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Kitty Higgins-Summary of Daily Cabinet Activity

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: KITTY HIGGINS

SUBJECT: Summary of Daily Cabinet Activity
June 12 - June 29, 1995

Monday, June 12, 1995

- **DOC -- Commerce will Release the Following Economic Data:**
Quarterly Financial Report
- Manufacturing, Mining and Wholesale Trade for 1st Quarter 1995 June 12
- **DOC -- Education:** Secretary Brown addresses the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education signing ceremony.
- **DOC -- Exports Meetings:** Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) Assistant Secretary Sue Eckert and Deputy Assistant Secretary Iain Baird will continue their series of seminars in Miami, Chicago, Santa Clara, Irvine, Seattle, Minneapolis, Boston, Morristown, New Jersey and Washington, DC during June, briefing the exporting community on the Administration's rewrite of the Export Administration Regulations. These meetings also will support the President's initiative to hold Grassroots Regulatory Partnership Meetings between front-line regulators and the people affected by their work.
- **DOJ -- White House Travel Office:** The House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight has undertaken an oversight investigation concerning the White House Travel Office, which will focus on actions taken by officials at the White House, DOJ, FBI, and the IRS. Justice has asked the Committee to delay hearings, interviews, and depositions regarding this matter until the Department prosecution of Mr. Billy Ray Dale is concluded. Trial of that matter is scheduled for September 11.
- **DOJ -- Terrorism Bill:** On Monday, June 12, the Deputy Attorney General testifies before the House Judiciary Committee on the Administration's Terrorism Bill.

- **DOL -- Summer Jobs:** On Monday, June 12, Secretary Reich participates in a conference call with 5-7 mayors in cities that run successful private summer jobs programs. Press representatives will also be in on the conference call. On Tuesday, June 13, the Secretary participates in a summer jobs 1995 kick-off event with mayors, business leaders and students at the National Press Club. Secretary Reich has invited Speaker Newt Gingrich to join him in challenging private sector employers to provide summer jobs to young people.
- **DOT -- Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulations:** In the next several weeks, the Department will publish a final rule requiring Canadian and Mexican truckers operating in the U.S. to comply with U.S. drug testing rules beginning January 1, 1996. DOT is working with Canada and Mexico to insure a smooth transition, but differences in the three nations' legal regimes may cause some problems (*e.g.*, Canadian law prohibits random drug testing).
- **DOT -- APEC Transportation Ministerial Meeting.** The meeting will be held on June 12-13 Washington, D.C. Major topics to be addressed over the 2-day session (a government-industry symposium and a Ministers meeting) will be infrastructure, facilitation and human resource development. The objective is to contribute to the impetus for the Leaders Meeting in Osaka in November. As of this date, all countries except Malaysia will send Ministers, and most will participate in the subsequent tour of the key U.S. transportation sites in Denver (June 14), Seattle (June 15), and San Francisco (June 16). More than 250 government and business officials are expected to participate.
- **HHS -- First Stage of "Operation Restore Trust" Continues:** This initiative was announced at the White House Conference on Aging in early May and targets Medicare and Medicaid fraud in five key states, . In June, the first phase will continue with the announcement of a hotline for voluntary fraud disclosure. Following the first state meeting held in Dallas last week, HHS continues with state meetings this month in Florida, California, Illinois, and New York. Secretary Shalala and other HHS officials will visit these five states to highlight the initiative during the summer. The second stage, beginning in July, will feature anti-fraud alerts and completed investigations leading to recoveries and indictments.
- **HHS -- Child Support Enforcement:** On Tuesday, June 13, the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources will hold a hearing on child support enforcement. Mary Jo Bane, Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, will testify.
- **HUD Reinvention Strategy:** This week, HUD will kick-off the next phase of the HUD reinvention strategy -- Building Communities of Opportunity. HUD will highlight the Department's efforts to use state-of-the art technology to streamline application processes and to better connect HUD with citizens at the local level. In addition, HUD will announce winners of several major Administration grants -- the \$900 million Continuum of Care grant, the nation's largest homeless assistance grant, and the Economic Development Initiative, one of the Administration's most successful economic development programs. HUD is working with Cabinet Affairs and the Vice President's office to plan Presidential participation in these announcements.

- **ONDCP -- Expected Presidential signing of the Heroin PDD This Week:** This PDD sets forth a revised policy toward Burma; a policy of engaging Burma on their production and export of heroin which eventually ends up on the streets of America. This is a major policy shift, but is being done in way that protects the human rights interests. A major marketing initiative of this new policy is being developed to maximize impact but limit negative reaction from special interests.
- **USDA -- Team Nutrition To Be Launched:** On June 12, the Department's Team Nutrition program will be launched at USDA headquarters in Washington, D.C. The First Lady and students from a local elementary school will join the Secretary at a "school fair" event to showcase the initiative.

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

- **DOC -- Commerce will Release the Following Economic Data:**
Advance Retail Sales for May 1995 June 13
- **DoEd -- Youth Violence.** On Tuesday, June 13, Secretary Riley participates in a forum on youth violence sponsored by Harvard University and Metropolitan Life.
- **HHS -- JAMA Article on Violence.** This week's *Journal of the American Medical Association* will be a special theme issue on violence, released at a news conference on Tuesday morning. One of the articles will explain research conducted at CDC that found for every person shot and killed by a firearm in the United States, three others are treated for nonfatal firearm injuries in emergency departments. The ratio is even higher for African-Americans and people 15 to 24 years old.

Wednesday, June 14, 1995

- **DOC -- Commerce will Release the Following Economic Data:**
Manufacturing and Trade: Inventories and Sales for April 1995 June 14.
- **DOL -- Child Care Forum:** On Wednesday, June 14, Secretary Reich will participate via satellite in a child care forum sponsored by DOL's Women's Bureau in Kansas City.
- **DOT -- Amtrak Markup.** The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has scheduled markup of a bill on June 14 that would transform Amtrak into a privately held corporation, phase out federal financial support, and remove many of the existing federal requirements imposed on Amtrak -- including limits on contracting out work and the mandate to undertake certain service requested by states and localities. This bill goes far beyond the Department's proposal and, although we support fundamental reform, we are strongly opposed to the approach taken by the House because of the strong likelihood it would lead to the termination of most or all rail passenger service and loss of the taxpayers' multi-billion-dollar investment. We are preparing a views report in opposition.

- **HHS -- Conference on Viral Safety:** On June 14-16, an international conference and public meeting on viral safety will be held on the NIH campus, providing an opportunity for the exchange of information on the viral safety of biological products. This conference may get media attention in light of the recent shipment of the bubonic plague virus from a private lab to an Ohio man.
- **TREAS / DOJ -- Pennsylvania Avenue Closing:** This week Treasury officials met with DOJ representatives to provide information and assistance in the preparation of pleadings in *Thomas v. United States*. This is a pro se action brought by a resident of Lafayette Park who objects to the closing of Pennsylvania Avenue. The pleadings are to be filed by Wednesday, June 14.

Thursday, June 15, 1995

- **DOC -- NOAA:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Under Secretary Baker will testify before the House Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans on June 15 regarding several NOAA functions.
- **DoEd -- California Trip:** Secretary Riley is in California June 15 through June 19. On Thursday, June 15, he participates in a DNC political strategy meeting. On Saturday, June 17 he speaks at Representative Lynn Woolsey's budget summit. He will also speak at the incentive awards banquet of the University of California, Berkeley, and participate in a School-to-Work roundtable with Representative Nancy Pelosi.
- **DOL -- UAW:** Secretary Reich will address the United Auto Workers Convention in Anaheim, California on June 15. With a membership of approximately 850,000, the UAW is one of the top ten unions within the AFL-CIO and is a very influential industrial union. Approximately 2,500 elected delegates from around the country are expected to attend this convention. The UAW will be installing a new President, Stephen Yokich. His speech will focus on a variety of labor issues and, as always, I will emphasize the Administration's commitment to labor.
- **HHS / EPA -- Guidelines on the Consumption of Tap Water by Persons with Compromised Immune Systems:** On June 15, the CDC will release a set of recommendations and guidelines on the consumption of municipal tap water by persons with compromised immune systems. Persons with full blown AIDS and those who are undergoing cancer-related chemotherapy are the principal beneficiaries of these guidelines, which will recommend that those with impaired immune systems consult with their doctors about taking extra precautions such as boiling their tap water for one minute, drinking distilled or bottled water or using certain water filters rather than drinking the municipal water supply. At issue is the possibility of contracting infection through a water-born bacteria called *cryptosporidium*. CDC will take the lead in engaging the press, notifying the appropriate community and health care provider groups as well as the general, scientific and specialty media. EPA will handle all questions regarding the water supply. Emphasis will be placed on the fact that healthy persons are not at risk because their immune systems are sufficient to combat this bacteria in the water.

- **HHS -- Medicare Fraud:** On Thursday, June 15, June Gibbs Brown, HHS's Inspector General, and HCFA Administrator Bruce Vladeck, testify before the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee's Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Affairs on the issue of sanctions against providers who continue to bill Medicare after being convicted of fraud and excluded from the Medicare program. On Tuesday, June 20, Administrator Vladeck testifies before the House Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations on HCFA's efforts to combat fraud and abuse.
- **HHS -- Clinton/Gore '96:** On Thursday, June 15, Secretary Shalala will attend a Clinton/Gore Re-elect fundraising reception in Seacaucus, New Jersey.
- **HHS -- Gulf War Illness:** The June 15 issue of *MMWR* will carry the preliminary results of an investigation about illness among Persian Gulf War veterans from an Air National Guard unit in Pennsylvania. Preliminary analysis conducted by CDC at the request of DOD and the VA, shows a strong and significant association between reported chronic symptoms and deployment to the Persian Gulf. The report's authors suggest that the investigation be "interpreted with some caution" since the "nature, extent, and risk factors of Persian Gulf War veterans' health problems have not been clearly established." HHS is in touch with the White House on this issue.
- **HUD -- Chicago Housing Authority (CHA)-- Update:** On May 30, HUD took legal responsibility over the troubled CHA. On Friday, June 9, HUD/CHA held a press conference to brief the public on recent activities and to illustrate the financial and management problems HUD inherited. On Thursday, June 15, HUD hopes to announce a security plan that would make changes in personnel, establish police mini-stations, put greater reliance on law enforcement officers and less reliance on contract security, and initiate community policing programs. This week, HUD is also hoping to initiate a summertime cleanup effort targeted at, at minimum, five family development sites.
- **USDA -- Pacific Northwest Economic Recovery Initiative:** On June 15-16, Secretary Glickman travels to the Pacific Northwest to review the accomplishments of the Pacific Northwest Economic Recovery Initiative and other Administration initiatives. He will meet with Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, and participate in events to promote the successes of the Administration's Forest Plan and economic adjustment initiatives. As a precursor to the Economic Conference, Secretary Glickman will also be promoting the agricultural trade successes in Oregon. On June 16, the Secretary is tentatively planning to be in Seattle, Washington, where he will continue to highlight the Administration's positive contributions to the Pacific Northwest. Over the course of the trip, the Secretary plans to meet with key industry, labor and environmental interests.

Friday, June 16, 1995

- **DOE -- India:** On June 16, Secretary O'Leary will travel to New York City to address the World Congress Conference on electric power investment opportunities in India. Her comments will draw upon my recent experiences in India and other parts of Asia and will focus on opportunities for American energy and power providers and financiers. The Indian power market is one of the largest in the world, valued at \$45 billion with a projected need for approximately 60,000 megawatts. The following day, she will address a seminar on financing Indian power projects.
- **DOJ -- California Voting Challenge:** On Friday, June 16, 1995, the Ninth Circuit hears oral argument in *Wilson v. United States*, California's 10th Amendment challenge to the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The district court held that the NVRA was a proper exercise of Congressional authority to regulate elections for federal office and issued a permanent injunction requiring the state to implement the Act. The U.S. will defend this ruling.
- **HHS -- Report on Teen Pregnancy to be Released:** On June 16, an HHS-funded report on adolescent pregnancy prevention will be released. The report reviews the variables that contribute to adolescent sexual behavior, pregnancy and parenthood. It also reviews pregnancy prevention interventions, identifies areas in which research might be strengthened, and provides a framework for evaluating interventions. Briefings for Hill staff and the public are scheduled for June 16.
- **HHS -- Wisconsin Travel:** Secretary Shalala travels to Madison, Wisconsin on Friday, June 16 and conducts a number of press interviews on welfare reform.

Monday, June 19, 1995

- **DOC -- U.S.-Indian Conference:** On Monday, June 19 Secretary Brown travels to California along with Indian Commerce Minister Chidambaram for the opening of the U.S.-India Commercial Alliance conference entitled "Information Industries: Opportunities in India."
- **DOT -- International Aviation Issues in the United Kingdom:** On June 5, the U.S. entered into an international aviation agreement with the British. The U.S. secured the right for a second carrier on the Chicago-Heathrow route. The British are entitled to increase services on the London-Philadelphia route. On June 19, the two sides will begin intensive negotiating to pursue liberalization of cargo, charters, and pricing, and further rights for the U.K. to compete for U.S. Government traffic.

Tuesday, June 20, 1995

- **DOJ -- Vulnerability Assessment of Federal Facilities:** The written report is due June 20, 1995.
- **DOL -- Enterprise Council :** Secretary Reich will deliver remarks at the Enterprise Council Dinner on June 20 and unveil the National Dislocated Worker Franchise Network. DOL's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has been working with a number of state and local dislocated worker programs to develop this network of high performance services where permanently laid-off workers can find quality back-to-work assistance. Approximately 400 Enterprise Council members, state and local officials will attend this dinner.

Wednesday, June 21, 1995

- **DOL -- National Baptist Convention:** On Wednesday, June 21, Secretary Reich delivers a major speech at the National Baptist Convention in San Diego, California. Approximately 5000 are expected to attend.
- **HUD -- Dallas-HUD Partnership's Action Plan:** On Wednesday, June 21, Secretary Cisneros travels to Dallas to announce the one-year anniversary of the signing of the community partnership agreement between HUD, the State of Texas and the City of Dallas. Newly-elected Mayor Ron Kirk will participate. The ceremony will also highlight the Administration's Operation Safe Home initiative. Operation Safe Home is an interagency effort involving HUD, DOJ, Treasury, and state and local law enforcement agencies) to combat crime in public and assisted housing.

Thursday, June 22, 1995

- **DOL -- Possible Stoppage of Metro-North Commuter Railroad:** Unless an emergency board is requested by the parties, the Governor of New York, or the Governor of Connecticut, a work stoppage on the Metro-North commuter railroad could occur as early as 12:01 AM on June 22. Metro North serves 105,000 commuters a day, or 18 percent of the nation's rail commuters. Ernest W. DuBester, chairman of the National Mediation Board, will provide direct briefing to top Administration officials as developments occur.
- **HUD -- Building Homes with former President Jimmy Carter:** On Thursday, June 22, Secretary Cisneros travels to Los Angeles and joins former President Jimmy Carter, Mrs. Carter and hundreds of volunteers in building 20 wood frame homes in South Central Los Angeles.

Friday, June 23, 1995

- **DOL -- NAPIC:** On June 23, Secretary Reich will meet with the Board of Directors of the National Association of Private Industry Councils (NAPIC) to discuss the consolidation of job training programs.

Sunday, June 25, 1995

- **HHS -- Xenograft Transplantation:** The FDA, CDC, NIH, and the Institute of Medicine are sponsoring a meeting on June 25-27, titled "Xenograft Transplantation: Science, Ethics, and Public Policy." Xenograft transplantation involves the implantation of animal tissues in humans.

Thursday, June 29, 1995

- **DOC/USTR -- Hemispheric Trade and Commerce Ministerial and Forum:** Planning continues on the Hemispheric Trade and Commerce Ministerial and Forum to be held in Denver on June 29-July 2, as a follow-up to the Miami Summit.