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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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March 18,

PRESS BRIEFING  
BY JOE LOCKHART

1:15 P.M. EST

MR. LOCKHART: Good afternoon, everyone. One quick logistical announcement.  
All seats for tomorrow's press conference -- I'm serious, it's real -- must be reserved. Requests for seating must be in to Heather Riley by 9:00 a.m. tomorrow. For those of you who are looking for a hard start time, we're looking at 2:01 p.m. Eastern time.

Q These reserved seats, including regular organizations who cover the White House, do we need to go to Heather?

MR. LOCKHART: Can't hurt. I assume you'll all be there.

Q Is that your announcement?

MR. LOCKHART: That's my announcement.

Q On Kosovo, the Kosovars --

MR. LOCKHART: No. Can we hold on a second? Got it?

Q Okay, we got it back.

Q Joe, can we expect a statement from the President today on the developments in Kosovo?

MR. LOCKHART: Hold on. Hold on. Let me come to Sam, because I cut him off while I was waiting for this to come on. And I'll come to you next.

Q The Kosovars appear to have signed the agreement. The Serbs are making it plain, so far, they're not going to sign the agreement. What happens now, and when?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, as you all remember, there was some skepticism some weeks ago that this time period, while the Kosovars went back and consulted --

Q No mult.

MR. LOCKHART: Okay.

Q Back now.

Q What's happening? (Laughter.)

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know. Hold on.

Q With all due respect to my business, you can continue the briefing, even if it's not on television.

MR. LOCKHART: Okay. I thought this was pretty important stuff, though.

Q It is.

MR. LOCKHART: Can you hear me back there?

Q Yes, go ahead, Joe.

MR. LOCKHART: Okay. Sam, your question again?

Q In case the question wasn't heard, the Kosovars appear to have signed the agreement. The Serbs are making it plain, so far, they're not going to sign the agreement. What happens next, and when?

MR. LOCKHART: You know, I think we've entered a decisive phase here. One side has come forward and said that they can accept the elements of this political settlement and have signed. President Milosevic and the Serbs have remained in their position of not accepting the conditions of the political settlement. And, as we know in the past, from our past dealings with President Milosevic, he often doesn't act until he feels he has to.

This is a decisive phase, as I've said, because the Kosovar Albanians have signed and he faces a choice. He faces a choice of moving down a path that can bring peace, the end to repression of the Kosovar Albanians and autonomy for the Kosovar Albanians. Or he can go down a path that will, by necessity, be a path of further bloodshed.

Q But Milosevic, you say, doesn't act often until he has to. When does he have to?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I'm not going to get into a timetable here of what might be done or what might not be done. But I will remind you that the ACTORD remains in effect, that NATO Secretary General Solana has the authority to move forward, and that the military planning is complete.

Q Can we expect to hear from the President today, Joe, on this?

MR. LOCKHART: I wouldn't expect to hear from the President today on this.

Q There are new reports out of Paris saying that next Wednesday, this coming Wednesday is the deadline. Is that accurate?

MR. LOCKHART: No, there are no deadlines, as far as I know.

Q -- to be suspended. Is he going to be given another bit of time to reflect on the --

MR. LOCKHART: My understanding of the talks is the cochairs, the Foreign Ministers Cook and Vendrine, will be talking with the negotiators, talking with both sides to try to come to some conclusion whether there's any real purpose to continue these talks. That, I expect, to go on this afternoon into this evening, Paris time, and we will await their decision on that announcement.

But, again, I'm not aware that there's any fixed time that's going to be given at this point for President Milosevic to come forward and make a decision.

Q Is there a possibility that a deadline will eventually be set?

MR. LOCKHART: That's a hypothetical I don't know the answer to.

Q You've changed from this morning. This morning you clearly said that if the Serbs prove to be intransigent in this matter or if they attack in some large-scale sense, the Kosovars, NATO will act.

MR. LOCKHART: I have not changed. You've asked --

Q You gave every indication if this conference breaks up without the Serbs signing, that was the intransigence you were talking about.

MR. LOCKHART: I gave no such indication on the second point. If President Milosevic and the Serbs cannot come forward and agree in a peaceful, political way, NATO will act. If they launch some sort of offensive action against the

Kosovar Albanians, then they face the very real threat that NATO has laid on the table.

Q They're currently engaged in offensive action against the Kosovars.

MR. LOCKHART: Well, we have made our views on that subject well known to them. We are aware of some movement, some troop movements, and we have indicated to them in no uncertain terms that any new offensive against the Kosovar Albanians will be a grave mistake.

Q And what was their reply to that, Joe, when we made that statement to them yesterday?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not familiar with their exact reply, but I know that our views were made known.

Q But their continued shelling doesn't constitute a new offensive?

MR. LOCKHART: What we're looking for here is to find a way to get to a peace, just get a way that both sides can find a political settlement that restores autonomy to the Kosovar Albanians. We are aware that there has been some moving of troops, which indicate there may be some thought of a new offensive, and we've made it very clear that we think that would be a grave mistake.

Q I'm not asking about a new offensive. I'm just saying, if they continue to shell the Kosovar Albanians, forcing refugees to flee, as is happening right now, that doesn't constitute a "new offensive"?

MR. LOCKHART: Listen, I'm not going to get into a detailing here on all the particulars of what -- because I think the Belgrade authorities, President Milosevic understands our view completely and I'm going to leave it there.

Q How would you rate the chances for achieving a peace at this point?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not going to get into speculating about what President Milosevic might or might not do. I will say that we've reached a decisive point in this process and he clearly knows the choices he faces, and he clearly knows that he can choose one of two paths. And it's very much in his interest to choose the path of peace.

Q Joe, are you saying that NATO will strike against the Serbs if they don't sign the peace agreement, or only if they launch a new offensive in Kosovo?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm saying there are -- the criteria for NATO action involves both the intransigence on the political settlement and on President Milosevic's actions as far as launching an offensive on the Serbs -- excuse me, on the Kosovar Albanians.

Q If they refrain from launching a new offensive but still don't sign the peace agreement, you're saying they're still going to get hit?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not saying that. I'm saying that he faces some tough choices, and he's going to need to make them. And we've reached a decisive point in this process.

Q I think Mara's question is if they simply fail to sign the agreement but do not launch a new offensive, they're fine, they don't get hit?

MR. LOCKHART: No, I didn't give an affirmative answer to that.

Q They're not doing anything today that you consider a new offensive?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not aware that they've launched a major new offensive in the region.

Q But failure to sign is intransigence, as you define it; is it not?

MR. LOCKHART: It certainly is. It certainly is. And while I'm not going to put a timetable on this, I'm certainly not willing to say that there's an unlimited amount of time.

Q Joe, it sounds like you're saying some thought is being given to sending someone back to Belgrade. Is that true?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not saying that.

Q Joe, in the final days of the Dayton negotiations, the Bosnian Serbs stepped up their offensive, and did sort of a last-minute land grab. Isn't that what we're witnessing again here? We know the peace negotiations are coming to a head, and the Serbs in Yugoslavia are doing the same thing.

MR. LOCKHART: I don't see that, no.

Q Joe, given that this effort to bring peace hasn't worked, and you still want peace, what does the President plan to do now to bring it towards peace? Is there some other strategy?

MR. LOCKHART: We're in a part of this process now where President Milosevic has to decide which direction he wants to take his country. And, again, with the risk of repeating myself, he has a stark choice between --

Q You must have given him a deadline.

MR. LOCKHART: -- between a path of peace or a path of further violence.

Q You must have given him a deadline.

MR. LOCKHART: No, we must not have, Helen.

Q Well, you say it's a decisive moment.

MR. LOCKHART: Yes.

Q What does that mean?

MR. LOCKHART: It means we have reached the final and decisive phase. I'll remind you all that we sat here three weeks ago, and most of you in this room were very skeptical that, because the Kosovar Albanians walked away from the process and did not sign, that somehow there was no prospect of them signing. We sit here today with them having signed the agreement. And that's an important step in this process.

Q So are you saying there's hope?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm saying that we wouldn't be involved in the process if we didn't think there was hope of moving this forward to a peaceful settlement. But where this decision rests now is squarely and alone with President Milosevic and the Serbs.

Q The Kosovars have signed the agreement, yes; but you don't expect them to begin fulfilling their end of the agreement before Milosevic signs?

MR. LOCKHART: I think most agreements like this are agreements when both parties have signed.

Q Hey, Joe, is there anything in the activation order that would confine a NATO air action to Kosovo itself?

MR. LOCKHART: Let me answer that broadly, which is that as far as the activation order goes, as far as any military planning, I'm not going to get into the operational details.

Q Joe, is there some cause for optimism in the fact that Milosevic doesn't act until he has to?

MR. LOCKHART: I think we're at the point really -- it's pointless to speculate on optimism and pessimism. President Milosevic knows what he needs to do and it's time for him to make his decision.

Q Change the subject? What about on budget matters? Does the administration believe that the budget caps should be dispensed with?

MR. LOCKHART: No. I think the budget we've put forward works within the

caps, the spending caps, and the investments we've made are paid for and represent and reflect the fiscal discipline that we've brought back to Washington over the last seven years that have brought us out of an era of deficit spending into an era of surpluses.

Q But, Joe, it only works within the caps next year; after that, it doesn't.

MR. LOCKHART: For FY 2000, we certainly respect them. Beyond -- and in the out-years beyond that, I'm not certain of the numbers.

Barry reminds me that there are some additional investments we've made with the surplus. Remember we have -- on the 100 percent of the surplus, it's divided up roughly 77 percent for Medicare and Social Security, 12 percent for the USA accounts and then about an additional 10 percent on some additional investments.

Q Vice President Gore said today that the Republicans are planning to -- that the only way to make their numbers add up is to cut deeply, really deeply into everything from education to health care. Does the administration believe that they are just spending money in the wrong places, or that they're taking money away from these? What is the point the administration is trying to make?

MR. LOCKHART: I think the point we're trying to make is, if you look at the budget, we've been here before. Look at the promises that are being made here. We can cut taxes, increase military spending significantly and still balance the budget. Well, we quadrupled the national debt the last time we bought into a promise like that, and the fiscal discipline that we've brought and the credibility that we've brought by balancing the budget -- not just talking about, not just having a balanced budget amendment, but by balancing the budget, brings a certain credibility that allows us to argue that we don't need to go down this road again.

We've got more gimmicks that are not in our national economic interest.

Q I thought you want to cut taxes, increase the military spending and balance the budget.

MR. LOCKHART: All within the context of what we can pay for. And we've got USA accounts, which we think will provide relief for people and help them save for retirement, we've got military spending that we can pay for, and we don't have the kind of large tax cut that you can't pay for.

Q Wait a second. Doesn't the Republican plan only cut taxes as the surplus comes in, the general revenue surplus?

MR. LOCKHART: If you look at how they add it up, it's hard to see how they're going to make the broad, across-the-board -- if they want to stand up and say, here are our cuts, here is how we pay for it, we can have a different debate. But until they do, it sounds like the gimmick of the '80s or a faint sound of the '80s and I don't think it's a road we want to go down.

Q Speaking of the budget, the President -- \$956 million for emergency aid to Central America, plus aid to Jordan and some other programs. Republicans are --

MR. LOCKHART: Agriculture.

Q Right. Republicans are saying in order to approve them, they will cut other domestic programs the President wants. Is the White House ready to veto if it comes down that way?

MR. LOCKHART: We hope we don't have to go down that route. I think there's very -- there are very few cases that meet the classic test of emergency spending than this Central American aid. This is aid that's needed immediately, it certainly couldn't be planned for, and is non-recurring.

We think it's time to get the politics out of this, move forward, do this on an emergency basis on the time-honored budget rules that we've followed. And you can see the results of sticking to the budget rules.

And I think if you look at some of the areas that they're looking at cuts, it's difficult to understand why we'd want to take money out of things like embassy security, Y2K, and other programs in order to address this problem. We think it should be done on an emergency basis, and we should do it soon.

Q Joe, speaking of the "v" word, will the President veto that GOP budget as it comes down?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, we certainly look forward to seeing what the details of it are. Right now the numbers don't seem to add up, don't seem to make sense. But we're very early in the process.

Q Joe, back on the emergency aid package. The President said in Central America that, when he got back to the States, he wanted to talk to the



Speaker  
and the Republican leaders about the status of it and how to move it forward.  
Has he ever done that?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know that the President has spoken to the Speaker about that. Both our legislative people -- Jack Lew at OMB have been working very closely with the relevant committees up on the Hill. And we're hoping that we can find some way to get this report out quickly, but done on an emergency basis.

Q Joe, on Social Security, the Vice President said that the administration, of course, is putting Social Security first, but that the Republican budget does not extend Social Security by a single day.

MR. LOCKHART: Correct.

Q As I understand it, the Republicans are setting aside more money for Social Security than the administration is.

MR. LOCKHART: Well, there's nothing as far as, if you look at the way the actuaries look at this, ours is extended it out to 2055. But they have done nothing. They've sort of said, well, we'll put it aside for Social Security, but they've done nothing to lock in those savings.

MR. TOIV: They haven't devoted it to the Trust Fund and actuary --

MR. LOCKHART: Yes. So none of it is locked in, or goes over to the Trust Fund. And if you look at it -- I mean, this isn't just me saying this. If you look at the actuaries, our plan extends it out to 2055, and theirs does not extend it a day.

Q So, Joe, you're saying that Republicans are playing fast and loose with Social Security?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm saying that the President has put forward a comprehensive framework for how to do this and how to lock in the savings by paying down the national debt, and the Republicans haven't taken all of the steps. They've moved -- I will grant them this. They have moved from their position of last year, toward the idea that Social Security needs to be saved, the Trust Fund needs to be extended. But they haven't taken many of the steps the President has, and we're going to have to work with them to make sure that this

money  
goes into the Trust Fund, so that Social Security can be extended.

Q Joe, does --

Q Joe, can I ask one more on the budget before we get to something dramatically different? (Laughter.)

Q How do you know it's going to be dramatically different?

MR. LOCKHART: Wait a second. I'm in a dramatic mood. (Laughter.)

Q I will yield to the question.

Q The Republican budget contemplates, over the next decade, living within the caps. And White House officials, such as Yellen, have said that they would negotiate lifting the caps. Is that still the White House position after next year, that you would talk about lifting the caps?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, we're going to have to -- I mean, we think once you reserve the bulk of the surplus for Social Security and Medicare, and for the USA accounts -- you have some flexibility. But they have to be locked in. This can't be something that you can walk away from the next year.

So we look forward to engaging on this as we move forward over the next couple months, but we're going to continue to make our case that you have to lock in these savings.

Q But aren't they being more fiscally responsible in saying that they won't lift the caps, and the White House is saying that they --

MR. LOCKHART: You know, it is hard to describe a proposal as fiscally responsible that makes the claims that this one does, which is, you know, we're going to follow our smoke and mirrors, and cut taxes, raise spending and somehow balance the budget. But we're not going to tell you the spending we're going to cut. This is 1980 all over again.

Q Joe, one of the things that --

MR. LOCKHART: I promised Lester.

Q Two-part, Joe. Does the President believe that Kazan should be receiving a special Oscar or not? (Laughter.) It's been in the news, Joe.

MR. LOCKHART: I know. What's the controversy?

Q He turned them all in --

MR. LOCKHART: I saw a headline. I don't know what it is.

Q He turned them all in

MR. LOCKHART: Oh, he turned them all in. (Laughter.)

Q He turned in people that he believed were sympathetic to the communists.

MR. LOCKHART: I still don't know.

Q Can you find out?

MR. LOCKHART: You know, if it comes up in conversation, I'll ask him and I'll

repeat it, but I'm not going to make a special effort on that.

Q Does the President regard Paul Sarbanes of Maryland as a Senator of many good accomplishments, or not?

MR. LOCKHART: What's the trick here? (Laughter.) What did he say?

That would be a total, unqualified yes. Now, your follow-up?

Q The Chairman of -- (laughter.) I wondered if you could tell us what good accomplishment? Do you have any in mind? Because the Chairman of the Maryland Democratic Party, when asked about this, said, let me get back to you, I'm not familiar with the Senator's record. And that led to talk that Mrs. Clinton may run for Senate from Maryland, rather than in New York, where the latest polls have Giuliani 10 points ahead, and where the New York press corps are really savage. How about this, Joe?

MR. LOCKHART: I think Senators --

Q Is she thinking about Maryland?

MR. LOCKHART: Let me answer the first part first, and then use the first answer to figure out what I'm going to say to the second part.

Senator Sarbanes has had a distinguished career over the last several decades. He's been a leader on the Banking Committee, as far as modernizing our financial institutions in this country, and he's been a strong voice in the field of foreign policy, as far as the importance of America engaging around the world.

I don't have the slightest idea on the Maryland to New York to back to Maryland.

Q See, now you wish you'd called on me, don't you? (Laughter.)

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know. This hasn't been bad.

Q Can you assure us -- just to wind this up, can you assure us that --

MR. LOCKHART: You are winding me up, here.

Q Can you assure us there are no plans to make Sarbanes the Ambassador to Greece or a federal judge? He's known as the Senator from Athens, now.

MR. LOCKHART: Yes. It would be news to Ambassador Burns, who's doing a fine job there. I haven't heard either of those things speculated about.

Q Will Mr. Stephanopoulous become the Ambassador to Greece? (Laughter.)

Q Tee ball.

MR. LOCKHART: It's high and outside. I took that one.

Q On Africa, the ministerial is concluding today. On Capitol Hill, there are concerns being expressed -- Phil Crane this morning said both Jesses, with regard to the Hope for Africa Act, there's concern that the special envoy to Africa -- Jesse Jackson Senior -- may not be fully on board with the administration, in light of the legislation of the Hope for Africa Act sponsored by Representative Jesse Jackson Junior.

MR. LOCKHART: Right.

Q Is the President confident that his special envoy is fully behind the administration's position on the --

MR. LOCKHART: I have heard nothing that would indicate to me otherwise, to the contrary on that.

Q One more on Africa. Does the President have any plans to go to Nigeria for Obasango's inauguration?

MR. LOCKHART: I think we have received an invitation to attend the inauguration. I think the President is honored to get it. The President and the U.S. government has been very involved in facilitating the shift from military to civilian rule. I'm certain that a high-level and appropriate delegation will attend, but I know of no decision on whether the President himself will attend.

Q Jimmy Carter went the last time Obasango was President in Nigeria.

MR. LOCKHART: He did.

Q Do you have any reaction to the decision about the families of the downed Cuban pilots?

MR. LOCKHART: I actually just heard about that as I was walking out. We have not had a chance to review and I'm going to withhold any comment until the appropriate people have had a chance to review the decision.

Q Would you have something tomorrow or --

MR. LOCKHART: Yes, I would expect so.

Q Back to Capitol Hill. House Resolution 35 condemns the CCC and urges members of the House of Representatives not to support or endorse the group.

Would this action cause some repercussions, especially since some federal lawmakers over there thought to be a part of the group even --

MR. LOCKHART: I'm personally not familiar with the actual language in the resolution. But from what's been told to me, it's a resolution designed to speak out against racism and bigotry and I can't imagine that there's a single member in either the House or the Senate who wouldn't want to speak out on that subject.

Q Also, Minister Louis Farrakhan is said to be gravely ill. What is the White House's reaction to Minister Farrakhan and all of his years of work? Do you consider him a world leader?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm certain that this is a difficult time, if these reports are accurate about his illness, for himself and his family. But as far as his position as a world leader, I think the White House and many others view many of his statements as disqualifying for a true position as a world leader.

Q Joe, on Africa, The London Economist reported prior to the President's trip to Africa that there may be a motivation both in going to Uganda and because of Minister Farrakhan's influence in Sudan and in Libya and that region, and I think The Economist reported quite bluntly that the President's motivation for going to Africa might be to blunt the growing influence of Minister Farrakhan in Africa. So is he disqualified from importance in Africa, as well as importance --

MR. LOCKHART: If the article asserted that, the article would be inaccurate.

Q Joe, can I ask one more question about Social Security? The Vice President's remarks suggested today that the administration is going to launch a new attack on Republicans over budget issues, particularly over entitlement matters, Social Security and Medicare. And one of the things he said was that Republicans were putting Social Security last. Is it your view that that's what the Republicans are doing?

MR. LOCKHART: I think what they're doing is putting tax cuts first and

refusing to lock in how you can dedicate the savings to Social Security. They're not even mentioning Medicare. And talking about increasing spending without talking about how they'll pay -- excuse me, increasing spending on some things and balancing the budget without talking about what areas they might cut in. So I think the debate in some ways has moved from last year, but in some ways, it hasn't, which is tax cuts first and we'll worry about all the other problems later.

Q Isn't this a dangerous political tactic? Because the fear all along on Republicans has been that Democrats, if they committed themselves to anything, the Democrats would go after them over Social Security and Medicare. Doesn't this suggest and throw out a warning that the administration may well do that, that Vice President Gore may well do that?

MR. LOCKHART: No, I think we have reason to believe we can make progress on Social Security, but what we need to do is start making hard decisions and making commitments. And what we don't need is vague budget outlines that don't add up, that are more of a political statement than a statement about how we're going to keep this economy expanding into the next century.

Q Joe, you said earlier that once the money is locked in for Social Security and for Medicare then you have some flexibility with the rest of the budget. But my recollection was that the President had also added another condition, which was the long-term Social Security program reform. Is that still a precondition before any additional spending, that there be long-term --

MR. LOCKHART: We clearly have some decisions to make as we move through this year, and this will all move concurrently with the way the budget process works. But there are some issues we're going to have to face as far as Social Security and probably more immediately, Medicare. So, no, I don't think that's changed.

Q On China, yesterday Gary Samore at the NSC acknowledged that the White House never briefed the International Relations or the Foreign Relations Committees in 1997 on the Los Alamos investigation as they were negotiating to certify that China was no longer was a nuclear proliferation risk. Is that to say that the theft of nuclear secrets from the weapons labs is not considered a proliferation issue?

MR. LOCKHART: No. I don't think it says that, but I think what it does say is that the appropriate committee to brief on intelligence matters are the Intelligence Committees.

Q But the International Relations Committee says that, in order to get certified for the U.S.-China nuclear cooperation agreement, the International Relations Committee was supposed to be briefed on all aspects of proliferation policy, to get signed off.

MR. LOCKHART: Well, again, I think it's our view that the appropriate places to do these intelligence-matter briefings is with the Intelligence Committee.

Q What was the President's reaction to Senator Lott's claim that while he was in Congress he invented the paper clip?

MR. LOCKHART: What was his reaction?

Q And other claims made by other former members of the Senate?

MR. LOCKHART: He thought it was a real knee-slapper. (Laughter.)

Q Speaking of knee-slapper, what did the President think of the Vice President's claim to have invented the Internet, Joe? Was he encouraged by that? Stimulated? Has he had any discussions about this?

MR. LOCKHART: Not that I know of.

Q You mean he treated it with a cold silence, Joe?

MR. LOCKHART: I haven't discussed it with him.

Q Joe, on the medicinal marijuana report from yesterday. I know you had a discussion about the scientific aspects of it, but somehow the way part of it has been reported, it just gets out to the American public that medicinal marijuana is okay. And I'm wondering if the administration is concerned that this message will undermine your advertising campaign to cut back on pot?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, we certainly hope not. And I would hope that those who do the reporting would take some care with this. I mean, this is a scientific issue. And I -- looking at some of the headlines, you would take the wrong impression from the report.

The report, I thought, was clear about the medicinal value of some of the compounds in marijuana. It talked about the need for further research to find some delivery system that was effective, because they didn't believe that smoking marijuana was an effective delivery system. And that's how this

important issue should be debated, based on the science.

Q Joe, some Congressmen oppose the exhibition game between the Cuban national team and the Orioles. This morning, you said the White House sees no problems anymore?

MR. LOCKHART: I think there were some difficult issues that had to be worked out, to make sure that this was truly what we call people-to-people contact, that somehow the Cuban government didn't benefit from the proceeds of this game; those were worked out and I think the U.S. government looks forward to the games taking place.

Q Joe, some Republicans have said the Chinese espionage scandal is at least partially responsible for President Clinton and congressional Democrats reversing course on the issue of missile defense. How do you respond to that, and if that's not the case, explain why not?

MR. LOCKHART: It's not. That is an example of the kind of partisan shot that I was talking about the other day. I think Mr. Steinberg here laid out yesterday why we could come to some agreement on national missile defense based on the position we've had and the position that the Cochran bill took. There were several important amendments passed that met our concerns, and there's no evidence that there's any connection between the two and it's part of the game playing that may seem fun to some, but may also have a destructive course on a very important foreign policy issue.

Q We had a record trade deficit in January. Are you concerned that the rising -- could put any drag on the economy?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, obviously, when you have trade numbers like we have, like we saw this month, they're worth spending time on and trying to understand. I think in large part, the numbers reflect the combination of the strength of the American economy -- there's strong consumer spending going on in our country -- and the weakness around the world, from Asia to Latin America.

I think it brings into focus the President's call for a new international financial architecture that he talked about in his Council on Foreign Relations speech last year, and also the call that's come from the President and the Secretary of the Treasury for countries like Japan and countries in the European Union to do more on stimulating domestic growth.



THE PRESS: Thank you.

END 1:47 P.M. EST

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jena V. Roscoe ( CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:13-MAY-1999 16:57:02.00

SUBJECT: Summit Update

TO: Charles N. Duncan ( CN=Charles N. Duncan/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert B. Johnson ( CN=Robert B. Johnson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robin R. Sanders ( CN=Robin R. Sanders/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Minyon Moore ( CN=Minyon Moore/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Patricia A. Battenfield ( CN=Patricia A. Battenfield/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mickey Ibarra ( CN=Mickey Ibarra/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mary E. Cahill ( CN=Mary E. Cahill/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Skye S. Philbrick ( CN=Skye S. Philbrick/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Marsha Scott ( CN=Marsha Scott/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Dougretta H. McGhee ( CN=Dougretta H. McGhee/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Kimberly A. Boissiere ( CN=Kimberly A. Boissiere/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Jocelyn A. Bucaro ( CN=Jocelyn A. Bucaro/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

Records Management@EOP ( Records Management@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL MISSION (30, as indicated in Memo to Podesta)

CONFIRMATION (28)

1. Labor Secretary Alexis Herman
2. Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy for Africa Jesse Jackson
3. Assistant to the President Ben Johnson
4. Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of Office of Aids Policy  
Sandra Thurman
5. Deputy Secretary Robert Mallett
6. Special Assistant to the President Charles Duncan
7. Associate UnderSecretary for International Affairs, Department of Labor

Mac Deshazer

8. Jena Roscoe, OPL Associate Director
9. Robin Sanders, NSC Africa Directorate
10. Rosa Whitaker, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa
11. Assistant Secretary Brad Mims
12. The Honorable Dennis Archer
13. Michael Brown
- 14./15./16. Dorothy Height/Robert Hall/Christine Toney
17. Ambassador Harold Doley
18. Kweisi Mfume
19. Richard Mays
20. Lottie Shackelford
21. Reverend Dr. Robert Franklin
22. State Representative James Thomas
23. W. Brian Maillian
24. Dr. Gaynelle Henderson - Bailey
25. Anita Estell
26. Peggy Lewis (Herman Aide)
27. Marie Nelson (Jackson Aide)
28. Dr. Julianne Malveaux
29. OPEN SLOT
30. OPEN SLOT

SUPPORT STAFF (3) \* From State Department

1. Sandy Robinson, State Department
2. Dr. Walter Downs, Jr., Medical Doctor, State Department
3. Deputy Director for West African Affairs Dennise Mathieu  
(replacement for military aide staff)

OFFICIAL PRESIDENTIAL MISSION -- "ON GROUND"

CONFIRMATION (14)

USAID General Counsel Singleton McAllister  
USDA UnderSecretary Gus Schumacher  
Ambassador George Haley  
Ambassador Johnnie Carson  
Ada Adler, Commercial Coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa, US Department of  
State  
The Honorable Wellington Webb  
Mr. C. Payne Lucas, President, Africare  
Mrs. Freddie Hill Lucas, PH.D , President, LODESTAR  
Mrs. Jesse Jackson  
Ambassador Andrew Young  
Ambassador John Bryant  
Leonard Robinson  
Mora McLean  
Edith Bartley

WAITING FOR CONFIRMATION (1)

Mrs. Coretta Scott King

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

REGRET (14)

Bill Dahlberg (replacement - Richard Mays)

Dr. Maya Angelou (replacement - Lottie Shackelford)  
Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (replacement - Ambassador  
Harold Doley)  
Sam Fried (replacement - Marie Nelson/Jackson Aide)  
Ray Milchovich (replacement - Dr. Gaynelle Henderson)  
Representative Gregory Meeks (replacement - W. Brian Maillian)  
Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (replacement - Robert Hall/Height Aide)  
Senator William Frist (replacement - Height Aide)  
Representative Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (replacement -- Mac Deshazer)  
Representative Donald Payne (replacement -- WH Staffer/Charles Duncan)  
Representative Ed Royce (replacement -- Anita Estell)  
Senator Feingold (pending replacement -- Dr. Julianne Malveaux)  
Leonard Robinson (OPEN SLOT)  
John Sweeney (OPEN SLOT)

## ALTERNATE REGRET (14)

Dr. Earl Richardson  
Mel Foote  
Franklin Raines  
Bill Lucy  
Dr. Emma Chappell  
Earl Graves  
C. Delores Tucker  
Susan Taylor  
Reverend Dr. Cecil Murray  
Gloria Johnson  
Ozzie Davis  
Ruby Dee  
William Ford  
Reverend Dr. Franklin Richardson  
Dr. Frederick Humphries

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-MAY-1999 10:01:48.00

SUBJECT: Statement by the Press Secretary: The Fifth African/African-Ame

TO: Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP ( Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Renee C. Riley@eop ( Renee C. Riley@eop [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 18-MAY-1999 09:39:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release May 18, 1999

#### STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Presidential Mission Travels to the  
Fifth African/African-American Summit

President Clinton is sending a Presidential Mission co-lead by Labor Secretary Alexis Herman and Reverend Jesse Jackson, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa, to attend the May 17-21 Fifth African/African-American Summit being convened by Reverend Leon Sullivan in Accra, Ghana.

In addition to the 33-member Presidential Mission, expectations are that 5-6,000 people, and at least 14 African Heads of State, will participate in Summit activities which will focus on combating HIV/AIDS and strengthening U.S.-Africa ties in the areas of development, trade, and investment. The

Summit's goals are complementary to President Clinton's pro-active Africa policy which is based on partnership and a stronger, closer relationship with the nations of Africa as we enter the new millennium.

# # #

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-MAY-1999 09:40:00.00

SUBJECT: Statement by the Press Secretary: The Fifth African/African-Ame

TO: 1=US ( 1=US@2=WESTERN UNION@5=ATT.COM@\*ELN\62955  
READ:NOT READ

TO: BARBUSCHAK\_K ( BARBUSCHAK\_K@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: INFOMGT ( INFOMGT@A1@CD ) (SYS)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: JOHNSON\_WC ( JOHNSON\_WC@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: SUNTUM\_M ( SUNTUM\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: WOZNIAK\_N ( WOZNIAK\_N@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:18-MAY-1999 19:49:38.64

TO: GRAY\_W ( GRAY\_W@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: NAPLAN\_S ( NAPLAN\_S@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: WEINER\_R ( WEINER\_R@A1@CD ) (DON)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: GRIBBEN\_J ( GRIBBEN\_J@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: RILEY\_R ( RILEY\_R@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: tnewell ( tnewell@ostp.eop.gov@INET )  
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TO: HEMMIG\_M ( HEMMIG\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: RUNDLET\_P ( RUNDLET\_P@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
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TO: BUDIG\_N ( BUDIG\_N@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
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TO: meglynn ( meglynn@usia.gov@INET )  
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TO: Lori E. Abrams  
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TO: Anne M. Edwards  
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TO: David E. Kalbaugh  
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TO: Julie E. Mason  
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TO: Cheryl D. Mills  
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TO: G. Timothy Saunders  
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TO: Laura D. Schwartz  
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TO: Douglas B. Sosnik  
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( Douglas B. Sosnik@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Todd Stern  
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( Todd Stern@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Barry J. Toiv  
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( Barry J. Toiv@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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( Michael Waldman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Dorian V. Weaver  
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TO: Catherine T. Kitchen  
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( Catherine T. Kitchen@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Brenda M. Anders  
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( Brenda M. Anders@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Richard Socarides  
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( Richard Socarides@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Dag Vega  
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( Dag Vega@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Barbara D. Woolley  
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( Barbara D. Woolley@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Cynthia M. Jasso-Rotunno  
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TO: Sara M. Latham  
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( Sara M. Latham@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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TO: Beverly J. Barnes  
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( Beverly J. Barnes@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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( Megan C. Moloney@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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( Laura S. Marcus@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Virginia N. Rustique  
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TO: Thomas D. Janenda  
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( Thomas D. Janenda@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Brian D. Smith  
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TO: Leanne A. Shimabukuro  
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( Leanne A. Shimabukuro@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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( newsdesk@usnewswire.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMR

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( usia01@access.digex.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMR

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TO: Peter A. Weissman  
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TO: Douglas J. Band  
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TO: Edwin R. Thomas III  
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TO: William W. McCathran  
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TO: Julia M. Payne  
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TO: Robin J. Bachman  
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TO: Nicole R. Rabner  
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TO: June Shih  
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( June Shih@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Brooks E. Scoville  
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( Brooks E. Scoville@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Neera Tanden  
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( Neera Tanden@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Sarah S. Knight  
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TO: Tracy F. Sisser  
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( Tracy F. Sisser@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Woyneab M. Wondwossen  
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TO: Judithanne V. Scourfield  
READ:NOT READ

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TO: Patrick E. Briggs  
READ:NOT READ

( Patrick E. Briggs@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Debra S. Wood  
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( Debra S. Wood@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Daniel W. Burkhardt  
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TO: Maureen A. Hudson  
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( Maureen A. Hudson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Lana Dickey  
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( Lana Dickey@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Carmen B. Fowler  
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( Carmen B. Fowler@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Lynn G. Cutler  
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( Lynn G. Cutler@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Julianne B. Corbett  
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TO: Walker F. Bass

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TO: Virginia Apuzzo ( Virginia Apuzzo@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Michael V. Terrell ( Michael V. Terrell@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Elliot J. Diringier ( Elliot J. Diringier@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Nanda Chitre ( Nanda Chitre@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Melissa M. Murray ( Melissa M. Murray@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Lisa J. Levin ( Lisa J. Levin@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Phillip Caplan ( Phillip Caplan@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Katharine Button ( Katharine Button@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Douglas R. Matties ( Douglas R. Matties@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Eli G. Attie ( Eli G. Attie@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Sean P. Maloney ( Sean P. Maloney@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Marsha Scott ( Marsha Scott@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Mark D. Neschis ( Mark D. Neschis@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Heather M. Riley ( Heather M. Riley@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Fred DuVal  
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TO: Pubs\_Backup  
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TO: William C. Haymes  
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TO: Jason H. Schechter  
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TO: Sheyda Jahanbani  
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TO: Marty J. Hoffmann  
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TO: Dorinda A. Salcido  
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( dmilbank@tnr.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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( Thomas M. Rosshirt@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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TO: Dario J. Gomez  
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TO: Rajiv Y. Mody  
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TO: Robin Leeds

( Robin Leeds@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

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TO: Deborah B. Mohile ( Deborah B. Mohile@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Sondra L. Seba ( Sondra L. Seba@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Victoria A. Lynch ( Victoria A. Lynch@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Jena V. Roscoe ( Jena V. Roscoe@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Cheryl M. Carter ( Cheryl M. Carter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Jocelyn A. Bucaro ( Jocelyn A. Bucaro@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Kelley L. O'Dell ( Kelley L. O'Dell@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Jonathan M. Young ( Jonathan M. Young@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Jackson T. Dunn ( Jackson T. Dunn@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Robert B. Johnson ( Robert B. Johnson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Charles H. Cole ( Charles H. Cole@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: drosen ( drosen@newsweek.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Jennifer Ferguson ( Jennifer Ferguson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Joshua S. Gottheimer ( Joshua S. Gottheimer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Carrie A. Street ( Carrie A. Street@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Mindy E. Myers ( Mindy E. Myers@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Larry.mcquillan ( Larry.mcquillan@reuters.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX  
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TO: Deborin ( Deborin@aol.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Skye S. Philbrick ( Skye S. Philbrick@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Brian S. Mason ( Brian.S.Mason@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Stacie Spector ( Stacie.Spector@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Matthew W. Pitcher ( Matthew.W.Pitcher@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: David R. Goodfriend ( David.R.Goodfriend@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: photo ( photo@upi.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: kenneth.prewitt ( kenneth.prewitt@ccMail.census.gov@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TO: Eli P. Joseph ( Eli.P.Joseph@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
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TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 18-MAY-1999 09:39:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release May 18, 1999

#### STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Presidential Mission Travels to the  
Fifth African/African-American Summit

President Clinton is sending a Presidential Mission co-lead by Labor Secretary Alexis Herman and Reverend Jesse Jackson, Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa, to attend the May 17-21 Fifth African/African-American Summit being convened by Reverend Leon Sullivan in Accra, Ghana.

In addition to the 33-member Presidential Mission, expectations are that 5-6,000 people, and at least 14 African Heads of State, will participate in Summit activities which will focus on combating HIV/AIDS and strengthening U.S.-Africa ties in the areas of development, trade, and investment. The Summit's goals are complementary to President Clinton's pro-active Africa policy which is based on partnership and a stronger, closer relationship with the nations of Africa as we enter the new millennium.

# # #

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-MAY-1999 17:33:24.00

SUBJECT: Statement by the Press Secretary: Presidential Delegation to Ni

TO: Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP ( Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Renee C. Riley@eop ( Renee C. Riley@eop [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 26-MAY-1999 16:57:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Yulee, Florida)

For Immediate Release

May 26, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Presidential Delegation to Nigerian Inauguration

A presidential delegation, led by Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater and the Special Envoy to the President and the Secretary of State for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa Reverend Jesse Jackson, departs tomorrow for Nigeria to attend the inauguration of Nigeria's first democratically elected civilian President in 15 years, Olusegun Obasanjo.

Members of Congress, government officials and representatives of the private sector are participating in the delegation. This broad representation

underscores the importance of Nigeria's democratic transition to the United States. It highlights the partnership we hope to strengthen and expand with all the people of Nigeria, as we work together to build a democratic, stable and prosperous future.

30-30-30

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME: 7-JUL-1999 16:53:00.00

SUBJECT: Statement by the President: Sierra Leone

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP ( Melissa B. Ratcliff@OVP@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 7-JUL-1999 16:39:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota)

For Immediate Release

July 7, 1999

#### STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of all Americans, I congratulate President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah and Revolutionary United Front leader Foday Sankoh on the signing of a peace agreement today in Lome, Togo. The agreement offers the hope of ending nearly eight years of terrible conflict in Sierra Leone and bringing peace and a brighter future for its people.

I thank President Eyedema and the Government of Togo for hosting the peace talks and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the UN, and my Special Envoy Reverend Jesse Jackson for providing critical support to the peace process. Neighboring countries also provided refuge to hundreds of thousands of Sierra Leoneans who fled the conflict and atrocities in their country. Their willingness to open

their arms to those in need is an example that inspires us all.

We are committed to working with ECOWAS, the UN and the OAU to ensure appropriate support for implementing the agreement and beginning reconciliation efforts. We will work with the people of Sierra Leone and the international community to support the safe return of more than one million refugees and internally displaced people and the reconstruction of the country.

30-30-30

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (ALL-IN-1 MAIL)

CREATOR: Ellen E. Olcott ( OLCOTT\_E ) (WHO)

CREATION DATE/TIME:13-AUG-1999 13:49:10.39

SUBJECT: attachment: 8/13 toiv, leavy briefing

TO: Deborah Akel ( AKEL\_D ) Autoforward to: Remote Addressee  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Nanda Chitre ( CHITRE\_N ) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Megan C. Moloney ( MOLONEY\_M ) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman ( NEWMAN\_E ) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
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TO: Roger V. Salazar ( SALAZAR\_R )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jason H. Schechter ( SCHECHTER\_J ) Autoforward to: Remote Addr  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Richard Socarides ( SOCARIDES\_R ) Autoforward to: Remote Addr  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Margaret M. Suntum ( SUNTUM\_M ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Natalie S. Wozniak ( WOZNIAK\_N ) (NSC)  
READ:13-AUG-1999 21:05:04.03

TEXT:

see attached

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:13-AUG-1999 13:48:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:p

ATT CREATOR: Ellen E. Olcott

TEXT:

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h#THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate  
Release

August 13, 1999

#PRESS BRIEFING  
t)BY

BARRY TOIV AND DAVID LEAVY

"The Briefing Room

12:30 P.M. EDT

MR. TOIV: Good afternoon, everybody. Happy Friday.

Q` I don't think everybody's here, Barry.

MR. TOIV: Come on in. We can wait.

Q` This is not a comment on your

MR. TOIV: Well, I'm happy today. I expect all the tough  
questions to go to David.  
vid.

Just as I mentioned earlier today, we're going to have a  
briefing at 2:30 p.m.  
on the radio address. The subject has to  
do with clean water, and we'll have Carol  
Carol Browner here again,  
making an encore appearance, as well as Elgie Holstein  
, who is  
the Associate Director for Natural Resources at OMB. This will  
take place  
place at 2:30 p.m., but it will be on camera. It will be  
embargoed until 10:06  
a.m. tomorrow, as usual.

Any questions?

MR. LEAVY: All right, thank you very much. Appreciate your  
coming in.

MR. TOIV: Well, thank you.

Q` Well, a couple of them. One about the Pentagon, new  
policy for "don't ask  
, don't tell." Any comments on that?

MR. TOIV: Well, as you know, Secretary Cohen has been  
committed to implementin  
g the "don't ask, don't tell" policy'0\*((fairly. And the President agrees with  
him on that. The



Pentagon, a little over a year ago, issued a report that said that "don't ask, don't tell" was working, but that there were a couple of areas where improvements needed to be made. I think today, the guidelines that they are issuing today are intended to address those issues. I would suggest you check over there for details of what they are announcing today.

Q` I understand that China has not conveyed any explicit threats to the United States in regards to Taiwan. But can you characterize what has changed? Has there been any ratcheting up of the rhetoric of the implied threats, of the indications that you're getting that they may be more bellicose towards Taiwan?

MR. LEAVY: Let me just say, Bill, a couple of things generally. One, the peace and stability in East Asia and the Pacific is a fundamental national interest to the United States. We are certainly watching developments closely, have been in contact with both sides about our concerns and about reiterating our policy of resuming peaceful dialogue.

Just specifically on your question, it is my understanding that the intelligence community has not seen any extraordinary developments or signs that the PRC is mobilizing for military action in the Taiwan Strait.

Q` Would you say that there has been a ratcheting up of the rhetoric in diplomatic channels? Are they trying to send signals?

MR. LEAVY: Well, I don't want to characterize, Kevin, other people's rhetoric, other people's statements. I think there has obviously been some increased tension in the Strait over the last several weeks. That comes as no surprise to any of us or anybody in this room. We've talked about that. But I think what we have to do is look forward, and we have communicated to both sides that there is a danger of escalating tensions, that we have to resume a dialog based on a One China formula. And we're going to continue to do that.

Q` Specifically, there was one report that the embassy

here had been saying that they are going to take action.

MR. LEAVY: I would steer you away from that report. As I said earlier today, we have not received any threats or ultimatums from the PRC. I checked about that again this afternoon, earlier this afternoon, and that was confirmed. So, I would steer you away from that report.

I would just say, though, generally, that there is nothing new in China's longstanding position. They have made clear that from their point of view Taiwan is an internal matter, and they hope that there is peaceful reunification, but they don't rule out military means. We have a longstanding disagreement on that. So I don't think any the context is not new.

Q: Does the United States still have a commitment to go to the defense of Taiwan, should there be an unprovoked attack from the mainland?

MR. LEAVY: Our longstanding position this goes back many years, both Republican and Democratic administrations is that any effort to resolve the issue of Taiwan by other than peaceful means would be considered of grave concern to the United States. That position hasn't changed today.

Q: How would you view a Chinese seizure of a small Taiwan-controlled island or some smaller military action?

MR. LEAVY: See, that's the kind of hypothetical question that I want to avoid getting into. Again, the Taiwan Relations Act has been in place for many years. It has guided our relationship on this issue, our policy on this issue. And I don't want to change, or speculate on hypotheticals today.

Q: David, is there concern that the U.S. might get drawn into something because of this rhetoric?

MR. LEAVY: Oh, I think there's concern that the interests of both sides won't be advanced. The One China policy that the President has advocated and that has been the foundation of our approach to this issue for many, many years has been successful for all sides. Both China and Taiwan have benefited

economical  
ly. Taiwan's the sixth largest economy in the world.  
Chinese economic growth has  
as grown vastly over the last 20 years.

So the formula is a successful one. We don't see the need  
to change that, and  
we have no intention of changing that.

Q` ` Let me follow, too. You said no one had contacted the  
United States with  
a threat. Has anyone from either side, Taiwan  
or China, contacted the United S  
tates with a concern over the  
rhetoric, a concern over the threat?

MR. LEAVY: Well, we've had a number of discussions, both at  
the State Departme  
nt and with officials in China. As you  
remember, the State Department sent Ass  
istant Secretary Stanley  
Roth and Ken Lieberthal from the National Security Cou  
ncil,  
several weeks ago, to Beijing to discuss our concern about the  
rising rhe  
toric, and a need to get back to a dialogue and to getH&O\*''@@back to the two p  
arties talking about the issues. And so we have  
been engaged on this issue. A  
nd certainly, there is a concern  
that this kind of thing leads to accidents, le  
ads to  
misunderstandings, and that we want to focus both parties on  
getting bac  
k to the table.

Q` ` You said you made a point of saying that there were  
no extraordinary sign  
s coming into the intelligence community of

MR. LEAVY: Extraordinary developments or signs.

Q` ` Right. Does that mean that there is something less  
than extraordinary or  
you're telling us what hasn't happened.  
Can you tell us what has happened?

MR. LEAVY: Well, I want to stay away from commenting on  
intelligence capabilit  
ies and what we do and don't know. I think  
that's a line we haven't crossed, a  
nd appropriately so. But, as  
I said earlier, it's our judgment, the United Sta  
tes government's  
judgment, that there aren't any extraordinary developments or  
signs that there is a mobilization on the PRC's part.

Q` ` David, can you clarify just the conversations between  
the administration a  
nd the Taiwan and Chinese government? Have  
those conversations been stepped up

in recent days? And at what level, if you can clarify, have these conversations been going?

MR. LEAVY: I don't think there has been a stepping up over recent days. Since this issue came to the forefront several weeks ago, we've had a number of discussions with the PRC and with people on Taiwan. There is nothing new in the last several days that I'm aware of.

Our general approach hasn't changed, though, and let me just repeat it again. The United States has a OneChina policy. Our approach is based on dialogue between the two sides and a peaceful resolution of any differences. We've communicated that and we will continue to do so.

Q` ` Let's put the intelligence community issue aside for a minute. If you look in the newspaper this morning, there are several people quoted on the record saying Chinese government representatives came to speak with them and made bellicose statements that there was some sort of imminent military action likely against Taiwan. Is that troubling those facts, which are known facts, are they troubling to the administration?

MR. LEAVY: Well, again, I don't think there is anything new in what we are hearing. China has a longstanding position that Taiwan is an internal matter, that they want to see it resolved peacefully, but they don't rule out the use of force. We have a disagreement with that. We don't think that's the way to go. We think there has to be a peaceful resolution to this issue.

It has to come through dialogue. And so there is nothing new in that articulation of those themes. I don't think anyone from the United States government was quoted in those stories, and as I said earlier, no one from the administration has been approached about any particular threat or ultimatum.

Q` ` But the analysts just to follow up these analysts who were quoted, who are respected China analysts, say that they did feel that there was something imminent, or that there was something new. The U.S. government just doesn't agree

with that?

MR. LEAVY: No, I can't speak to that. As I said, we haven't been approached with any specific threat or any specific warning. And just the general notion that at this is a new policy I would just push back on, because this is something that at President Jiang and other Chinese leaders have articulated for some time. So the Chinese have not ruled out the use of military force. We disagree with them. We've made that clear. Our policy is peaceful dialogue.

Q: The question goes, though, David to whether this is imminent or not. We know now that that is their policy, but there seem to be signals that something may happen sooner rather than later.

MR. LEAVY: Well, I don't have any indication of that. And as I said earlier, it's our intelligence community's best judgment that there aren't any signs that there is PRC military activity underway.

Q: What kind of activities, if any, is the President himself engaged in relative to this topic?

MR. LEAVY: Well, he hasn't been engaged over the last 24 hours. As you know, we will be seeing President Jiang at APEC in Auckland, New Zealand, the first week of September. That's going to be an important time for the two leaders to engage on this issue and a number of issues, including trade, human rights, non proliferation, I believe that will be on the margins of the APEC Summit. So I think that will be the next opportunity for the President to sit down with President Jiang and go over the wide range of bilateral issues.

Q: But he hasn't been consulting in recent days with his own advisors and what to do about this?  
H&O: MR. LEAVY: Well Mr. Berger has kept him up to date. I believe he briefed him this morning, or he will early this afternoon. But he hasn't been engaged personally.

Q: David, as far as the policy, how do you respond to Republican allegations

that when it comes time to pressuring China and Taiwan on this issue, the Clinton administration has only been putting pressure on Taiwan to ratchet down tensions?

MR. LEAVY: I would reject that. The United States takes actions based on our own interests. We have had a formula that has managed this issue for some time that's been both Republican and Democratic administrations. As I said earlier, it has benefited all the parties Taiwan, the PRC, the United States. We're going to continue to do that. I think it's not for us to pressure anybody, but to make clear that both sides their agendas can be advanced, their prosperity, their security can be advanced by peaceful dialogue.

Q` Last night the President told the Jewish leaders that he agreed that we should do more to start monitoring, if not infiltrating, some hate groups. Do you see anything today? Any directive? Any review of how that would be done? Any stepping up?

MR. TOIV: I don't have any additional information for you on that, no. The Justice Department seeks to do an effective job of dealing with hate crimes, certainly, and they also monitor hate groups. But I don't have any information on additional work that's being done.

Q` But Clinton said he would look into it personally, and said that he would do more.

MR. TOIV: And if he said that, he will.

Q` Barry, it was a year ago that the President was preparing for his grand jury testimony. Any reflections about the atmosphere then, and how things have changed since then around here, and at the White House?

MR. TOIV: Nope.

Q` Barry, I want to go back real quick to David about Ethiopia and Eritrea. What is the new development on the White House side in that conflict?

MR. TOIV: Okay. As you know, the United States has actively worked for a peaceful resolution of the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea over the past year, and continues to work in cooperation with the OAU to bring about a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

As you know, Tony Lake was appointed as the President's special envoy to this conflict over a year ago. He has traveled there, I think, close to six times. There has been encouraging movement on the peace process over the last few weeks. At the Organization of African Unity's summit in Algiers in early July, the OAU proposed excuse me, the modalities for implementation of the OAU's framework agreement, both Ethiopia and Eritrea have now accepted the framework agreement, and the modalities for its implementation. We will continue to engage to move this process forward.

Q` A followup. Jesse Jackson has been very pivotal in breaking tensions with other factional peoples on that continent. Is the White House thinking at all of bringing Reverend Jackson into this situation, or is he involved at all?

MR. LEAVY: I don't think so. As you know, Reverend Jackson did extraordinary work to bring about a resolution of the conflict in Sierra Leone. He deserves great credit for that. He saved a lot of lives and prevented a lot more violence. I think Tony Lake has the portfolio on Ethiopia and Eritrea. He as well has spent a considerable amount of his own time traveling there, I think, close to half a dozen times.

So I think between Tony Lake, our team at the State Department, Susan Rice and our team here, led by Gail Smith, have been quite engaged and quite successful.

So I don't see any need for Reverend Jackson to come in.

All right. Have a great weekend, everybody.

Q` Barry?

Q` Hold on.

MR. LEAVY: Oh, Barry, I'm sorry.

Q` Week ahead?

Q` Barry, I've got one question for you before you go away. Black Navy veterans have asked the President to dismiss mutiny charges against black sailors who refused to load ammo on the ships after the 1944 Port Chicago disaster in California. Does the request have merit and, if so, what is the President doing about it?

MR. TOIV: Well, until recently, there had not been a request for pardon for any of these individuals. Now, a few months ago, a request such as request was made. It's being considered under the usual process at the Justice Department, and obviously the President will give careful consideration to that.

Q` Is the President well aware of the situation?

MR. TOIV: I believe he is.

Q` Any time frame?

MR. TOIV: I don't have a time frame for you, no.

Q` Barry, back on the gays in the military; as a candidate, the President said that he would end discrimination against gays in the military, "don't ask, don't tell" falls far short of that. Has the President given up hope that during his term in office he'll end discrimination against gays?

MR. TOIV: Well the President believes that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy has worked effectively. And I expect that that will be the policy throughout his administration.

Q` But you concede it doesn't end discrimination that if you admit you're a homosexual in the military, you get thrown out?

MR. TOIV: Well, I will concede that it is a policy that has worked, and is the best policy that can be workable at this time.

Q` Yes, but if it's worked, why are they changing it?

MR. TOIV: Well, no, it has worked. As I said before I'm not sure if you heard what I had to say about it before, but there have been a couple of areas that



improvements were needed.  
And in fact, that's the work that's been going on t  
hat has led to  
the guidelines that are being issued today. And so I said it  
w  
orked. I didn't say it was working perfectly.

Q`                    Barry, the Arkansas DemocratGazette reported this  
morning that during a fu  
ndraiser on Saturday, several members of  
the Secret Service lined up to obstruc  
t camera view of the  
President as he greeted Mrs. Arkansas in the ropeline, and  
that  
they later apologized for doing that. Do you know if that  
happened, or i  
f it's common for the Secret Service to be used in  
that way, to interfere with  
press coverage of the President?

MR. TOIV: The answer to the second question, which is the  
fairer question of t  
he two questions to be asking me up here, is  
I don't believe so.H&0\*''@@Q`                    We  
ll, what's the answer to the first one?

MR. TOIV: The answer to the first question, of course, as  
you know, I've no id  
ea, since that's the first time I'm hearing  
of that.

Week ahead?

Q`                    Yes.

MR. TOIV: Let's see. I have to do this one by heart.  
Monday, the President i  
s traveling to Kansas City, where he will  
address the annual convention of the  
Veterans of Foreign Wars.  
And he will speak about foreign policy issues there,  
and I think  
I'll need to leave it at that for now.

MR. LEAVY: I can do a little bit more, but that's fine. I  
mean, if folks want  
, I can talk afterward.

MR. TOIV: Yes, David will fill you in a little bit more. I  
think he's going t  
o focus to some degree on our obligations  
overseas. And that's the only event  
planned for that trip. He'll  
be back late afternoon, I believe, or maybe early  
evening at the  
latest.

On Tuesday, the President will announce some new PSAs  
relating to school violen  
ce. With kids starting to come back to

school, obviously, this is a subject that is on a lot of people's minds, particularly with the incidents that occurred during the last school year. And there are going to be some new PSAs that are unveiled at that time.

Also on Tuesday, we have the visit from the NCAA champion Tennessee Vols, the football champions. They'll be here on Tuesday.

Wednesday, the President is down. And then Thursday, he heads to Martha's Vineyard for a well-deserved vacation.

Any questions?

Q` Is he going to say anything on the way out today?

MR. TOIV: Is he going to say no.

Okay, thank you. Have a good weekend, everybody.

8)END`(#=12:50 P.M. EDT===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason\_H.\_Schechter@who.eop.gov@INET@LNGTWY ( Jason\_H.\_Schechter@who.eop.gov

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-SEP-1999 18:23:57.00

SUBJECT: Remarks by Samuel Berger at Africare Dinner

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Margaret M. Suntum@eop ( Margaret M. Suntum@eop [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release  
September 28, 1999

As Prepared for Delivery

REMARKS BY SAMUEL R. BERGER  
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

AFRICARE DINNER  
WASHINGTON, DC

September 27, 1999

Let me begin by thanking C. Payne Lucas for bringing us together tonight and for all Africare does to help African communities stand on their feet. Africare's approach - listening to local needs, responding to local initiatives, complementing, rather than preempting local efforts, has become America's approach to Africa in the last several years - but you've been at it for almost 30 years. Rev. Tutu, Mrs. Machel, Secretary Herman, Brady Anderson, Ambassador Young, Ambassador McHenry, Al Freeman, members of the diplomatic community, members of Congress:

A year and a half ago, during his trip to Africa, the President went to a school outside of Kampala. Surrounded by African children and teachers and community leaders - he said it was time for America to see Africa with new eyes . . . to build a relationship based on mutual respect and mutual interest. I would like to take this opportunity, surrounded by African friends and friends of Africa, to speak about what we are doing to give life to those words.

Let me begin by talking about where we've been. As the President also said in Uganda last year, America has not, throughout history, always done right by Africa.

Let's look just at this century. During the Cold War, America's choice of friends in Africa was too often determined almost exclusively by the strength of their opposition to communism, and not by their commitment to democracy and development. Much of Africa became a battleground -- between tyrants pretending to be anti-communists to receive our aid and tyrants pretending to be Marxists to receive Soviet aid. We did far too little to help develop the potential of Africa's people and Africa's economies.

You could argue that we really didn't have an Africa policy then. We had a global policy of containing communism that saw the entire continent through East-West eyes, not through U.S.-African eyes. It did little to advance our interests in Africa or the interests of Africans.

This President has set out to change the lens through which we see Africa, to change the very contours of our relationship. He has encouraged Americans to view Africa in all its diversity: to face squarely the continuing tragedies of famine and conflict and genocide, but also to see the progress most Africans are making toward freedom and peace, and the promise it represents. We have sought to build a partnership with the agents of that progress -- not to do something 'for' them, but to work with them to advance the interests we share.

Our interests are clear. As the bombings in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi made clear, the battle against terrorism must be waged in and with Africa. The same is true for the fight against proliferation -- both Sudan and Libya have tried to obtain weapons of mass destruction -- and for the struggle to protect the global environment. Few Americans are aware that we now obtain between 12 and 14 percent of our oil from Africa, and that this could increase to 20 percent over the next decade. Africa is also home to over 700 million producers and consumers -- we have been missing out on their contributions for too long and should seize every opportunity to bring them into the global mainstream. Finally, let's remember that our country is trusted to lead in the world in part because we are trusted to do right by others. We cannot maintain our influence or our strength if we cynically shut our eyes to the problems and promise of an entire continent.

It was to advance these interests that the President traveled last year to Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana, and Senegal. That extraordinary journey addressed virtually every issue on our agenda with Africa, from promoting trade and investment, to defending human rights and democracy, to advancing economic development, to preventing conflict and genocide.

You may have heard recently that some members of Congress have criticized that trip as a waste of money. Let me say loud and clear that the most comprehensive and serious trip to Africa of any sitting President in history was one of the best investments America could make. It was all the more successful because we took with us members of the cabinet and Congress who are working with Africans to help realize the continent's economic promise, and leaders from the private sector who are now investing in Africa's future.

If the complaint is that our Administration made Africa more than just a refueling stop on the way to someplace else, I am proud to say we are guilty as charged. I wouldn't be at all surprised if we do it again.

This is a moment when our engagement with Africa can make a difference. In the last decade, more than half of Africa's nations have embarked on transitions to democracy, none more hopeful than this year's transition in Nigeria. Economies that were shrinking in the 1980's are now growing at rates of 4 percent or more. More Africans than ever have the opportunity to improve their lives, the power to shape their destiny and the right to hold their leaders accountable. But Africa's new democracies still face enormous obstacles, many inherited from a past when their development was arrested by external design and internal failures. What are those obstacles, and what can we do, in partnership with Africans, to help overcome them?

First, let's recognize that barriers to trade are barriers to advancement for Africans who risk being left behind by the global economy. That's why the President launched a Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity, and why he has worked with the Congress to urge passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

Will trade and investment alone eliminate poverty in Africa? Of course not. But without it, Africans will never have what the people of virtually every other region in the world increasingly depend upon: a chance to market the products of their labor and creativity beyond their borders. That is what Africans have told us they want and need. By passing the Growth and Opportunity Act, this Congress can make clear that, just like with the rest of the world, America wants and needs a deeper trade relationship with Africa.

A second obstacle to Africa's progress is the burden of debt. That's why we and our G-7 partners have adopted a plan to reduce by up to 70 percent the outstanding debt of the world's poorest countries in a way that will free resources for education and health. Enough pledges have already been made to allow the first group of nations to start seizing the benefits of this program now.

A third obstacle is the lack of access to education and to the technology that unlocks the door to the information economy. That's why we have launched an Education Initiative, to support primary schools in Africa, to improve the prospects of women and girls, to link African and American educational institutions, and to improve access to the Internet.

A fourth obstacle to development is chronic disease. Over the next 10 years in Africa, AIDS is expected to kill more people than all the wars of the 20th century, combined. Each year, diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, and pneumonia leave millions of children without parents and millions of parents without children. Yet today, only 2% of all global biomedical research is devoted to the major killers of the developing world. This is both an injustice and an economic calamity for Africa, for no nation can defeat poverty if it is overwhelmed by the needs of the ill.

That's why we have asked the Congress for an additional \$100 million to fight, with Africa, the epidemic of AIDS. And in his address to the UN last Tuesday, the President committed the United States to a concerted effort to accelerate the development and delivery of vaccines for diseases like malaria, AIDS, and TB, working with the private sector to create incentives for medical research that will save lives, and liberate nations from this crippling burden.

But the greatest obstacle to Africa's progress may well be the persistence of conflict, including in Sierra Leone, the Congo, Sudan, Angola and between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

These wars have different causes, but common features. They have brought into stark relief the need for stronger institutions in Africa to ensure that disputes are resolved by peaceful means. Unregulated borders are vulnerable to the spread of small arms and illegal trade; judicial institutions are often too weak to settle grievances and satisfy claims for justice; the regional organizations necessary to guarantee collective security are only now coming into their own.

But something new and promising has also begun to emerge from the horror of these conflicts. In each case, African nations have taken the lead to work

for peace. And their leadership has allowed us to address these conflicts in partnership with African leaders and institutions. Instead of facing a choice between abdicating America's responsibility and imposing America's solutions, we have a golden opportunity to support African efforts to stop wars and save lives.

In seizing that opportunity, our first step has been to work with Africans to help strengthen their capacity to unite for peace. For example, we have launched the African Crisis Response Initiative, which has already trained over 4000 African peacekeepers, some of whom have been deployed to Sierra Leone. And we have launched the Great Lakes Justice Initiative, to help strengthen legal institutions and to counter the culture of impunity that has plagued that region.

We have also tried to play an active supporting role when African nations have taken responsibility to end conflicts on their continent.

In Sierra Leone, for example, West African nations took the lead when their peacekeeping organization, ECOMOG, intervened and its leaders finally forged a peace agreement. But I am proud that throughout the process, the United States played a helpful role. Over the last decade, we have provided over \$100 million to ECOMOG. Our Special Envoy for Africa Rev. Jesse Jackson, with Ambassador Howard Jeter, facilitated the signing of a cease fire without preconditions, paving the way for the agreement the regional countries forged in July.

In the Congo, the parties to the conflict forged a cease fire, under the leadership of President Chiluba of Zambia, and with the involvement of Presidents Mbeki of South Africa, Mkapa of Tanzania and Chissano of Mozambique. But here too, I am pleased with the role we played.

For the last year, former Congressman and now Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Howard Wolpe, has flown more than 20 missions in the region, trying to keep the nations talking about common interests, even as they fought over their differences. For the last several months, quietly and behind the scenes, we have facilitated a dialogue between opponents in this tragic war.

Within days of the clashes last month between Ugandan and Rwandan forces in the Congo, a US team worked with those countries to reach a cease fire and an agreement on securing rebel signatures to the Congo-wide peace agreement. And that agreement reflects the dialogue we've had with the region since last fall about the need for a new regional security arrangement in Central Africa, and for greater citizen participation in shaping Congo's future.

The OAU has taken the lead to resolve the deadly conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and thanks to their efforts peace is closer today than at any time in the last fifteen months. My predecessor Tony Lake has made a half dozen trips to the region on our behalf to support this process. The President has actively engaged President Isaias and Prime Minister Meles.

On Thursday, we will be holding the first session of the US-Angolan Consultative Commission, which will address among other things that country's continuing conflict. We are working with the UN to strengthen enforcement of multilateral sanctions against UNITA, and to find ways to cut off the illegal trade in diamonds that has fueled this and other African wars.

Finally, in Sudan, we have taken the lead, working with our European and

African partners, to revitalize the regional peace process led by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. We recently appointed a Special Envoy, Harry Johnston, to redouble our engagement.

In each of these cases, our role has been to help Africans find African solutions to African conflicts, and, perhaps as important, to do so in a way that strengthens the regional capacity to prevent conflicts in the future. I know many of you are asking if, in the wake of Kosovo and East Timor, America and others should intervene more directly in Africa's conflicts. Let me try to provide an answer.

First of all, I do not believe that the international community's actions in Kosovo and East Timor shift our attention from Africa's conflicts. On the contrary. They have focused the whole world's attention on the need to strengthen our collective capacity to respond to death and suffering on a massive scale - wherever it may happen. This was the main subject of debate at the UN General Assembly last week. And everyone engaged in that debate understands one of the main challenges we face lies in Africa.

Let's be clear about what that challenge is. Africans are not asking us to respond to conflicts such as those in Sierra Leone, or the Congo, or Ethiopia-Eritrea, with NATO bombing, or by doing the job for them.

Africans are asking us to recognize that their crises are not merely African problems -- any more than Kosovo was purely a European problem or East Timor was purely an Asian problem. Africans are asking the international community to lend tangible support when they take appropriate action to address these crises, or keep the peace. Africans are asking for help in building the institutional capacity to sustain the leadership they are willing to provide. And they are asking the United States in particular whether we are prepared to provide a share of the resources needed to back up the peace we help broker.

The President is deeply committed to meeting this challenge. In his speech last week to the UN, he made clear that neither America nor any other country can do everything, or be everywhere. But he also said: "Simply because we have different interests in different parts of the world does not mean we can be indifferent to the destruction of innocents in any part of the world." He said that "when we are faced with deliberate, organized campaigns to murder whole peoples, or expel them from their land, the care of victims is important, but not enough. We should work to end the violence."

That's why we supported the deployment of additional observers to Sierra Leone in July. It is why we are actively engaged in shaping a peacekeeping mission in that country, a mission that must include ECOMOG, the African force that took the lead when it was time to intervene, and the United Nations, which can mobilize the support of the whole world.

It's why we supported UN Secretary-General Annan in July when he swiftly deployed military liaison officers to the Congo. We will work with the region to consolidate the Congo agreement, which provides not only a cease fire but a blueprint for the region's long-term collective security.

When we reach an agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia ? and we must, because the consequences of another round of war would be tragic and devastating -- the United States will directly support the planned OAU mission to keep the peace.

We can and must do more to meet these challenges, and to do that we must

pose a challenge to ourselves.

First, we need leadership. I can assure you that President Clinton's commitment to a new relationship between the United States and Africa is strong and deep-rooted.

Second, our Congress must recognize that it is in our national interest to invest in Africa's future, and to provide the resources necessary to keep the peace and prevent the wars.

Congress has been willing to fund aid to the victims of conflict and famine in Africa. Right now, our spending on humanitarian assistance for a handful of African crises is twice as high as our spending on development for the entire continent. It is more than 10 times as high as our spending on peacekeeping. And this year's spending bill for foreign operations cuts our request for development assistance to Africa by more than 40 percent. We will fight that, because we'd save money as well as lives if we invested more in prevention.

Third, we need the continuing commitment of the American people to their own partnership with the people of Africa. The friends of Africa gathered here tonight, as individuals and as participants in the National Summit on Africa, the Constituency for Africa, and the untiring campaign of C. Payne Lucas and Africare, are key to our collective success.

I've described to you our efforts to make good on the promise of a new partnership with Africa. We are headed in the right direction on a long road. I ask for your continuing support and leadership in keeping us moving down that road.

History provides no guarantees, but neither does it place artificial barriers on what we can achieve. The last decade of this century has seen so many hard earned miracles, from the end of the Cold War, to the spread of democracy to more than half the world's people, to the birth of freedom in South Africa and Nigeria. Surely, if all this is possible, Africa can overcome its difficulties and find its way into the global mainstream -- with peace and rising prosperity for all its people.

We are united here today not just by our hope, but by our belief that this will happen if we seize the opportunities before us. And we are united by our conviction that working with Africans to reach that goal is not only right, but right for us.

Thank you.

# # #



RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jendayi E. Frazer ( CN=Jendayi E. Frazer/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-OCT-1999 21:36:12.00

SUBJECT: Re: Possible delegation in the event of death

TO: Skye S. Philbrick ( CN=Skye S. Philbrick/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Jena V. Roscoe ( CN=Jena V. Roscoe/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Jendayi E. Frazer ( CN=Jendayi E. Frazer/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Mary E. Cahill ( CN=Mary E. Cahill/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Gayle E. Smith ( CN=Gayle E. Smith/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Below is the consolidated list of names from State, OPL, NSC/AF, and NSC/Legis.

Recommended delegates in priority order taking into account those who went to the South Africa and Nigeria inaugurals. OPL may want to rerank the private citizens.

Head of Delegation:

1. Former President Jimmy Carter, (head of delegation)
2. Rev. Jesse Jackson (first alternate head of delegation) If Carter leads
3. Bill Richardson, Secretary of Energy (second alternate head of delegation)

Congressional Delegates:

4. James Clyburn or CBC Representative (of his designation)
5. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (Foreign Ops)
6. Ed Royce (Africa Subcomm Chair)

USG Delegates:

7. Thomas Pickering, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs
8. Brady Anderson, USAID Administrator
9. Susan E. Rice, Asst. Secretary of State for African Affairs
10. Gayle E. Smith, Special Assistant to the President for African Affairs
11. Howard Wolpe, Special Envoy for Great Lakes issues

Private Delegates:

12. AMB Andrew Young, GoodWorks International
13. Ronald Dellums, Constituency for Africa
14. Gay McDougall, International Human Rights Law Group
15. AMB. David Miller, Corporate Council on Africa
21. Carl Ware, Director of International Operations, Coca-Cola

Corporation

16. Kwesi Mfume, President of the NAACP
17. Randall Robinson, TransAfrica
18. Cortland Cox, Director, Minority Business Development Agency
19. Ernest Green, Chairman, African Development Foundation
20. William Lucy, Coalition of Black Trade Unionist
  
22. Carl McCall, Comptroller of the State of New York
23. Mora McLean, President, African-American Institute
24. Reverend Leon Sullivan, Founder & CEO IFESH/African African-American Summit
25. C. Payne Lucas, President, Africare
26. Henry Benien, President, Northwestern University
27. Ernest Wilson, Director, Conflict Management Center, University of Maryland
28. Leonard Robinson, National Summit on Africa

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 6-DEC-1999 10:58:55.00

SUBJECT: Jesse Jackson's official title

TO: Paul K. Orzulak ( CN=Paul K. Orzulak/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Maureen T. Shea ( CN=Maureen T. Shea/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

naplan ( naplan [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
for acknowledgment purposes:

Special Envoy for the President and Secretary of State for the Promotion  
of Democracy in Africa

(phew.)

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Matthew K. Mclean ( CN=Matthew K. Mclean/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-APR-2000 15:15:41.00

SUBJECT:

TO: Catherine E. Byrne ( CN=Catherine E. Byrne/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gayle E. Smith ( CN=Gayle E. Smith/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Gayle and Cathy --

Note the following draft cable. It is not yet released. Note also that it is upbeat from Kabbah.

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bryan Dalton [SMTP:bryan\_dalton@yahoo.com]

> Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2000 11:15 PM

> To: daltonbw@state.gov

> Subject: jackson

>

> SIERRA LEONE: SPECIAL ENVOY REV. JESSE JACKSON'S CALL

> TO PRESIDENT KABBAH

>

> SUMMARY

> -----

>

> ON APRIL 15, PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR DEMOCRACY

> IN AFRICA REVEREND JESSE JACKSON CALLED PRESIDENT

> AHMED TEJAN KABBAH IN FREETOWN. A PLANNED

> CONVERSATION WITH REBEL LEADER FODAY SANKOH OF THE

> REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT (RUF) DID NOT TAKE PLACE

> BECAUSE SANKOH, DESPITE HAVING COMMITTED TO TAKE A

> CALL FROM JACKSON, WAS AT THE PORT OF FREETOWN  
> NEGOTIATING THE RELEASE OF SOME TRUCKS HE HAD  
> IMPORTED. JACKSON EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR KABBAH'S  
> EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE PEACE PROCESS AND URGED  
> CONTINUED PRESSURE ON SANKOH TO CONSOLIDATE THE PEACE.  
> KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED SANKOH IS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PEACE PROCESS, AND GAVE A MORE UPBEAT ASSESSMENT OF  
> THE SITUATION AND OF PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS THAN HE  
> HAS IN THE RECENT PAST. KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THERE  
> HAD BEEN A BREAKTHROUGH WITH LIBERIAN PRESIDENT  
> CHARLES TAYLOR SECURING HIS COOPERATION WITHIN THE  
> FRAMEWORK OF THE MANO RIVER UNION (MRU). LIBERIA'S  
> MINISTERS OF SECURITY, DEFENSE AND JUSTICE ARRIVED IN  
> FREETOWN ON APRIL 15 TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATIONS  
> FOR A SUMMIT OF THE MRU LEADERS ON MAY 8. END  
> SUMMARY.  
>  
> ON APRIL 15, PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR DEMOCRACY  
> IN AFRICA REV. JESSE JACKSON CALLED SIERRA LEONE  
> PRESIDENT AHMED TEJAN KABBAH. FREETOWN AMBASSADOR  
> JOSEPH MELROSE, DIRECTOR FOR WEST AFRICAN AFFAIRS  
> SHARON P. WILKINSON AND SIERRA LEONE DESK OFFICER  
> (NOTETAKER) ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE CALL.  
>  
> AFTER BEGINNING THE CONVERSATION WITH A PRAYER, REV.  
> JACKSON TOLD KABBAH HE HOPED TO VISIT SIERRA LEONE  
> SOON. JACKSON NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON PLANS  
> TRAVEL TO AFRICA LATER IN THE YEAR, AND THAT SIERRA  
> LEONE IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE PRESIDENT AND TO  
> SECRETARY ALBRIGHT. JACKSON GAVE HIS VIEW THAT THERE

> IS A REAL PROSPECT FOR PEACE IN SIERRA LEONE, AND THAT  
> KABBAH'S INTEGRITY AND STABILITY WERE KEY ELEMENTS IN  
> THE PROCESS. JACKSON EXPLAINED THAT PROGRESS ON REBEL  
> COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOME PEACE AGREEMENT WAS NECESSARY  
> BEFORE THE U.S. AND THE UNITED NATIONS COULD RELEASE  
> ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE PROCESS. HE NOTED  
> THE NEED FOR MORE PRESSURE ON REBEL LEADER Foday  
> SANKOH OF THE REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT (RUF) TO "TAK  
> THE RISK OF PEACE." JACKSON URGED KABBAH TO KEEP HIS  
> SPIRITS UP.

>  
> KABBAH REPORTED HAVING MET WITH SANKOH ALONE ON APRIL  
> 13. SANKOH ASSURED KABBAH HE WAS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PEACE AND WOULD HAVE RETURNED TO THE BUSH LONG AGO IF  
> HE WERE NOT. WHILE KABBAH SAID HE WOULD NEVER TRUST  
> THE WORD OF A REBEL, HE HAS ESTABLISHED A WORKING  
> RAPPORT WITH SANKOH. KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THAT  
> 'SANKOH'S BACKBONE HAS BEEN BROKEN,' AND THAT SANKOH  
> IS NO LONGER IN A POSITION TO MOUNT A SUSTAINED WAR  
> AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE  
> BELIEVES SANKOH IS PURSUING THE PEACE BOTH BECAUSE HE  
> WANTS TO AND BECAUSE HE HAS NO OTHER CHOICE. KABBAH  
> BELIEVES SANKOH'S FOLLOWERS ARE TIRED, AND HIS  
> LIEUTENANTS WHO HAVE POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE  
> ENJOYING A GOOD LIFE THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO GIVE UP.  
>

> KABBAH REPORTED HAVING PRESSED SANKOH FOR A DATE ON  
> WHICH SANKOH WOULD TOUR REBEL-HELD AREAS TO PROMOTE  
> THE DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION  
> (DDR) OF EX-COMBATANTS. SANKOH HAD SOME REASONABLE

> SUGGESTIONS, HE SAID, SUGGESTING THAT HE TRAVEL FIRST  
> TO THE TENSE AREAS ALONG THE BORDER WITH GUINEA, THEN  
> TO AREAS NEAR THE LIBERIAN BORDER IN THE EAST. KABBAH  
> BELIEVES THAT SMALL ARMS STOLEN FROM THE GUINEA  
> BATTALION IN JANUARY MAY BE IN THE WESTERN AREA.

>

> KABBAH SAID THE UN MISSION TO SIERRA LEONE (UNAMSIL)  
> IS REPORTING THAT THE REBELS HAVE DISMANTLED MOST  
> ROADBLOCKS IN EASTERN SIERRA LEONE. HE SAID HE DOES  
> NOT BELIEVE SANKOH'S CLAIM THAT THE RUF ARE HOLDING NO  
> ABDUCTEES, AND HE PLANS TO VERIFY THE TRUTH BY GOING  
> TO THE REBEL-HELD AREAS. KABBAH REPORTED THAT UNAMSIL  
> IS NOW DEPLOYED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE COUNTRY, AND HAS  
> NOT ESTABLISHED A FULL-TIME PRESENCE IN THE  
> DIAMOND-MINING AREA OF KONO ONLY FOR LACK OF  
> SUFFICIENT TROOPS AT THIS TIME.

>

> KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVES SANKOH IS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PROCESS AND IS MAINLY INTERESTED IN SECURING AS MANY  
> ILLICIT DIAMONDS AS POSSIBLE TO FINANCE AN ELECTORAL  
> CAMPAIGN. KABBAH DOWNPLAYED THE IMPORTANCE OF  
> SANKOH'S DIAMOND DEALINGS, ON THE GROUNDS THAT SIERRA  
> LEONE'S DIAMONDS HAD BEEN STOLEN BY VARIOUS PARTIES  
> FOR DECADES, BUT NOTED THAT THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE  
> WERE AWARE OF SANKOH'S ACTIVITIES AND WOULD HOLD IT  
> AGAINST HIM.

>

> IN RESPONSE TO REV. JACKSON'S REQUEST FOR HIS  
> ASSESSMENT OF THE ROLE LIBERIAN PRESIDENT TAYLOR IS  
> PLAYING IN THE PROCESS, KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THERE

> HAD BEEN A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MANU  
> RIVER UNION. AFTER A DELAY, TAYLOR'S MINISTERS OF  
> SECURITY, DEFENSE AND JUSTICE ARRIVED IN FREETOWN  
> APRIL 15 TO TAKE PART IN PREPARATORY TALKS FOR AN MRU  
> SUMMIT IN CONAKRY KABBAH SAID WAS PLANNED FOR MAY 8.  
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> WHEN THEY GATHERED IN BAMAKO IN EARLY MARCH THAT HE  
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> WAS TIRED OF BEING BLAMED FOR SPREADING INSTABILITY  
> AND BEING DENIED INTERNATIONAL AID AS A RESULT.

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> COMMENT: AFTER PRESIDENT KABBAH HUNG UP, REV. JACKSON  
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> CONTRAST TO EARLIER CONVERSATIONS IN WHICH HE  
> DEMONSTRATED "CYNICISM OR DESPAIR." AMB. MELROSE  
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> FOR THE PAST WEEK, IN PART DUE TO HIS POSITIVE MEETING  
> WITH SANKOH.

> ---

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Hillman, Andrew S MSX ( "Hillman, Andrew S MSX" <HillmanA@state.gov> [ UNKN

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-APR-2000 18:38:30.00

SUBJECT: FW: jackson

TO: Matthew K. Mclean ( CN=Matthew K. Mclean/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Dalton, Bryan W

> Sent: Monday, April 17, 2000 9:50 AM

> To: Hillman, Andrew S MSX(New York)

> Subject: FW: jackson

>

> This is the unclass draft of just the Kabbah conversation. I'll add in

> Sankoh.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bryan Dalton [SMTP:bryan\_dalton@yahoo.com]

> Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2000 11:15 PM

> To: daltonbw@state.gov

> Subject: jackson

>

> SIERRA LEONE: SPECIAL ENVOY REV. JESSE JACKSON'S CALL

> TO PRESIDENT KABBAH

>

> SUMMARY

> -----

>

> ON APRIL 15, PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR DEMOCRACY

> IN AFRICA REVEREND JESSE JACKSON CALLED PRESIDENT

> AHMED TEJAN KABBAH IN FREETOWN. A PLANNED

> CONVERSATION WITH REBEL LEADER FODAY SANKOH OF THE  
> REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT (RUF) DID NOT TAKE PLACE  
> BECAUSE SANKOH, DESPITE HAVING COMMITTED TO TAKE A  
> CALL FROM JACKSON, WAS AT THE PORT OF FREETOWN  
> NEGOTIATING THE RELEASE OF SOME TRUCKS HE HAD  
> IMPORTED. JACKSON EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR KABBAH'S  
> EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE PEACE PROCESS AND URGED  
> CONTINUED PRESSURE ON SANKOH TO CONSOLIDATE THE PEACE.  
> KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED SANKOH IS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PEACE PROCESS, AND GAVE A MORE UPBEAT ASSESSMENT OF  
> THE SITUATION AND OF PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS THAN HE  
> HAS IN THE RECENT PAST. KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THERE  
> HAD BEEN A BREAKTHROUGH WITH LIBERIAN PRESIDENT  
> CHARLES TAYLOR SECURING HIS COOPERATION WITHIN THE  
> FRAMEWORK OF THE MANO RIVER UNION (MRU). LIBERIA'S  
> MINISTERS OF SECURITY, DEFENSE AND JUSTICE ARRIVED IN  
> FREETOWN ON APRIL 15 TO PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATIONS  
> FOR A SUMMIT OF THE MRU LEADERS ON MAY 8. END  
> SUMMARY.  
>  
> ON APRIL 15, PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR DEMOCRACY  
> IN AFRICA REV. JESSE JACKSON CALLED SIERRA LEONE  
> PRESIDENT AHMED TEJAN KABBAH. FREETOWN AMBASSADOR  
> JOSEPH MELROSE, DIRECTOR FOR WEST AFRICAN AFFAIRS  
> SHARON P. WILKINSON AND SIERRA LEONE DESK OFFICER  
> (NOTETAKER) ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE CALL.  
>  
> AFTER BEGINNING THE CONVERSATION WITH A PRAYER, REV.  
> JACKSON TOLD KABBAH HE HOPED TO VISIT SIERRA LEONE  
> SOON. JACKSON NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON PLANS

> TRAVEL TO AFRICA LATER IN THE YEAR, AND THAT SIERRA  
> LEONE IS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE PRESIDENT AND TO  
> SECRETARY ALBRIGHT. JACKSON GAVE HIS VIEW THAT THERE  
> IS A REAL PROSPECT FOR PEACE IN SIERRA LEONE, AND THAT  
> KABBAH'S INTEGRITY AND STABILITY WERE KEY ELEMENTS IN  
> THE PROCESS. JACKSON EXPLAINED THAT PROGRESS ON REBEL  
> COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOME PEACE AGREEMENT WAS NECESSARY  
> BEFORE THE U.S. AND THE UNITED NATIONS COULD RELEASE  
> ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THE PROCESS. HE NOTED  
> THE NEED FOR MORE PRESSURE ON REBEL LEADER Foday  
> Sankoh OF THE REVOLUTIONARY UNITED FRONT (RUF) TO "TAK  
> THE RISK OF PEACE." JACKSON URGED KABBAH TO KEEP HIS  
> SPIRITS UP.

>  
> KABBAH REPORTED HAVING MET WITH SANKOH ALONE ON APRIL  
> 13. SANKOH ASSURED KABBAH HE WAS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PEACE AND WOULD HAVE RETURNED TO THE BUSH LONG AGO IF  
> HE WERE NOT. WHILE KABBAH SAID HE WOULD NEVER TRUST  
> THE WORD OF A REBEL, HE HAS ESTABLISHED A WORKING  
> RAPPORT WITH SANKOH. KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THAT  
> 'SANKOH'S BACKBONE HAS BEEN BROKEN,' AND THAT SANKOH  
> IS NO LONGER IN A POSITION TO MOUNT A SUSTAINED WAR  
> AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. HE  
> BELIEVES SANKOH IS PURSUING THE PEACE BOTH BECAUSE HE  
> WANTS TO AND BECAUSE HE HAS NO OTHER CHOICE. KABBAH  
> BELIEVES SANKOH'S FOLLOWERS ARE TIRED, AND HIS  
> LIEUTENANTS WHO HAVE POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE  
> ENJOYING A GOOD LIFE THEY ARE NOT LIKELY TO GIVE UP.  
>  
> KABBAH REPORTED HAVING PRESSED SANKOH FOR A DATE ON

> WHICH SANKOH WOULD TOUR REBEL-HELD AREAS TO PROMOTE  
> THE DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION  
> (DDR) OF EX-COMBATANTS. SANKOH HAD SOME REASONABLE  
> SUGGESTIONS, HE SAID, SUGGESTING THAT HE TRAVEL FIRST  
> TO THE TENSE AREAS ALONG THE BORDER WITH GUINEA, THEN  
> TO AREAS NEAR THE LIBERIAN BORDER IN THE EAST. KABBAH  
> BELIEVES THAT SMALL ARMS STOLEN FROM THE GUINEA  
> BATTALION IN JANUARY MAY BE IN THE WESTERN AREA.  
>  
> KABBAH SAID THE UN MISSION TO SIERRA LEONE (UNAMSIL)  
> IS REPORTING THAT THE REBELS HAVE DISMANTLED MOST  
> ROADBLOCKS IN EASTERN SIERRA LEONE. HE SAID HE DOES  
> NOT BELIEVE SANKOH'S CLAIM THAT THE RUF ARE HOLDING NO  
> ABDUCTEES, AND HE PLANS TO VERIFY THE TRUTH BY GOING  
> TO THE REBEL-HELD AREAS. KABBAH REPORTED THAT UNAMSIL  
> IS NOW DEPLOYED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE COUNTRY, AND HAS  
> NOT ESTABLISHED A FULL-TIME PRESENCE IN THE  
> DIAMOND-MINING AREA OF KONO ONLY FOR LACK OF  
> SUFFICIENT TROOPS AT THIS TIME.  
>  
> KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVES SANKOH IS COMMITTED TO THE  
> PROCESS AND IS MAINLY INTERESTED IN SECURING AS MANY  
> ILLICIT DIAMONDS AS POSSIBLE TO FINANCE AN ELECTORAL  
> CAMPAIGN. KABBAH DOWNPLAYED THE IMPORTANCE OF  
> SANKOH'S DIAMOND DEALINGS, ON THE GROUNDS THAT SIERRA  
> LEONE'S DIAMONDS HAD BEEN STOLEN BY VARIOUS PARTIES  
> FOR DECADES, BUT NOTED THAT THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE  
> WERE AWARE OF SANKOH'S ACTIVITIES AND WOULD HOLD IT  
> AGAINST HIM.  
>

> IN RESPONSE TO REV. JACKSON'S REQUEST FOR HIS  
> ASSESSMENT OF THE ROLE LIBERIAN PRESIDENT TAYLOR IS  
> PLAYING IN THE PROCESS, KABBAH SAID HE BELIEVED THERE  
> HAD BEEN A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MANU  
> RIVER UNION. AFTER A DELAY, TAYLOR'S MINISTERS OF  
> SECURITY, DEFENSE AND JUSTICE ARRIVED IN FREETOWN  
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CREATOR: Christine L. Anderson ( CN=Christine L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:11-MAY-2000 17:57:55.00

SUBJECT: Statement by the President: Sierra Leone

TO: backup ( backup@wilson.ai.mit.edu @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Aaron DeCamp ( CN=Aaron DeCamp/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

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READ:UNKNOWN

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READ:UNKNOWN

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READ:UNKNOWN

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TO: Matthew T. Schneider ( CN=Matthew T. Schneider/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Maureen A. Hudson ( CN=Maureen A. Hudson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

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TO: Megan C. Moloney ( CN=Megan C. Moloney/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Melissa M. Murray ( CN=Melissa M. Murray/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: michael a. hammer ( CN=Michael A. Hammer/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael J. Sullivan ( CN=Michael J. Sullivan/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Michael K. Gehrke ( CN=Michael K. Gehrke/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Michele Ballantyne ( CN=Michele Ballantyne/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Nanda Chitre ( CN=Nanda Chitre/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Natalie S. Wozniak ( CN=Natalie S. Wozniak/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
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TO: Patrick M. Dorton ( CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
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TO: Paul D. Glastris ( CN=Paul D. Glastris/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: rebecca hunter ( CN=Rebecca Hunter/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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TO: Rebecca J. Salay ( CN=Rebecca J. Salay/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
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Office of the Press Secretary

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For Immediate Release

May 11, 2000

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

UN Secretary General Annan and I agreed this morning that the international community must intensify international efforts to restore peace in Sierra Leone and to prevent a return to all-out civil war. The situation there has been grave. But the UN is determined to fulfill its mission; African and other nations are willing to act; and we are ready to help them.

I have instructed our military to provide needed assistance to accelerate

the deployment of troops to UNAMSIL, and informed the UN that the United States will help transport reinforcements. A U.S. military transport aircraft is now in Jordan to move ammunition and supplies that are needed immediately for the Jordanian elements in Sierra Leone.

We intend to support the commitment West African nations have made to send additional troops to Sierra Leone to restore peace. A U.S. military team is now in Nigeria to determine what assistance might be needed from the international community to outfit and transport these forces as quickly as possible.

I welcome the statement West African leaders made on Tuesday at their emergency Summit in Abuja, Nigeria, calling for the release of all hostages and pledging to protect democratic institutions in Sierra Leone.

I have asked Rev. Jesse Jackson, my Special Envoy for Democracy in Africa, to return to the region to work with leaders there for a peaceful resolution of this crisis. Rev. Jackson has been actively involved in our diplomatic effort to help the people of Sierra Leone realize their peaceful aspirations.