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Forest Summit - Mike Draper Letter to Editor of the Oregonian

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WESTERN COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

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mtg**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL****TO: KATIE MCGINTY****FROM: MIKE DRAPER****FAX: 456-2710****DATE: March 9, 1993****PHONE:****TIME:****PAGES:****MESSAGE:**

For your information.

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March 8, 1993

Robert Landauer
Editorial Board Editor
The Oregonian
1320 S.W. Broadway
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To The Editor --

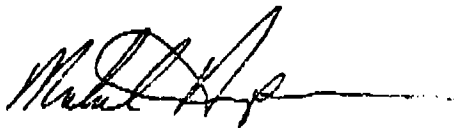
I am writing in response to the article, "Loggers Told Gore Will Play Only Symbolic Role in Summit" (1/1/93).

Our union remains ready and willing to work with any and all members of the Clinton administration, and all other seriously interested parties, to develop a balanced solution to the federal forest management crisis.

During his campaign, President Clinton promised to take a leading role at the forest summit. We anticipate the President will keep his promise. We also anticipate Vice President Gore will play a key role at the summit. While many perceive Vice President Gore as having environmental sympathies, we believe this view does not paint a full picture. As a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, Vice President Gore was a strong supporter of working men and women, receiving solid approval ratings from the AFL-CIO's Committee on Political Education. We welcome the Vice President's participation at the summit. We believe he will play a vital role and trust he will help lead us to a balanced solution to this debate.

To reach this end, we have invited Vice President Gore to visit a timber community in the Northwest and meet with forest products workers and their families. We believe this visit will help the Vice President better understand the devastating effects the forest management crisis has had on forest products workers, our families and communities. We also believe this visit will provide essential insight for the Vice President to deal even-handedly with the forest management issue.

Our message is clear: We enthusiastically support the administration's efforts to resolve this critical issue fairly and quickly.



Michael Draper
Executive Secretary

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**Loggers told Gore will play
only symbolic role in summit**

EUGENE — Oregon loggers have been told that Vice President Al Gore, a man they consider to be an ally of environmentalists, will play only a symbolic role as chairman of a Northwest "timber summit."

"Gore won't matter much in terms of policy," said Stewart Hardy, natural resources director for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

Still, many of the loggers attending the 53rd Annual Oregon Logging Conference and Equipment Show in Eugene groaned when Hardy confirmed that Gore would lead the summit.

The Northwest timber industry has counted on a summit to break the deadlock between loggers and environmentalists resulting from protection of the threatened northern spotted owl. President Clinton promised the summit last August during his campaign.

The decision to make Gore chairman drew strong opposition from the Western Council of Industrial Workers, the union that represents the bulk of Northwest timber workers, when it was first announced Dec. 18.

But Hardy told loggers that environmentalists deserved their role in the summit, and Gore's presence will "show the Clinton administration cares enough to send the very best, as far as the environmental lobby is concerned."

Hardy told the loggers they must seek a compromise to help avoid lawsuits like those resulting in court bans on logging federal land with spotted owl habitat.

— From staff and wire reports

Oregonian 3-1-93