor to President and Secretary of State for Economic Initiatives in Northern Ireland. Will of course continue as chair of Belfast peace talks; in fact, understand his decision to resign the economic job based on need to devote his time to the talks.
- We are moving to select a successor to Senator Mitchell to oversee Administration support for economic initiatives. Creating jobs through investment and trade is key to underpinning Northern Ireland peace process over long term.

SHOOTING OF WOMAN POLICE OFFICER IN DERRY

- Abhor this callous crime; extend sympathy to family and hope/pray for officer's recovery.
- IRA violence must stiffen resolve of those committed to democracy and peace. Men of violence should not be allowed to determine future of Northern Ireland.

ANY CHANCE OF IRA CEASE-FIRE?

- Impossible to know. Continue to call for immediate, unequivocal cease-fire. Way forward can only be through negotiations, not senseless violence.

START OF MARCHING SEASON

- Pleased that Easter Monday parade went off smoothly. Commend those who took courageous decision to avoid confrontation.
- Hope people of goodwill in Northern Ireland will work together to avoid clashes and bitterness in this year's marching season.

BOMB AT SINN FEIN OFFICE

- Condemn this attempted attack, as we condemn all acts of violence.
- Urge loyalists to return to observing cease-fire; not precipitate downward spiral of violence that can only harm all people of Northern Ireland.

CONTINUED IRA VIOLENCE

- Strongly condemn continued IRA violence in Northern Ireland and in Britain, urge immediate, unequivocal cease-fire.
- Belfast peace talks (now in recess until June) have best chance of long-term success if they are inclusive (that is, if Sinn Fein participates) but that can only happen after IRA cease-fire.

ON WHETHER IRA NEEDS TO DISARM BEFORE JOINING TALKS

- Vice President did not address this point, but U.S., like British and Irish governments, have accepted the report issued last year by Senator Mitchell and his colleagues, which suggested decommissioning of arms in parallel with talks.

MURDER OF CATHOLIC FATHER OF NINE IN BELFAST

If asked about the murder of a Catholic father of nine in Belfast, possibly by loyalist gunmen:

- WH horrified by this brutal slaying, condemns it in strongest terms.
- Do not know who was responsible; police are investigating.

[If pressed]: Have no way of knowing yet whether loyalists were involved, but are watching closely. Condemn it utterly, whoever did it.

BERGER/STEINBERG PHONE CALLS

- NSA Berger and DNSA Steinberg have been in touch with British and Irish officials and with party leaders to discuss situation in Northern Ireland, exchange views on how to move process forward.

- *If asked whether one of them spoke with Adams:* Remain engaged in process; not going to comment further on details of who/when.

GULF WAR ILLNESSES

What is your reaction to the findings in the Presidential Advisory Committee (PAC) interim letter report that (1) there was information even prior to the Gulf War raising cause for concern about chemical weapons storage at Khamisiyah; and (2) that there was “substantial mismanagement and lack of communication” between the military and intelligence community on this information?

- Important here at the outset to note that we are where we are today -- with all of the recent and continuing document releases -- because of the President's direction to get out all of the facts, and DOD and CIA's commitment to carry out that direction...
- DOD and CIA have already stated for the record that their handling of Khamisiyah-related information should have been better, and they are both committed to capturing the appropriate “lessons learned”...
- Moreover, both agencies currently have their IG staffs investigating the related issues, and their reports are expected this summer...

Why was there, in the PAC's words, “no serious [executive branch] effort to examine the possibility of chemical warfare agent exposure of U.S. troops at Khamisiyah until late 1995” when there were documents available raising this concern by December 1991?

- No question that the recently-released documents should have been identified and released much earlier; this figured prominently in the President's decision in JAN 97 to extend the PAC he established in MAY 95 in order to provide independent oversight of the ongoing process...
- These documents are being identified and released now in response to the President's direction to get out all of the facts...
- As to why these documents did not come to light earlier, the various ongoing IG and other investigations at DOD and CIA should help us to understand what happened...

The PAC found that there is no single entity integrating the data for a comprehensive assessment of the government-wide response to Khamisiyah; the PAC also questioned how individual accountability will be addressed. What is the White House view?

- First, the PAC's recommendation that a “presidential-level” entity to integrate intelligence community “lessons learned” is consistent with the Administration's commitment to take full advantage of the Gulf War experience to improve our preparedness and planning for future deployments -- this recommendation will be carefully considered when the President receives the PAC's interim letter report and the accompanying agency responses...
- DOD and CIA have asked former SEN Warren Rudman to advise both agencies on the GWI problem. SEN Rudman is well-qualified to undertake a review of all investigative findings, and his efforts will enhance our ability to integrate the intelligence “lessons learned”...
- With respect to accountability, our understanding is that there is no evidence to date of individual misconduct. If and when any such evidence comes to light, the DOD and CIA IG and other investigators tackling the many issues involved would document and refer that evidence to their respective agency heads as a matter of course...

The PAC believes that an EPA-type approach would be appropriate for the long-delayed Khamisiyah modeling effort and that veterans deserve to learn the results of a full-range of modeling scenarios (including worst-case events). What is your reaction?

- DOD and CIA recently formed a joint modeling team to take this work forward to conclusion as rapidly as possible, with the projected completion date of 21 JUL 97...
- The PAC's assessment that EPA-type modeling may be useful or even more appropriate will need to be evaluated by the joint DOD/CIA team...
- In terms of targeted notification letters, DOD has already sent out letters to those personnel within 50 kilometers of Khamisiyah, and will conduct additional notifications if necessary...
- Most important here is that the issue of notification has no bearing on the eligibility of veterans for physical examinations, health care, and compensation -- and DOD and VA have strongly encouraged all Gulf War veterans to take full advantage of the available programs...

Is DOD using the Privacy Act as a "shield" to block the PAC's "unfettered access" to the critical information they need?

- Our understanding is that earlier this year DOD lawyers noted Privacy Act legal concerns about certain information being provided to the PAC in response to their requests...
- We have confirmed that the Privacy Act does have application and have been informed that the required legal steps are being taken to obtain the consent of individuals providing information for release of that information to the PAC...

Is the PAC likely to be extended again given the many problems still remaining?

- The PAC has a critical role to play -- the White House is relying on the PAC's expertise and independent assessments to enhance program quality across the full spectrum of government activity related to Gulf War illnesses...
- Any discussion of extending the PAC would be premature at this juncture given the many initiatives currently underway and the amount of time remaining before the end of the initial extension period (31 OCT 97)...

What about the statement in the recent CIA white paper that the CIA briefed the NSC staff in JAN 96 on the Khamisiyah evidence?

- The CIA white paper (and one of the accompanying documents containing briefing slides) reflects the classified CIA brief the NSC staff received in JAN 96.
- During the briefing -- which focused on the CIA's declassification initiative and ongoing study of potential exposures -- the staff was told that information had come to light about the possibility of chemical munitions storage and agent release at the Khamisiyah facility. This was briefed as preliminary information, and the NSC staff noted at the close of the brief that CIA needed to pursue this possibility aggressively together with DOD.
- Subsequent CIA and DOD efforts to investigate this concern eventually led to the JUN 96 DOD announcement of Khamisiyah.

The intelligence community admits making mistakes in its handling of the Gulf War illnesses investigation, and the many recently-declassified documents clearly should have come out much sooner. With much of the related activity occurring during George Tenet's tenure at CIA, does the Director-designate retain the President's full confidence?

- Absolutely.
- The CIA has contributed a tremendous amount to our knowledge about chemical weapons in the Gulf War theater and specifically about exposure incidents that might be related to undiagnosed Gulf War illnesses.
- George Tenet is fully supportive of the President's commitment to get out all the facts, and has increased the level of resources devoted to the Gulf War illnesses problem when new information indicated the need to do so.

What has the Administration done for Gulf War veterans who are sick?

- Through the dedicated efforts of DOD and VA personnel, veterans are receiving the care they need for Gulf War illnesses, whether diagnosed or undiagnosed.
- Overall, to date -- (1) DOD & VA toll-free help lines; (2) 80,000+ free medical exams; (3) 26,000+ compensation claims approved; (4) special legislation paying disability for Gulf veterans with undiagnosed illnesses, with an extension of the presumptive period for undiagnosed illness compensation forthcoming soon; (5) thousands of pages declassified; and (6) 90+ federally-sponsored research projects completed or underway.

NAZI ASSETS

CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE: Following is contingency press guidance on the decision to delay by 1-2 weeks the target date for release of the historians' report on the postwar USG role in distributing Nazi gold and assets. The main Administration spokesman on this issue is U/S Stu Eizenstat.

- The team of historians and others who have been working to assess a huge amount of historical material discovered they needed a little more time than originally anticipated.. This short delay will ensure that we can provide our best possible understanding at this point of the events in question.

If asked about the President's role:

- The President cares deeply about this issue. The historians' report is being prepared at his behest, under the direction of U/S Eizenstat.

If pressed:

- The President will of course see the report when it is completed.

FAST TRACK

Q: It has been reported that the President is planning to delay his request for fast track authority to accommodate the budget process. Is that true? Does this signal Administration retreat on fast track? Has Gephardt scared the President off?

A: Not at all. The President is still firmly committed to seeking fast track authority to open foreign markets. It is critical if we want to continue creating good jobs for American workers.

Every President since Ford has had fast track authority for key periods, and the reasons for it now are more compelling than ever. Over 11 million U.S. jobs now depend on exports, and these jobs pay 13-16 percent more than the average U.S. job. Today, 95 percent of the world's consumers live outside the U.S., and the vast majority of those consumers live in the emerging and fastest growing markets of Latin America and Asia. We simply must continue to open these markets for U.S. exports if we are to succeed in the global economy.

We cannot afford inaction. If we are not seizing opportunities to break down trade barriers and open foreign markets, we can be sure other countries will act -- to the benefit of their companies and their workers.

The United States has nothing to fear. We are the most competitive large economy in the world as judged by independent experts. But our ability to define the nature of our trade relationships will in significant measure determine our leadership role in the next century. Fast track authority is the most important factor determining these relationships.

As you know, we have been consulting with Congress to develop bipartisan support for this legislation. We think that is the best way to build a strong foundation for this effort. We will continue to consult with Congress as to the substance, tactics and timing of the fast track initiative.

Q: It has been reported that the Administration is weighing the dropping of labor and environmental goals from fast track trade authority legislation, a move certain to infuriate labor unions. Is this true?

A: As we have stated before, our goal is to build the broadest possible support for the fast track legislation. To that end, Ambassador Barshefsky and others have been consulting actively with members of Congress representing all points of view on this subject, and with all interested parties, including organized labor. We will continue to do so with the goal of enacting legislation that receives broad support.