

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Public Liaison

Series/Staff Member: Alexis Herman/Ruby Moy

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5073

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Interfaith Impact Presidential Request-James M. Bell

Stack:

S

Row:

29

Section:

5

Shelf:

11

Position:

1

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE CHANGES

TIME/VENUE/COST CHANGES

BIRTHDAY BASH (time change/venue added)

- ◆ (10:00 P.M.-12:00 A.M.)
- ◆ Fulton County Atrium
- Friday, January 13

BENEFIT FASHION SHOW (venue change and cost correction)

- ◆ (Hyatt Regency Hotel)
- ◆ Cost- \$30.00
- Sunday, January 8

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. TEACH-IN (time change)

- ◆ (1:00-3:00 P.M.)
- Friday, January 13

CELEBRATION '95 (time/date change)

- ◆ Celebration '95 has been merged with "Tracks" production
- New date - Friday, January 13
- (8:00 P.M.)
- Cost: \$10, \$15

CANCELLATION

INTERFAITH YOUTH WORKSHOP

- ◆ Monday, January 16

Monday, January 9

Events in Washington

Tuesday, January 10

- 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
PUBLIC INTEREST HEARING
The King Center, Freedom Hall
INFO: Cynthia Lewis (404) 526-8986
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
RECEPTION RECOGNIZING ELECTED OFFICIALS
The King Center, Freedom Hall
INFO: Jwana Jackson (404) 526-8980
- 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
SERVICE OF REDEDICATION TO JUSTICE AND PEACE
Ebenezer Baptist Church
INFO: Fannie Ross (404) 964-0544

Wednesday, January 11

- 12:30 noon
BUTLER STREET Y.M.C.A. HUNGRY CLUB FORUM
Info: Wanda Rylander (404) 526-8940
\$5.00
- 1:30 p.m.
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES TRIBUTE
Info: Clark Moore (404) 33-5390
- 6:30 p.m.
SYMPOSIUM ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
The King Center
INFO: Kiki Thomas (404) 651-1042

Thursday, January 12

- 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES
"A Blueprint for Nonviolence - Celebrate Difference"
INFO: Barbara Harrison (404) 526-8985
- 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
NATIONAL "YOUTH AGAINST VIOLENCE" SYMPOSIUM
INFO: Charles Alphin (404) 526-8522
- 2:00 p.m.
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM
The King Center, Freedom Hall Auditorium
INFO: Ella Mae Brayboy (404) 526-8981
- 8:30 p.m.
ATLANTA SYMPHONY TRIBUTE
Symphony Hall
INFO: (404) 892-2444

Friday, January 13

- 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. TEACH-IN PROGRAM
The King Center, Freedom Hall Auditorium
INFO: Barbara Harrison (404) 526-8985
- 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES
"A Blueprint for Nonviolence - Celebrate Difference"
INFO: Barbara Harrison (404) 526-8985
- 11:30 a.m.
THE DEKALB COUNTY TRIBUTE
The DeKalb County Auditorium
- 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
GEORGIA STATE M.L.KING, JR. HOLIDAY COMMISSION TRIBUTE
Georgia State Capitol
INFO: Dee Sims (404) 656-1794
- 2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
LABOR, MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SEMINAR
The King Center, Freedom Hall Auditorium
INFO: Wanda Rylander (404) 526-8940
- 8:30 p.m.
"TRACKS" THEATRICAL PRODUCTION (Featuring Yolande King)
Atlanta Civic Center
INFO: Hilda Tompkins (404) 526-8947
- 8:30 p.m.
ATLANTA SYMPHONY TRIBUTE
INFO: (404) 892-2444
- 9:00 - 11:00 p.m.
BIRTHDAY BASH (To Support Youth Nonviolent Training Pgm)
INFO: Alice Eason (404) 526-8995
\$10.00

DELTA AIR LINES, INC. has been named the official carrier for the King Week '95 Celebration. To make reservations, please call 1-800-241-6760, and refer to file reference number G121 to receive a special rate.

Room 3000
Marriott Marquis Hotel
INFO: Cleopha Orange (404) 755-3002

■ 8:30 p.m.
ATLANTA SYMPHONY TRIBUTE
INFO: (404) 892-2444

Sunday, January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. World Prayer Day

- 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MULTI-CULTURAL & WORLD PRAYER PROGRAM
The King Center, Freedom Hall Auditorium
INFO: Jeanne Johnson (404) 740-4709
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
PRESIDENT'S APPRECIATION RECEPTION
The Adams Hilton
INFO: Derek King (404) 526-8952
- 8:30 p.m.
CELEBRATION '95 ENTERTAINMENT TRIBUTE
Atlanta Civic Center
INFO: Hilda Tompkins (404) 526-8947

Monday, January 16

Tenth National Holiday & National Community Service Day Observance Programs around the world "Let Freedom Ring" Bell Ringing Ceremonies

- 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ANNUAL HOLIDAY COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE
"STATE OF THE DREAM" ADDRESS - MRS. CORETTA SCOTT KING
Ebenezer Baptist Church
INFO: Barbara Harrison (404) 526-8985
- 12:30 a.m.
INTERFAITH YOUTH WORKSHOP
INFO: Jwana Jackson (404) 526-8980
- 12 noon - 12:30 p.m.
GEORGIA STATE HOLIDAY COMMISSION - BELL RINGING CEREMONY (Across from State Capitol)
INFO: Dee Sims (404) 656-1794
- 1:30 p.m.
NATIONAL MARCH OF CELEBRATION & RALLY
INFO: Jeanne Orange (404) 524-9564
- 3:30 p.m.
ATLANTA HAWKS TRIBUTE GAME
The Omni
INFO: Bryan Barley (404) 827-3665

A limited number of reservations may be made for King Week activities in Atlanta with the following hotels. When making your reservations, indicate that you are coming for King Week '95 activities. Make reservations by NOVEMBER 30, 1994. If no space is available at the hotels listed, please ask the chain to refer you to other facilities in the Atlanta area.

Best Western	Omni International
American Hotel	Paschal's
Atlanta Hilton	Radisson
Castlegate Hotel	Ramada (Capitol)
Center City Hotel	Westin Peachtree Plaza
Colony Square	Courtyard by Marriott
Comfort Inn	Holiday Inn
Hyatt Regency	Dry Inn
Marriott Marquis	Barclay
Clanton	Penta

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone Number (_____) _____

Affiliation

□ I plan to participate in the planning for: The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday celebration in my city. Contact The King Center (404) 526-8940 or The Federal Holiday Commission (404) 730-2155
□ I would like information on the observance of the Tenth National Holiday in The United States and Overseas. Contact The Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission in Washington, D.C. (202) 706-8004, 1005 or 1006. In Atlanta (404) 730-2155.

□ I plan to participate in The King Week '95 Observance. Contact The King Center 524-9564. In Atlanta, I am particularly interested in attending these events:

□ I would like to make a financial contribution toward continuing the work and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Contribution may be sent to:

THE KING CENTER • 449 AUBURN AVENUE, N.E. • ATLANTA, GA 30312 • (404) 524-1956

J a n u a r y 6 - 1 6 1 9 9 5

Friday, January 6

- 10:00 a.m.
PRESS CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL KING WEEK
The King Center, Freedom Hall
INFO: Steve Klein (404) 526-8983

Sunday, January 8

- 8:00 p.m.
20TH ANNUAL INTERFAITH SERVICE
Canaan United Methodist Church
INFO: Jamaica Jackson (404) 526-8990
- 8:30 p.m.
BENEFIT FASHION SHOW (To Support King Center Archives)
Marriott Marquis Hotel
INFO: Drucilla Taggle (404) 526-8944
\$25.00

Saturday, January 14

- 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.
LABOR, MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY AWARDS BREAKFAST
Hyatt Regency Hotel
INFO: Wanda Rylander (404) 526-8940
\$40.00 (per person)
\$400.00 (Table of Ten)
- 12:00 Noon
NATIONAL PARADE OF CELEBRATION
INFO: Eric Martin (404) 521-5090
- 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
ANNUAL "SALUTE TO GREATNESS" DINNER
Marriott Marquis
Info: Barbara Harrison (404) 521-8925
- 8:30 p.m.
ALL SOUTHERN CATALA

COPY

March 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO BILLY WEBSTER

CC: Harold Ickes
Alexis Herman

FROM: Steve Hilton

RE: Interfaith Impact Presidential Request

The request for the President to address Interfaith Impact's Annual Legislative Meeting on March 21 was rejected with the suggestion the Vice President or another Administration official address the group. Please reconsider the request for the following reasons.

- o This grassroots group is one of our strongest base supporters and they are particularly crucial now on two major issues: the Rescission Bill and the Foster nomination.
- o Recently, it was decided by NSC that the President should not meet with six of their Christian leaders to discuss Jerusalem.
- o The request to the Vice President has not and probably will not be confirmed because he will be in the Middle East from March 19 through March 24. They have no keynote speaker.

Thank you for reconsidering.

Attachments

InterfaithIMPAC[®]

Foundation

February 24, 1995

110 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
202/543-2800 Fax 547-8107

Flo McAfee, Associate Director
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC

By FAX 456 6218

Dear Flo:

This morning Interfaith Impact received a letter from Billy Webster notifying us that President Clinton declines our invitation to speak at our 25th Annual Legislative Briefing. We had invited him to speak on Tuesday evening, March 21, at the banquet.

I want to appeal for reconsideration of the invitation. Also, I want to explain our efforts over the past three years to have the President speak.

We first invited Mrs. Clinton to speak to our March 1993 Legislative Briefing. We started that invitation process even before the polls showed that Mr. Clinton was going to win the presidential election. At that time, we were told Mrs. Clinton would not accept any speaking invitations until after the election. After the election we were told she would not commit until after the inauguration. After that we were told, "This is something we feel is important." And later, "It is on her calendar." On the Thursday before the speech was scheduled for Sunday night we received a call saying she was unable to accept the invitation. In June of 1993 we received a letter from the White House thanking us for our invitation to Mrs. Clinton and telling us that she did not receive the invitation far enough in advance to consider it and they hoped she would be able to speak at some future date.

You can imagine our frustration when we had a paper trail a mile long of our efforts!

Last year we sent invitations to both the President and Vice President. They were both unable to speak, although we were told that the President wanted to speak but was concerned because of the timing with some other religious requests and did not want to say yes to one and not the other. We were encouraged to ask him again this year.

This year we invited the President to speak because we feel the circumstances of the last election are so critical that we need to use every effort for organizing across the country. We are very concerned about the Contract With America and about the move to the extreme right both politically and in the religious community. We wanted to show support for the President and we wanted him to be a source of encouragement for our advocates.

We also invited the Vice President to speak at another time during the Briefing because of his involvement in the National Religious Partnership for the Environment. The Vice President has spoken at our Briefings in years past when he was a senator and we were participants in his Environment and Religion Conference while he was in the Senate.

Of course, we want the President as a first choice over any other speaker we might invite. Within the confines of being a non-partisan organization we are trying to convey our support for his agenda and encourage our advocates.

The President has met at the White House with the heads of the churches that are a part of Interfaith Impact. We applaud that meeting and it was good publicity for both the churches and the President. However, we are asking him to meet with the people who are on the front lines day to day pressing the religious agenda of those denominations. Our Briefing participants are the program staff people from those denominations and the grass roots people who are involved in local councils of churches and in congregations. They advocate in state houses as well as in Washington.

We had particularly wanted to present President and Mrs. Clinton with an award at the banquet on March 21. It is an award for "Protecting and Expanding the Dream." It has been given in the past to Rev. Bernice King and two others. The award is a crystal plate with an etching of Martin Luther King and an overlay etching of Andrew Young's granddaughter. Because of the President and Mrs. Clinton's work in health care, children's issues, and now increasing the minimum wage, it is a way we can lift up support in a visible way.

Flo, we are the people "carrying the water" on many of these issues. While we agree and encourage the President to meet with the heads of the churches, those same heads of churches look to us to get the message out to the religious community. We are, in fact, the ones who write their testimony, who give them the background information they need, who develop the strategies they take to their various decision-making bodies. There is a definite growing frustration in our offices that this is not well understood at the White House and that the White House does not understand our relationship with the leadership within the denominations.

When the President met with the religious leaders some months ago, they came here first to be briefed on the issues. When Archbishop Tutu met with President Clinton he came directly from the White House to our offices to brief us on his meeting and give us his assessment. When United Church of Christ President Paul Sherry testified before Congress on health care, that testimony was written by the UCC Washington staff. When I testified before the House Ways and Means Committee on the religious community's health care principles, the testimony was written by the people who will be at this Briefing.

This coming Monday the Washington Post National Edition will carry a full page ad with over 600 religious leaders signatures supporting welfare reform. Those principles were developed by the people planning this Briefing. For your information I am including a copy of our press release to newspapers around the country.

Recently Joan Brown Campbell from the National Council of Churches gave congressional testimony on the "takings" issue. That testimony was written by people on the Environmental Working Group here in our offices.

We have been a leading voice for universal health care and welfare reform. We have been

strong advocates of the Crime Bill, Religious Freedom Restoration Act, workplace fairness, environmental justice, gun control, foreign aid, etc. We have consistently opposed a balanced budget amendment, school prayer amendment, term limits and reducing the deficit on the backs of the poor.

Is there a way you can "plead our case" for reconsideration? If I am reading the frustration in the religious community correctly this is one of those times the President really needs to speak to this segment of the religious community.

Thank you for any help you can provide.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Bell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James M. Bell
Executive Director

483
3846
