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April 14, 1994

This box contains mail from the White House Office on Environmental Policy and a copy of the response letters. Mail is on various issues. It was sent out between August 1993-February 1994. This box includes last names N-Z over said period.

Thank you,

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 2, 1993

Sir David Nicholas, CBE
Lodge Stables
2F Kidbrooke Park Road
London SE3 OLW
United Kingdom

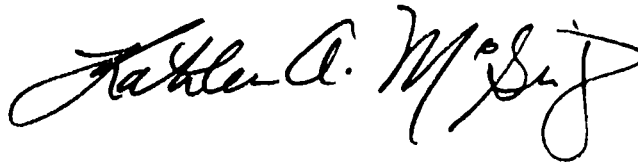
Dear Sir Nicholas:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your work as Chairman of Independent Television News and your current work on the potential environmental benefits of using satellite information to study environmental issues. It was good to hear from you, and I apologize for the delay in my response.

As you know, I share Vice President Gore's commitment to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. I certainly appreciate learning about your efforts to increase public awareness of the importance of the protection of our environment. While the Vice President is unable to avail himself of your offer to show your work in environmental monitoring, I know he appreciates the invitation. Please keep us apprised of your work in this area.

Again, thank you for letting me hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "McGinty".

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

Sir David Nicholas CBE

**Lodge Stables
2F Kidbrooke Park Rd
London SE3 OLW
Tel: 081 319 2823
Fax :081 319 2417
May 10 1993**

**Katie McGinty
Director of the White House Office on Environment Policy
Office of the Vice President of the United States
Room 360 Old Executive Office Building
Washington DC 20501**

Dear Ms McGinty,

May I introduce myself: I retired last year as Chairman of Independent Television News (ITN), the organisation which provides a network news service to Britain's two commercial channels - ITV and Channel Four. Before I became Chairman in 1989 I had been the Editor of ITN for 12 years.

I am well known to the United States Ambassador in London, Mr Raymond Seitz.

I am now acting as a consultant to a British independent production company, World Wide International, for the purpose of exploring programme possibilities for a 3-D imaging device, which they are developing for a European satellite system, called ERS 1 (European Remote Sensing 1).

ERS 1 is based on technology originally developed at NASA, which was then extended by the European Space Agency to produce the world's most powerful environmental satellite.

It is a unique way of monitoring the environment by translating radar images into pictures from a satellite orbiting at an altitude of 500 miles. It "images" the globe every three days. It can convert the images into a fly-by effect, which is dramatic. For instance, in the demonstration tape the images appear to come from a low-level swoop up the Rhine Valley from the coast to the source, showing various features, natural and man-made, along the way.

It can spot oil slicks, which would probably not be observable from aircraft. During the Braer oil disaster in the Shetlands earlier this year, it located two other oil slicks in the area, which nobody knew about.

It is being used experimentally in conjunction with American scientists to see whether it can measure murmurs in the San Andreas fault, which would forecast earth movement. One of its contributions to a current scientific issue is that it has spotted a crater in the bed of the Gulf of Mexico, which is thought to have been caused by a meteorite impact some 65 million years ago. The impact is thought to have produced a nuclear winter of dust and debris which, in turn, is believed to have ended the dinosaur era.

I am assured that no comparable device is likely to be in service for five to ten years hence. ESR1's radar altimeter measures topographical elevations (including the ocean bed) to an accuracy of 3 centimetres. It records wind speeds, sea temperatures, wave heights and water vapour content, and sends back data equivalent to three volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica every three seconds.

It has 10 years' worth of data bank so it could compare global warming tendencies over a period of time or trace the effect of acid rain over a period.

I am convinced that it could start a new form of popular science reporting on the environment.

The European Space Agency's primary aim is to make the satellite's discoveries as widely available as possible to educate the world in general about the environment and to inform relevant agencies about what hitherto unavailable information is now to hand for anybody to use at will.

To this end the European Space Agency has given World Wide International the rights to data, together with the capability of processing the information into pictures through the unique 3D real time graphics system. (World Wide has had a long connection with ESA producing videos for them).

The World Wide producers are now seeking a partnership with a major US news broadcaster to make and distribute a regular series of reports worldwide and/or to offer individual broadcasters the opportunity to commission particular stories of news interest from ESR 1.

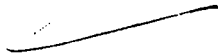
The partnership would hope to recover its costs and a fee from international sales. If the global interest in the project is as wide as we hope, the profits, when they are achieved, will be devoted to environmental science research.

The main mission is to make plain people more aware and better informed about the environment.

The reason for my letter is to ask you whether we could invite Vice President Gore to give us 30 minutes of his time to show him the infinite possibilities of this imaging device. I have in mind, of course, his interest and expertise in environmental matters.

Knowing what the pressures are on his time, all we would need to do is to load a video cassette replay machine somewhere near his office and he could come along to see a demonstration tape of no more than 10 minutes' duration and have a chance to question the experts from World Wide. We have no purpose other than to show him a new development, which we think will be of considerable interest to him.

Thank you for reading this letter. I hope I haven't taken up too much of your time.

Yours sincerely,
David Nicholas


THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 2, 1993

Mr. Richard K. Nawa
P.O. Box 220
Cave Junction, Oregon 97523

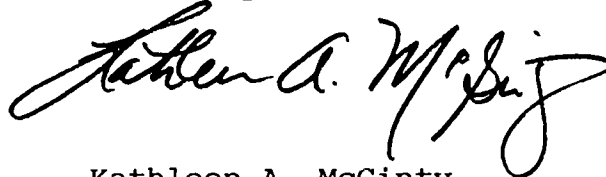
Dear Mr. Nawa:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the proposed change in the U.S. Forest Service administrative appeals regulation. It was good to hear from you, and I apologize for the delay in my response.

As you know, I share President Clinton's and Vice President Gore's commitment to the preservation of our environment. In response to overwhelming interest on this issue, the Forest Service extended the public comment period on the administrative appeals process to last 45 days. I appreciate learning your thoughts about this matter.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" and last name "McGinty" clearly legible.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

Siskiyou Regional Education Project

P.O. Box 220, Cave Junction, Oregon 97523 • (503) 592-4459

April 15, 1993

Kathleen McGinty
Director, Office of Environmental Policy
Washington, D.C. 20501

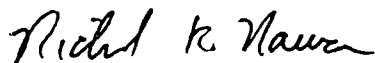
Dear Kathleen,

I recently learned that the Forest Service has released for 15 day review a 85 page revised appeals process. Would you please instruct the Forest Service to extend the review period to 30 days as has been the custom for previous reviews of appeals processes?

My informants tell me that the changes in the appeals process have the potential to render the appeals process meaningless. During the Forest Conference, the President and Vice-President often mentioned their desire to keep confrontations out of the courtroom. I share their desire to keep forest management decisions out of the courtroom, but a weakened appeals process would have the opposite effect: more disputes would be forced into the courtroom. Please let me know why you feel that the new Forest Service appeals process will reduce the need for citizen lawsuits. Given the propensity for the Forest Service to violate the law, wouldn't a strong citizen appeals process be a valuable check on discretionary decisions?

I would appreciate a response before the comment period deadline.

Sincerely,



Richard K. Nawa
Staff Ecologist