

Exchange Mail

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Leavy drew up for SRB press briefing, following is South Africa Press
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TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

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Africa Questions and Answers

SOUTH AFRICA

Why is President Clinton visiting South Africa?

* South Africa and the United States have close bilateral relations based on our diverse and open societies, an attachment to democratic principles and human rights, and a shared vision of a peaceful and prospering African continent and international community.

* Since apartheid ended with the election of Nelson Mandela as President in 1994, government, business, and personal links between the two countries have expanded rapidly. The U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, created in 1994 during Mandela's state visit to Washington, has helped to revitalize a relationship that had been stunted during the final decades of apartheid.

* The United States was pleased to host President Mandela's State Visit in 1994. President Clinton was honored to accept President Mandela's invitation to pay a State Visit to South Africa in connection with his current tour of Africa and honor him for his historic role in transforming the modern South Africa and to recognize our strong mutual partnership.

What will the President's visit to South Africa accomplish?

* First and foremost, it will underscore the friendship between our two countries and the determination of the United States to improve our ties even further.

* The President will meet with President Mandela to review developments in our relations and to exchange views on issues of mutual concern. Among other topics, President Clinton will emphasize the commitment of the United States to an enduring and cooperative friendship and our determination to continue

helping
South Africa -- in line with the government's priorities -- to achieve its goals.

* The President will take advantage of the opportunity to explain to President Mandela the nature of the United States' new engagement in Africa.

* The President will also highlight rapidly growing U.S. investment in South Africa and the southern African region.

* The visit will allow the President to witness first hand South Africa's transition to democracy.

Does the South African government oppose the African trade bill? If so, why?

* I understand South Africa has expressed concern about the linkage the Bill establishes between the economic policies of African nations and their eligibility to benefit under the proposed provisions.

* Nevertheless, I also understand South Africa has expressed its support for the Bill, which we intend as a sign of support for steps being taken by Africans themselves. Many other African nations have already expressed their appreciation for this clear signal of support from the United States.

* The Bill enhances trade benefits and political contact at high levels for African countries that are engaged in pursuing reform policies in the areas of trade, investment, economic policy management, and human resources development.

* The philosophy of the Bill is simple: America stands ready to help those African countries that help themselves. Our purpose is to establish a framework consistent with U.S. trade legislation that will permit African countries to increase their trade with the U.S and this approach has received strong support

among many other African nations.

Sometimes, the U.S. and South Africa appear to have a "love-hate" relationship.

What accounts for the occasional friction that arises?

* There is no doubt that our relations are excellent, and I am convinced that both sides are committed to improving our ties even further.

* It is important to remember that we are still in the relatively early stages of building relations across a broad range of areas -- diplomatic, legal, commercial, defense, and others. The Binational Commission has lent valuable momentum to this effort. As we work together to arrive at mutual understandings that protect the interests of both nations, differences are inevitable, but we have already proven our ability to work through complex issues cooperatively.

* The U.S. is committed to dialogue on the basis of the complete equality of sovereign states to resolve the problems we encounter and solidify our friendship.

* As with all friendships we will, at times, disagree on some issues, but we have confidence that we can work through these issues together.

What is the U.S. doing in response to President Mandela's criticism of USAID's South Africa programs?

* I would first like to note that we are proud to be able to assist the South African government and the people of South Africa to achieve their goals. We are committed to working closely with the government on our assistance programs. We are pleased to be helping in the critical areas of education, health care, housing, and urban development. Our programs are also helping to promote economic growth and the consolidation of South Africa's democratic transition.

* The concerns raised have given us an opportunity to sit down once

again with
the South African government to review our programs, their intentions
and who
should be the focus of our efforts.

* Much has happened since South Africa's transition, and the U.S. will
make every
effort to ensure that our assistance supports the government's
objectives.

What is the U.S. doing to help South Africa combat its serious crime
problem?

* As the President has often addressed, as the world grows more
interdependent,
crime has become a transnational problem requiring increasing
international
cooperation. We have been ready to assist South Africa in coping
with its crime
problem and in July 1996, Vice President Gore and Deputy President
Mbeki signed a
declaration on Mutual Anti-Crime Cooperation outlining ways our
countries can
work together to reduce organized crime, drug trafficking, money
laundering, and
international terrorism.

* Steps we have already taken in cooperation with South Africa
include opening
offices of our Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal
Bureau of
Investigation (FBI), Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS),
and U.S.
Customs Service to maintain liaison with South African law
enforcement
authorities.

* We are working with South African ministries to provide assistance
in the areas
of investigative training for police and improving coordination
between police
and prosecutors. In addition, through a USAID program we are
helping to increase
access by the people to the justice system, for example, through
training of
lawyers.

What are U.S. views on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission?

* We believe the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, under the

very able
leadership of Archbishop Desmond Tutu (whom we hold in the
highest regard) has
played an important and very constructive role in South Africa's
transition and
is making a real contribution to national reconciliation.

* I don't want to comment on an internal matter for the South African
people, but
I will note that as a measure of our support, we have provided funds
through our
USAID program to assist the Commission's operations.

Do you have any comment on South Africa's friendly relations with
Libya and Cuba?

* South Africa is a friend and ally of the United States and we agree
on many
issues, but in the area concerning rouge states we simply disagree.

* It is the policy of this government to urge all countries to press
Libya to
cease their support of international terrorism, stop their abuse of
human rights,
and halt their pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

* We will continue to insist that Libya comply in full with all UN
Security
Council Resolutions, including surrendering the Pan Am 103 bombing
suspects for
trial in the U.S. or U.K.

* The promotion of a peaceful democratic transition and respect for
human rights
in Cuba is the goal of our policy. The time is long overdue for the
Cuban
government to join its neighbors in the western hemisphere in
establishing
democratic government, freely elected by the Cuban people, and
based on the rule
of law and respect for fundamental freedoms.

* We will continue to urge all countries to use their influence to press
the
Cuban government for a peaceful democratic transition and to respect
the human
rights of the Cuban people.

* While we disagree with South Africa on these issues, the President
will make

clear to President Mandela our strong views on the approach with regards to Cuba and Libya.

Are the U.S. and South Africa cooperating on the ACRI?

* The United States remains committed to enhancing the peacekeeping and humanitarian relief capacities of African states.

* We are working closely with African nations, the UN, the OAU, the United Kingdom, France, and other partners to help develop this capacity.

* South Africa and the U.S. have discussed the ACRI initiative on many occasions, and we stand ready to continue consultations.

* We are pleased that our cooperation on defense matters is deepening over time -- as evidenced by the establishment of the Binational Commission Defense Committee -- and we look forward to productive consultations with South Africa on the ACRI and other defense and security matters of mutual interest.

What does the lifting of debarment mean for U.S./South African defense trade?

Background:

[With the lifting of debarment, several U.S. defense firms have expressed interest in sales to South Africa. None has yet submitted requests for licenses to market their products in South Africa. The Swedish government has asked us how the lifting of debarment will affect the previously-denied request from a Swedish/British consortium to market SAAB's Gripen fighter (which contains U.S. components, including the engine) in South Africa. We anticipate the Department of State will receive a renewed marketing license request for the Gripen shortly.]

* On February 27, Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki announced

suspension of debarment of Armscor, Denel (and its divisions, including Kentron) and Fuchs Electronics.

* The decision to lift debarment will pave the way for enhanced bilateral defense trade relations and cooperation, and will strengthen our overall national security relationship. We are pleased that our mutual efforts to bring this matter to closure have succeeded, and I extend our thanks to the South African side for its commitment and perseverance.

Does this give a green light for South Africa to buy U.S.-origin defense articles such as aircraft?

* The lifting of debarment means that defense trade requests involving these and other South African defense entities will be reviewed by the U.S. Government under the same standards and controls that are applied universally. These standards include consistency with U.S. foreign policy and national security interests, and furtherance of world peace.

* These South African firms will now be on the same footing as all other firms for license applications. The suspension of debarment removes the presumption that license applications for trade with these firms would be denied.

How will the U.S. control U.S. technology once sold to the South Africans?

* An essential condition for the suspension of debarment was the establishment by South Africa of programs to monitor and control the use of U.S.-origin products and technology. We are satisfied that South Africa has established the required programs ("compliance programs"), and we will continue to work closely with South Africa to ensure that the programs operate effectively.

Pharmaceuticals/Intellectual Property Rights

Do you have any comment on South Africa's "Medicine's Law," which the U.S. believes infringes on the patent rights of the U.S. pharmaceuticals industry?

* First, we support the South African government's intent to provide safe and affordable health care to all.

* At the same time, we are very concerned about the implications of the law for the patent rights of U.S. pharmaceuticals firms.

* I continue to discuss our concerns with representatives of the South African government. We hope to be able to develop an approach that will allow South Africa to have more affordable health care without sacrificing internationally accepted intellectual property rights.

Will the U.S. take South Africa to the WTO?

* I do not want to speculate on a hypothetical. I would like to emphasize, however, our desire to work amicably with South Africa on this matter. At the same time, we will ensure the protection of the rights and interests of U.S. pharmaceutical firms.

Is this trip soft? Why are we not tackling the hard problems like Nigeria, DROC, Sudan?

* Absolutely not. Ask me after visiting six countries in ten days if the trip was soft.

* The trip is designed to promote democracy and human rights, expand our trade and investment partnerships, and help our allies and partners in Africa invest in the future by promoting education, economic opportunity and access to technology.

* The President will also stop in Kigali to underscore our sympathy for the victims of genocide and our belief that this must never happen again by ensuring

that Rwanda's transition is successful and that mechanisms for conflict prevention are strengthened and supported fully.

* The President will review with his counterparts ways in which African governments and our own policies can encourage real transition to civilian, democratic rule in Nigeria so that it can fulfill its potential to be a regional leader.

* The Summit in Kampala hosted by Presidents Clinton and Museveni will look at issues of regional stability, conflict prevention and resolution, and democracy and respect for human rights. We will be seeking to design with these African leaders strong policies that will encourage respect for the rule of law and democratic elections in DROC.

* At the Summit, the President will also meet with some of Sudan's neighbors and may look at ways to end Sudan's brutal civil war by reinvigorating the peace process on Development]. both through increased pressure on the Sudanese Government and through a reinvigorated. Our abhorrence of Sudan's support of terrorism and its efforts to de-stabilize neighboring governments will also be discussed.

What is the status of your Nigeria Policy?

* We are concerned about the lack of democratic voices, continuing serious human rights problems, and the controlled nature of the transition now underway. Nigerians now have a chance to effect a transition to democracy as they prepare for legislative elections in April followed by Presidential elections in August. If these elections result in leaders selected in free and fair competition, much will have been accomplished.

* We will continue to call upon the government of Nigeria to fulfill its

commitments to return Nigeria to civilian, democratic government.

* The Government of Nigeria working through regional fora has helped foster nascent democracy in Liberia and worked to restore a democratically-elected president in Sierra Leone. We will continue to cooperate with them in support of these vital efforts.

What is the US-French relationship as it relates to Africa? Is there cooperation, contention, between the French and the US over the US new Africa policy?

* Increasingly we and the French share a common agenda throughout Africa which is to promote democratic government, respect for human rights, and market economies open to foreign investment.

* We consult regularly on these issues and on how to support African governments in building responsible and representative governments as well as military institutions which respect civil rule and protect peace and stability.

* We are especially pleased with the mutual cooperation we are undertaking with France, Britain and African governments under the African Crisis Response Initiative which provides military training for African forces so that they can participate in assuring regional security and peacekeeping.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Why is Kabila coming to Entebbe Summit and aren't you worried about his recent undemocratic behaviour?

* The new government has been in power approximately ten months. Its record to date has been mixed, and we have ongoing concerns about specific issues that we take up with the government on a regular basis.

* US policy is to engage the Government and people of the Congo to promote democratic and economic reforms and respect for human rights. It is

the
President's strategy to avoid a failed post-Mobutu transition that leads
to
renewed conflict, refugee flows, and other humanitarian disasters that
could
destabilize the region and require a costly international response. In
order to
address this, the President thought it was important to have Kabila at
the
Entebbe Summit.

* While, President Kabila has set a calendar for democratic reform
leading to
elections and has formed a relatively broad-based cabinet, his
government has
banned political party activity and harassed some opposition figures
and
journalists. Security forces continue to commit abuses, including
extra-judicial
killing and arbitrary arrest and detention. We are particularly
concerned by the
detention and internal exile of prominent opposition leader Etienne
Tshisekedi,
which we have publicly condemned.

* The President intends to raise these issues personally with President
Kabila
and make clear our determination to see a successful completion of
the UN human
rights investigation into reported massacres during the 1996-1997
rebellion which
ultimately toppled Mobutu.

What is your reaction to President Kabila's decision not to meet with
your
Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa, Jesse

* We were obviously disappointed that President Kabila and Foreign
Minister
Karaha declined to meet with Rev. Jackson. But, the purpose of Rev.
Jackson's
visit was to emphasize that government, other political groups, and the
civil
society all have important and constructive roles to play in the
Congo's
recovery.

* Rev. Jackson met with a cross-section of political leaders and civil
society

groups and succeeded in conveying that message.

What is the status of the U.N Human Rights team?

* We are pleased that the team's field deployment has resumed. This appears due to improved cooperation on the Congolese side and a more pragmatic approach on the part of the team.

* The Government of the DROC has agreed to the UN's request to extend the deadline for completion of the investigation to May 31, as requested by Secretary General Annan.

* We continue to monitor progress of the team closely. We are concerned over recent reports that security forces briefly detained two local citizens who had spoken with the team.

* We remain strongly committed to seeing full cooperation by the Congolese government with this investigation.

In light of recent developments, does the U.S. still plan to provide direct assistance to the Government of the DROC?

* In December, Secretary Albright announced our intention to work with Congress to provide \$35-40 million in bilateral aid and to contribute \$10 million to the World Bank Trust Fund for the Congo. That remains our intention.

* Any bilateral assistance would be channeled principally through NGOs, although we would also plan to provide modest and carefully targeted aid directly to the central government for technical assistance to key ministries (Justice, Health, Finance), to promote democratic reform and the rule of law, and to improve public health.

* We will not provide direct budget support or aid to the security forces. This is carefully targeted assistance in areas intended to help the people of the

Congo advance their political and economic transition.

* (if raised) We are well aware of Congressional restrictions on providing certain types of assistance to the Congo. We intend to discuss thoroughly with Congress all available options for proceeding with an assistance program, including possible legislation or exercise of waiver authorities.

What is the U.S. doing to freeze Mobutu's assets?

* We do not believe that Mobutu's family or close associates hold any significant assets in the United States.

* We're studying our options but have not taken any decision.

LIBERIA

Does the U.S. support the Government of Charles Taylor in Liberia? Why or why not?

* Charles Taylor was elected as the President of Liberia in August 1997 following nearly 7 years of civil war. The elections were deemed free and transparent by international observers. We said at the time of his inauguration, and as recently as Rev. Jackson's visit in February and the visit of our Special Envoy for Liberia in early March, that we will support the Liberia and its people in their efforts to rebuild their nation and institutions.

* Special Envoy Howard Jeter recently led an interagency team to Liberia to explore with the government, civil society leaders, the UN Special Representative, and ECOWAS how we can best be of assistance in helping Liberia rebuild.

BURUNDI

Why is Burundi not being invited to the Kampala regional summit?

* The GOB was not invited because the regime which took power in

1996 overthrew a democratically elected president and government and is subject to regional sanctions.

* USG diplomats will continue to engage GOB officials at all levels in an effort to promote a negotiated political settlement to the civil war.

What is the U.S. doing to help stem the violence in Burundi?

* The level of violence remains troubling. With negotiations stalled, frustrated rebel groups may intensify their military efforts. It is imperative that an inclusive negotiating framework be re-established as soon as possible.

* USG diplomats, including Special Envoy Howard Wolpe, are working closely with the regional states, the Burundian Government, and the international community to reinvigorate the regional peace process.

* We continue to stress the futility of a military solution to the conflict, emphasizing that only a negotiated political settlement will further lasting peace in Burundi.

Why did the regional states impose a blockade on Burundi?

* The regional states imposed an embargo on Burundi in lieu of a regional military response to the July 1996 coup. The region modified the sanctions in April 1997 to allow for the flow of humanitarian goods.

* The regional states have refused to lift the sanctions, arguing that the sanctions are a necessary diplomatic tool to pressure the military government to negotiate a return to democracy.

* The USG supports the regional embargo as a means to force the military regime to negotiate a political settlement.

What is the state of U.S. bilateral relations with Burundi?

* The 1996 coup, which overthrew the democratically elected President, negatively impacted US-Burundian relations. While we do not recognize the current regime as legitimate, we continue to work with the GOB at all levels in an effort to further a negotiated political settlement that culminates in a restoration of democracy.

* Our policy priorities in Burundi are humanitarian in focus. USG diplomacy concentrates on preventing a return to large scale ethnic killings, ending the cycle of violence and impunity, and promoting a return to democratic government.

KENYA

Why has President Moi been invited to the Kampala Regional Summit?

* Kenya is a traditional partner in East Africa and we cooperate closely on regional issues. The size of its economy and its transportation links make it a linchpin of the region. The Governments of Uganda and the United States considered Kenya's importance in extending the invitation.

* We consult with President Moi on a range of regional issues. He is the chair of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-sponsored peace talks on Sudan. Kenya has also played a constructive role in the past on talks aimed at resolving conflicts in Somalia and the Great Lakes.

* President Clinton looks forward to the opportunity to hear President Moi's ideas on important regional issues and to express our own concerns about questions of economic reform, good governance and the promotion of democracy in the Kenya and in the region.

What is the state of our bilateral relationship with Kenya?

* Kenya and the United States enjoy close and cooperative relations. We have a

longstanding partnership for development before independence. We have worked together closely in response to regional humanitarian crises and security threats.

* We take an abiding interest in Kenya's progress towards more effective democracy. Our government has played an active role in encouraging the development of Kenya's civil society. We are encouraged by the commitment of the Kenyan people to democracy, evident in the increased turnout on election day. An impressive 68% of registered voters cast a ballot. Our goal is to help Kenya establish a democratic system that will honor this emerging democratic culture.

What are the prospects for peaceful democratic reform in Kenya?

* Kenya faces substantial challenges in its evolution to a free and fair democracy, but there are also grounds for hope.

* Among the challenges are the country's fiscal and economic difficulties. They have created a difficult environment for many Kenyans. Ethnic tensions, often manipulated by political or community leaders, complicate efforts by those pursuing inclusive dialogue on political reform.

* The challenges can be overcome if the government asserts a constructive leadership role. President Moi, his Ministers and the ruling-party should welcome the apparent interest of so many Kenyans in questions of democracy and economic policy. The growth of Kenya's robust civil society, its relatively open public dialogue about reform, and its millions of experienced voters give us grounds for hope.

Why is President Clinton not visiting Kenya?

* President Clinton gave full consideration to a stop in Kenya during his visit. Unfortunately, he was able to schedule only a handful of countries during this

visit and was not able to add Kenya.

* Kenya is an important U.S. partner in Africa and a key to growth and stability in East Africa. For this reason, once it became certain that he would not be able to go to Kenya on this trip, the President was interested in holding direct talks with President Moi in Uganda. We are pleased he will have that opportunity.

Does the United States hold the Kenyan Government responsible for recent ethnic violence in Kenya, as Special Envoy Jackson stated? If so, why is President Clinton meeting with President Moi?

* Special Envoy Jesse Jackson made clear our belief that the Government of Kenya has a unique and natural responsibility to see to the protection of all of its citizens, regardless of their ethnic identity or political persuasion. He conveyed that view directly to the Government, and we are pleased that the violence has abated.

* Rev. Jackson did not assign blame, to the government or any other political group, for starting or sustaining the conflict. We encourage more effective action to bring the perpetrators to justice, but we discourage a singular focus on pointing fingers. Kenyans need to find ways to overcome the divisions that have fed the sort of tragic violence we witnessed in January and February.

* President Clinton's decision to meet with President Moi in Uganda does not imply agreement with the Government of Kenya on all matters. One of the most important purposes of such meetings can be to explore areas of disagreement and to ensure that our concerns, whether they be about democracy, ethnic reconciliation, or economic reform, are clearly conveyed.

RWANDA

Why is President Clinton visiting Rwanda?

* The President is going to Rwanda to affirm genocide is unacceptable wherever it occurs. He is going to Rwanda to remind the world of the unspeakable horror which visited Rwanda and which continues to haunt the Great Lakes region of Africa. The President will also acknowledge that the international community shares with Africans, some responsibility for failing to respond adequately to the 1994 genocide.

* President Clinton applauds the efforts of the Rwandese people to live together and to rebuild a united nation. Americans stand with Rwanda as it seeks to build national institutions accountable to all its citizens. The President's discussion will focus on ways to avert future tragedies and promote human rights, justice, economic development, democratization, and regional stability.

How do you assess the fighting in Rwanda today? Is the situation deteriorating?

* Fighting in Rwanda intensified with the return of the former Rwandan army known as the ex-FAR and the genocidal militias known as the Interahamwe from eastern Zaire late 1996 and early 1997. These were the soldiers who originally launched the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 which claimed up to one million lives. Acts of genocide by these forces continue against civilian targets.

* Most of the fighting is localized in the northwest area of the country.

Although GOR troops continue to win every head-to-head battle with the insurgents, the rebels persist in their genocidal attacks.

* The insurgents have no visible command and control structure and no articulated political platform. We cannot predict how long the insurgency will last.

* We deplore the violence in the northwest and are especially concerned by the number of civilians who have died as a result. We urge both rebel and government

forces to respect the lives of non-combatants.

Why is the U.S. not more vocal in condemning human rights abuses by the Government during counterinsurgency operations in the northwest?

* We have been vocal and we will continue to stand firm on the necessity of protecting civilians, in all cases, including during counterinsurgency operations. We have repeatedly communicated this view to the Rwandan government publicly and privately, most recently by Secretary Albright. When President Clinton meets with President Bizimungu and Vice President Kagame he too will emphasize the importance which the US attaches to this issue.

* Recently there has been a decline in the number of abuses attributable to the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA). The GOR has also shown an increasing willingness to court-martial those soldiers accused of human rights abuses. These are positive developments which we will continue to monitor closely.

What is the US view regarding accusations that Rwanda committed massacres in Zaire in 1996-97?

* We view these accusations seriously. We have consistently called for an investigation into reports of refugee massacres in Zaire, and due process and accountability for those found responsible for atrocities.

* We support the efforts of the UN Human Rights Investigation in Congo. The UN team is currently in the interior carrying out its mission.

* The Government of Rwanda has informed us that they also view accusations of Rwandan involvement in massacres seriously, and will hold accountable any Rwandan soldiers involved in any atrocities.

What does the US think of the re-education camps run by the Rwandan government?

* Following the massive return of refugees in late 1996, the GOR

determined there was a need for a program to counter the message of hate/genocide with which many refugees were bombarded in the camps of Eastern Zaire. It instituted "Reeducation camps" which are month-long programs for adults comprised mostly of lectures/discussions which focus on the importance of forging a national identity.

* We believe that reeducation seminars are a potentially useful method to facilitate ethnic unity and counteract extremist propaganda. However, we do not agree that participation should be a prerequisite for employment; rather, we believe that the programs should be more widely and frequently available.

* Most reeducation camps were closed at the end of 1997. However the GOR does plan to continue the program in some form. Participation in a reeducation program is a condition for civil service employment. This program has had no effect on the majority of the returned refugees since over 80% of that population are small agricultural farmers.

Can you comment on USG military assistance to Rwanda? Why has the USG trained an army accused of severe human rights abuses in both eastern Zaire and northwestern Rwanda?

* One of the primary goals of our military training in Rwanda is to help prevent human rights abuses. Following the genocide of 1994 in which up to one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed, the United States committed itself to help rebuild Rwandan society. Part of this rebuilding effort is assistance to the Rwandan military. Our assistance focuses on professionalizing the RPA and training its officers to work in a multi-ethnic, pluralistic environment. We have provided training in humanitarian demining, rule of law, human rights and

public information, and in support for refugee repatriation.

* We provided a half day of marksmanship training to 30 students in 1996 as part of our standard package of professional soldier training for the military. Through this assistance program, we aim to promote the protection of human rights and to help Rwanda to develop a disciplined, professional, apolitical military.

* We have protested military excess and indiscriminate use of force to the highest levels of Rwanda government. In recent months, there has been a decline in the number of abuses attributable to the RPA. This is a positive development, which of course bears close monitoring.

* We note that a military prosecutor who has been instrumental in court-martialing Rwandan soldiers accused of human rights abuses was trained under the U.S. military assistance program.

Over 100,000 persons are in prison in Rwanda in absolutely horrid conditions.

Many of the prisoners have not even been advised of the charges against them.

What is the US doing about this issue?

* This is a very complex, tough issue. Clearly the victims of genocide deserve justice. The guilty must be held accountable for their actions. The culture of impunity has been a big contributor to the cycles of violence which have plagued the Great Lakes region of Africa.

* Equally important is ensuring due process for the accused. It is clear that the GOR will not be able to process all of the current cases through normal judicial means. It will remain politically difficult, however, for the GOR to consider "alternative mechanisms" until the masterminds of the genocide are convicted.

* We are encouraged by the progress which the International Criminal tribunal for

Rwanda (ICTR) has made within the past year. Both indictments and surrenders to the Tribunal are up. We are hopeful that the tribunal will soon complete its first trials.

* Our new Great Lakes Justice Initiative (GLJI) will help further develop Rwanda's domestic justice system. Through GLJI we hope to help develop judicial systems which are impartial, credible, and effective throughout the region.

It is now public knowledge that Rwandan troops played a key role in the overthrow of the Mobutu government. Are Rwandan troops still in Congo? What is our policy on this issue?

* Ex-FAR and Interahamwe soldiers used the refugee camps in former eastern Zaire to launch cross-border attacks on Rwanda. This posed a national security threat for Rwanda which eventually led to their participation in the overthrow of the Mobutu government. Nevertheless, throughout the crisis in Zaire, the U.S. worked energetically to achieve a negotiated solution to the conflict and condemned all cross-border military activity.

* Most Rwandan troops have now been withdrawn from Congo. It is up to sovereign governments to determine the nature of their military alliances and cooperation. We do believe, however, that the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Democratic Republic of Congo could have a stabilizing influence on the region.

Rwandan VP Kagame is one member of a new generation of African activist leaders.

How much activism does the USG endorse, at least tacitly, by allowing governments such as Rwanda to shape events outside their own countries?

* Regional alliances based on economic and political concerns are a logical outcome of increased regional and global interdependence. Regional economic

cooperation could help increase Africa's participation in the global economy with one possible benefit being a reduced need for aid from the west. We will continue to encourage regional cooperation in Africa provided it falls within the bounds of internationally accepted norms and laws.

What can you tell us about genocide suspect Elizaphan Ntakirutimana who is currently imprisoned in Texas? Why haven't we surrendered him to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda?

* Mr. Ntakirutimana has been indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) on genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. He was arrested and jailed in Texas in 1996 with a view to his surrender to the Tribunal. In December 1997, an U.S. magistrate ordered his release finding the relevant U.S. statute unconstitutional and that there was a lack of probable cause. Subsequently the ICTR submitted additional information to the court and Mr. Ntakirutimana was re-arrested last month.

* We strongly believe that there is a proper legal and factual basis for surrender of the indictee to the Tribunal and that it is up to the Tribunal to determine this individual's guilt or innocence.

* We cannot speculate as to when the indictee might be surrendered but hope that it will be soon.

UGANDA

What is the USG's view of Museveni's human rights record?

* Uganda has made substantial progress on human rights since President Museveni came to power. Rule of law has been restored in most of the country. There continue to be a handful of extrajudicial killings by security forces every year, about which we expressed concerns to the government, but they are a fraction of

what accompanied the regimes of Idi Amin and Milton Obote.

* Uganda elected a Constituent Assembly, adopted a Constitution, and held national elections in 1996. Although those elections were flawed by restrictions on political party activity, they marked a step forward for democracy in Uganda. The Parliament, though dominated by "Movement" supporters of President Museveni, is demonstrating an assertiveness in challenging policies and the conduct of government officials.

* We have many areas of concern. Pre-trial detention in Uganda is excessive, and prison conditions are harsh. Security forces do beat and on occasion kill criminal suspects. The GOU has from time to time detained a critical journalist on suspect charges. And we believe that Uganda's current "no-party" system is not in the long-term interest of the country. There will be a referendum on multi-partyism in 2000. Although this will be a positive development, we still believe that the government should regardless move toward a more pluralist political system in which freedom of assembly is complete.

* Trends are important in assessing Museveni's human rights performance. Not only has he brought substantial progress to Uganda over the regimes that preceded him, he continues to proactively seek ways to ameliorate ethnic and religious divisions in the country. The Government takes steps to punish abuses against citizens by security forces, and there is a sense that it is actively working to address shortcomings in its justice and prison systems. While the greater pluralism is necessary in politics, his efforts to include traditionally marginalized groups such as women are important.

What does the U.S. think of the Ugandan Government's penchant for crossing borders for military purposes as it has in the former Zaire and Sudan?

* The United States Government has expressed concerns to the

Government of Uganda
in the past about reports of cross-border activities. We did so in early
1997 in
response to reports about possible Ugandan involvement in the then
Zaire.

* We recognize that Uganda has had legitimate security concerns
about the
inability or unwillingness of neighboring states to prevent incursions
by armed
bands from their territories into Uganda. In the case of the former
Zaire,
certainly, the government of President Mobutu failed to restrain
attacks from
Zaire's territory against Uganda and its neighbors. In the case of
Sudan, the
government is in complicity with a brutal insurgency, the Lord's
Resistance Army
(LRA), which is attacking Uganda.

* Uganda has repeatedly expressed its support for regional efforts to
prevent
conflict within and between states of the region. We intend to
continue working
with Uganda on these efforts.

Why is the U.S. such a strong proponent of multi-partyism in some
countries like
Kenya but has cozied up to Museveni, who has banned political
parties from
contesting elections?

* The United States has encouraged the expansion of political
pluralism
throughout Africa. We have advocated political inclusion both
privately and
publicly in Uganda, and both the Secretary of State and the First Lady
did so in
1997.

* We believe that we must approach the goal of expanding political
pluralism with
a clear knowledge of local realities. We promote core beliefs, like
political
pluralism, in our approach to both Kenya and Uganda, but we also
work within the
historical, social and political context of both countries.

* In the case of Uganda, we believe that we can give credit for some
unique and

positive political developments while emphasizing the need for improvement in other areas.

* We welcome Uganda's efforts to bring women and other traditionally marginalized groups into government, and we look with enthusiasm at its plan to devolve power to local elected bodies. On the question of multipartyism, we have every expectation that the Government of Uganda will search for a means of giving greater space to organized political competition and that it can do so without increasing the danger of ethnic identification or sectarian violence.

What is the U.S. doing about corruption in Uganda?

* The United States has joined other donors in expressing concern that there is a need for greater transparency in the government's regulatory and economic role. The misappropriation of military resources has also been cited as a concern, both by President Museveni himself and by international donors.

* The World Bank has included improved economic governance in its country strategy for Uganda, an emphasis that we support. Bank funding is supporting work by the respected NGO Transparency International, which is working with the business community in Uganda to target areas for Government reform.

* While corruption is a problem in Uganda, the Government has in several cases shown the will to combat it. The recent censure by the Parliament of a ranking Government Minister, the Minister of State for Education, may also demonstrate the emergence of checks and balances on this issue.

What is the U.S. reaction to opposition charges that Kenya's general elections have been manipulated and are seriously flawed by irregularities?

* There was a great deal of confusion in Kenya today about the election process. Some polling stations opened for an additional day of voting. Others

in places
where the process yesterday was also incomplete did not. There also
was
uncertainty about when vote counting would begin and end in specific
locations.
We regret the poor organization that has marked the polls so far.

* Despite the bureaucratic flaws in the process, we are encouraged by
the level
of peaceful, popular participation in the election and the conduct of
party
agents, election observers, and presiding officers at many polling
places. The
Kenyan people through their actions have demonstrated a
commitment to democracy.
Now we urge all parties to resolve the flaws and uncertainties
regarding this
election process in a non-violent and transparent manner.

(if asked) There have been some reports that the organizational flaws
in the
election were more damaging to opposition candidates and may have
been
international.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Elephants/Ivory Trade

Does the United States support Botswana's policies on elephants and
the
resumption of trade in elephant ivory?

* The U.S. accepts the decision last year of the Convention on
International
Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The Convention of Parties
approved a
proposal that would enable Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe
eventually to resume
limited trade in elephant products, including ivory.

* We have pledged to work with the governments of Botswana and
other countries to
ensure that the CITES criteria and controls for trade in ivory are
properly
implemented.

* Botswana's thriving elephant population is testimony to the
government's
commitment to protect the species.

Does the U.S. support the killing of elephants for profit?

No, the United States does not support killing elephants for profit.

We understand that Randall Robinson and TransAfrica are opposed to the African Growth and Opportunity Act? Why? What is the Administration's position?

* The Administration strongly supports rapid passage of the bill. We have been working with bi-partisan backers of the bill to try and ensure the broadest possible support.

* Randall Robinson has expressed concerns about the bill.

* I will say, however, that certain of his assertions are incorrect:

-- The bill does not adversely affect existing GSP eligibility for those countries that do not qualify for the enhanced GSP benefits offered by the bill.

The bill offers new GSP benefits, and does not restrict current benefits in any way.

-- The bill will not lead to termination of existing U.S. assistance programs in those countries that are not found eligible for the enhanced benefits of the bill. The bill, in fact, encourages nation-building assistance in such areas as health, education, and governance.

* I understand that the dean of the African diplomatic corps here in Washington has written to Mr. Robinson noting that "the African nations overwhelmingly support H.R. 1432" and that they "believe that this legislation will reinforce the efforts of the Clinton Administration announced last summer to begin a new partnership with Africa for growth and opportunity."

* The bill also has broad support in the larger community. Those who have added their voices of support include Andrew Young, David Dinkens, The U.S. Conference of Mayors, Dorothy Height and the National Council of Negro Women, a number of

church organizations, and others.

1

1

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 3/19/98 10:56:59 AM
FROM Gobush, Matthew N.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT McCurry Africa Info. [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Wozniak, Natalie S.

CARBON_COPY Crowley, Philip J.
Dehqanzada, Yahya A.
Luzzatto, Anne R.
Rubin, Eric S.
Wozniak, Natalie S.
Benjamin, Daniel
Blinken, Antony J.
Gobush, Matthew N.
Gray, Wendy E.
Halperin, David E.
LaFleur, Vinca S.
Leavy, David C.
Widmer, Edward L.

TEXT_BODY Attached is Planning's contribution to the McCurry package Eric requested for 11:00. Please inform Mike that the third document (addressed to Berger) repeats the overview provided in the first two, but also goes into more depth regarding each of the specific countries.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

McCurry1.doc
PRESIDENT CLINTON'S TRIP TO AFRICA:
New Partnerships with a New Africa for Democracy, Prosperity and Security

A Historic Trip: President Clinton's trip to Africa will be the most extensive ever by an American President. He will be the first sitting President to visit each country on the trip: Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana and Senegal.

An African Renaissance: The President's trip will spotlight a new Africa -- in which democracy is spreading; economic reform is empowering a growing private sector and providing opportunities for Africa's people; and leaders and citizens are making real progress in addressing difficult social problems.

* Since 1990, the number of democracies in sub-Saharan Africa has almost quadrupled -- half the region's 48 countries freely choose their leaders.

* As countries have embraced economic reform -- opening markets, privatizing enterprises, stabilizing currencies -- growth in sub-Saharan Africa has more than tripled since 1990. For 1996 and 1997, it averaged over 4 percent.

America's Stake in Africa's Success: Africa's success means new markets and partners for America. It's failure would threaten our values and our budgets as costly humanitarian operations are required, famines recur, and disease spreads.

* Economic Opportunity: Nearly 700 million people south of Sahara form one of world's largest potential markets. U.S. trade with Africa already 20% greater than with former USSR. Average annual return on investment exceeds 30%. But far from full potential -- U.S. supplies just 7% of Africa's imports.

* Strategic Opportunity: A stable Africa will provide new partners to combat growing global security challenges -- international crime and terrorism, drug trafficking, spread of dangerous disease and environmental degradation.

Supporting the New Africa: The President will unveil new programs to support democracy, prosperity and opportunity -- including initiatives on education, the rule of law, food security, trade & investment, aviation and conflict resolution.

Combating Enduring Problems: The President will deal directly with the violent conflicts that threaten African democracy and prosperity. He will visit

Rwanda
to meet survivors of the genocide and convene in Uganda a meeting of
the region's
leaders to advance cooperation on conflict prevention, democratic
participation,
human rights promotion, and economic integration.

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TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT McCurry2.doc
TRIP THEMES

Overview of President's Trip to Africa

- * The President's trip to Africa will be an historic opportunity to forge a new partnership with a new Africa.
- * It is also an opportunity to demonstrate to Americans that Africa is no longer a continent of despair, but a continent of hope and opportunity.
- * The trip dates are March 22-April 2. The President will travel to Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana, and Senegal

Overarching Trip Themes

- * Changing American Perceptions About Africa
- * Africa Matters
- * A New Partnership with a New Africa

Four Pillars Supporting Trip Themes

African Renaissance, Education for Democracy and Good Governance

- * Forging partnerships with Africa's most dynamic leaders who are pursuing difficult political and economic reforms
- * Democracy and governance are the watchwords for Africa
- * Education also vital to Africa's democracy - 40% of Africa's population is under 15 year of age.

Trade, Investment and Development

- * One of our core policy goals for Africa is full integration into the global economy.
- * Africa constitutes a market of 700 million people, U.S. two-way

trade with

Africa is already 25% greater than our total trade with the states of the former

Soviet Union, and the US imports nearly 20% of oil from Africa.

* The President's Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity in Africa

supports these efforts, as does the Africa Trade Bill.

Preventing Conflict and Promoting Respect for Human Rights

* The visit will also not ignore the reality that conflict and instability still

plague some regions of Africa. The President will also underscore US efforts to

support reconciliation, build African conflict resolution and peacekeeping

capacity, and promote human rights.

Environment and Food Security

* The President will also emphasize U.S. and African efforts to help conserve

Africa's unique natural resources and seek to promote efforts toward improving

food security.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS AND COUNTRY THEMES

Ghana

(March 23)

Themes: Democracy, African Renaissance, U.S.-Africa Historic Ties

Highlights:

* Speech framing trip and overarching message.

* Economic and political reform success. December 1996 elections one of the most

open elections ever held in Africa.

* Leader in promoting women's rights and their economic role.

Uganda

(March 24-25)

Themes: Preventing Conflict and Promoting Respect for Human Rights

Highlights:

* Convene the "Entebbe Summit for Peace and Prosperity" - a meeting with key

regional leaders of east and Central Africa to discuss regional security,

economic integration, democracy and human rights, and how we can resolve conflict

together and break the cycle of violence.

- * Visit to school and micro enterprise activity

- * Leader in promoting women's rights, economic progress, increase trade and investment.

Rwanda

(March 25)

Themes: Preventing Genocide and Promoting Human Rights (March 25)

Highlights:

- * Hold roundtable discussion with survivors of the genocide and discuss their

vision for the future.

- * Unveil the Great Lakes Justice Initiative and a determination to prevent the recurrence of genocide and mass killing during a speech after meeting with survivors.

South Africa

(March 26-28)

Themes: Trade and Investment, African Renaissance, Reconciliation, Environment

Highlights:

- * State Visit, Speech to Parliament, Robben Island with Mandela, event

underscoring importance of Partnership and trade and investment, wreath at Hector

Peterson School, "Conversation on the Future" with young South Africans

- * Engine for regional and continental economic growth.

- * Reconciliation across historic ethnic and racial divides.

Botswana

(March 29-31)

Themes: Democracy, Environment

Highlights:

- * Roundtable discussion with environmental experts on Africa's challenging

environmental problems.

- * Africa's longest continuous democracy.

- * Model economic policy. Headquarters of Southern African Development Community

(SADC) which is key to regional economic integration.

* Aggressive environmental preservation policies aided by U.S. bio-diversity assistance, including Florida Everglade airboats.

Senegal
(April 1-2)

Themes: U.S.-Africa Historic Ties, Democracy

Highlights:

- * Panel discussion with democracy and civil society activists on the role of civil society
- * Long-standing democracy

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions to Ask Guests to Stimulate Discussion

* How would you suggest demonstrating that Africa is an integral part of U.S. foreign policy because of common economic, security and humanitarian interests?

* There are innumerable changes taking place on the continent of Africa that contradict how many Americans view Africa, including its economic potential, number of democratic nations, and importance of U.S.-Africa historical ties. In order to change American perceptions about Africa this good news story needs to be showcased and balanced with the news about the challenges that remain. How do you suggest we go about achieving this using the President's trip to Africa?

* How should the President articulate U.S. support for democracy and human rights in Africa that are consistent with our strongly held beliefs but also resonate in Africa? What are some of the specific actions that you recommend we pursue in enhancing our support for democracy and human rights?

Difficult Questions You May Be Asked

What is the USG government doing to ensure that our policy is understood and that

Americans understand that Africa is important to our national interest?

We have engaged in an active outreach effort, as many of you know having participated in the series of roundtables, to inform America about the changes taking place in Africa and the African Renaissance. We have also sought to highlight the economic and political reforms any African nations are making.

We have had several high profile visits to the region, the First Lady, Secretary Albright, Ambassador Richardson, and Special Envoy Jesse Jackson. The President's Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity also seeks to shed a more positive light on Africa, underscoring the opportunities to engage, trade, and invest in the region.

Why do you continue to support undemocratic governments, particularly in East and Central Africa?

We believe we have an historic opportunity to influence the political transitions of countries that are emerging from brutal wars and dictatorships. None of these transitions will be smooth. If we want to advance the goals of democracy and human rights, we can't sit on the sidelines and wait for multiparty democracies to flourish on their own.

Our engagement should not be construed as blanket endorsement. We attach great importance to open political systems, civil liberties and human rights, and say so forcefully at every occasion. But we also are saying that we are not blind to the history of the region, which has been marked by devastating wars, foreign exploitation, internal division and poverty. Our new effort to establish a partnership with Africa does not in any way signal a retreat from our support for democratic principles and universal standards of human rights. We will continue

to play an active role in promoting democracy and human rights, based on respect for Africa's leaders and people.

Does the Administration's support for increased trade and investment mean an end to your commitment to development assistance? If not, why hasn't the Administration asked for a Development Fund for Africa (DFA) earmark in its budget request?

No. We strongly support continued assistance to Africa - in forms from debt relief in the international financial institutions to children's health care

programs. This Administration has consistently fought for continued development assistance for Africa - even in times of shrinking budgets. This year the President has asked for USAID to maintain its budget for Africa rather than shrinking it as has been the case in the last three years. In addition, the

President has requested from Congress and additional \$90 million in support of increased bilateral debt relief, rebuilding and supporting the rule of law and justice in the Great Lakes Region, and increasing technical assistance and support for trade and investment.

The Administration does not seek an earmark for Africa (DFA) within the USAID budget, as we strongly believe that earmarks decrease flexibility and hamper the President's ability to respond to foreign events.

If the Administration supports the African Growth and Opportunity Act, why hasn't it been more active on this?

We do support rapid passage of the Act, and we have been very active. As you know, the President gave a strong plug for the Act in his State of the Union address, and issued a statement last week when it passed the House. Secretary Albright has named the Act as one of her four top legislative priorities. Other Administration efforts to promote the Act:

* Secretary Slater and myself spoke in support of the Act at a special session of the U.S. Conference of Mayors in early February.

* Senior Director Joe Wilson and Director Robin Sanders addressed 31 African Ambassadors the day the bill was being voted on in the House about the importance of the bill and synergies with the Partnership

* My staff and those of Treasury, Commerce, State and USTR have been very active in briefing staff and working with Congress to move this bill along. We have made good progress, but we have further to go. We will keep pushing to move this bill through the Senate.

Why is the Administration putting so much money into peacekeeping efforts, trade and investment, etc., when millions of Africans can't read and write and don't even own a book?

We do not see our efforts in the areas you mentioned as mutually exclusive. We already spend \$65 million a year on education efforts in Africa. The President will talk more about the importance of education during his trip, but suffice it to say that we understand that a population that can't read and can't add is not prepared to make the leap along with the rest of the world into the information age. Therefore, we need to make schools in Africa a priority in order to better prepare the next generation for competition in the global marketplace.

6

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TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT McCurry3.doc
3/18/98 2 p.m.

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

PRESS BRIEFING OF AFRICA TRIP
THE WHITE HOUSE
MARCH 19, 1998

Introduction

* First, let me put this trip in context -- its historic nature; why we're going; America's interests in Africa. I'll also run through the high points of each stop. Then I'll ask Brian and Rodney to say a few words. And of course, we'll be delighted to take your questions.

I. OVERVIEW

A Historic Trip

* President Clinton's trip to Africa will be the most extensive ever by an American President. He will be the first sitting President to visit each country on the trip: Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana and Senegal. [FYI: Bush stopped in Somalia to visit our troops in 1992; Carter visited Liberia and Nigeria in 1978; FDR refueled in what is now The Gambia in 1943 and touched down in Liberia. TR spent a year in Africa in 1909-1910, but was not president]

An African Renaissance

* The President's trip will spotlight a new Africa -- in which democracy is spreading; economic reform is empowering a growing private sector and providing opportunities for Africa's people; and leaders and citizens are making real progress in addressing difficult social problems.

* Since 1990, the number of democracies in sub-Saharan Africa has almost quadrupled -- half the region's 48 countries freely choose their leaders.

* As countries have embraced economic reform -- opening markets, privatizing enterprises, stabilizing currencies -- growth in sub-Saharan Africa has more than tripled since 1990. For 1996 and 1997, it averaged over 4 percent and

per capita incomes rose in 31 countries in 1996 alone. The President's answer to these positive economic developments has been the African Trade Act which aims to bring the benefits of freer trade and expanded cross-border investment to countries that have previously been treated mainly as aid recipients. The Act passed the full House last week.

America's Stake in Africa's Success

- * Africa's success means new markets and partners for America. Its failure would threaten our values and our budgets as costly humanitarian operations are required, famines recur, and disease spreads.

- * Economic Opportunity: Nearly 700 million people south of Sahara form one of world's largest potential markets. U.S. trade with Africa already 20% greater than with former USSR. It supports 100,000 American jobs. Average annual return on investment exceeds 30%. But far from full potential -- U.S. supplies just 7% of Africa's imports. Only 1% of U.S. trade and 1% of investment with Africa.

- * Strategic Opportunity: A strong, stable Africa will provide new partners to combat growing global security challenges -- international crime and terrorism, drug trafficking, spread of dangerous disease and environmental degradation.

Supporting the New Africa

- * The President will unveil new programs to support democracy, prosperity and opportunity -- including initiatives on education, the rule of law, food security, trade & investment, aviation and conflict resolution. More on that when I run through the itinerary.

Combating Enduring Problems

- * The President will deal directly with the violent conflicts that threaten

African democracy and prosperity. He will visit Rwanda to meet survivors of the genocide and convene in Uganda a meeting of the region's leaders to advance cooperation on conflict prevention, democratic participation, human rights promotion, and economic integration.

II. KEY EVENTS

Now let me quickly take you through the chronology and highlight some of the key events.

Monday, March 23 -- Ghana

* We arrive early in the morning. Good first stop -- one of Africa's success stories. Ghana in 1996 had one of freest and fairest elections in continent's history. And we enjoy strong bilateral relations.

=> Key Event: open air scene-setter speech to people of Ghana. POTUS will highlight broad themes for trip: African renaissance; support for democracy and human rights; opportunity to increase trade and investment while giving people education and training they need to seize new opportunities; working together to prevent conflict and genocide; common efforts to protect environment.

=> Other Events: Bilateral with President Rawlings. Visit Peace Corps project (first PC program was in Ghana).

Tuesday, March 24 - Wednesday March 25 -- Uganda & Rwanda

* We arrive very early the morning of the 24th. Uganda another African success story -- after Idi Amin's eight year reign of tyranny and Milton Obote's disastrous rule, new leadership of President Museveni has worked to end human rights abuses and embrace economic reform.

=> Key Event Day 1: First day in Uganda will focus on investing in Africa's future through education, food security, and public health. POTUS

will detail
major education initiative at a school. Will also meet with President Museveni.

=> Key Events Day 2: On morning of 25th, POTUS will fly to Rwanda to meet with genocide survivors and pay respects to all those who suffered. Then, returns to Uganda for Entebbe Summit for Peace and Prosperity. Will discuss with regional leaders -- including Isais of Eritrea, Meles of Ethiopia, Moi of Kenya, Mkapa of Tanzania, Bizimungu of Rwanda and Kabila of Congo-- common efforts to prevent and manage conflicts.

Thursday, March 26 - Sunday, March 29 -- South Africa

* South Africa's struggle to end apartheid and remarkable transition to multi-racial democracy have won the admiration of the world. Our relations with post-apartheid South Africa are only four years old. But in that short time, our government, business and personal links have grown very rapidly. And so we'll be working on a very broad range of issues and interests.

Key Event Day 1: POTUS looks forward to addressing Parliament -- highlighting South Africa as a model for building multi-racial democracies and discussing the common challenges we face to strengthen democracy, build prosperity and invest in our people, and work together for peace in Africa and beyond.

Key Event Day 2: In Cape Town, POTUS will meet with President Mandela. The two will conduct a joint press conference and then tour Robben Island, where Mandela was imprisoned for 18 of his 27 years of incarceration. There will also be a State Dinner.

Key Event Day 3: President will inaugurate the Ron Brown Commercial Center in Johannesburg and detail our efforts to increase trade and investment throughout Africa. POTUS also will meet with a group of young leaders in the Thokoza

Township to discuss their hopes and concerns for the future.

Sunday, March 29 - Tuesday, March 31 -- Botswana

* After attending Church service Sunday morning in Johannesburg, POTUS flies to Botswana, Africa's longest continuous democratic government and a strong force for stability. Its open political system, good record on human rights, and impressive economic progress are models for the continent.

Key Event Day 1: In Gabarone, POTUS will meet with and then attend reception hosted by outgoing President Masire. Masire is stepping down in a peaceful transfer of power two days later. POTUS honored to be able to pay tribute to one of Africa's champions of democracy. In late afternoon, POTUS travels to Kasane. There, he will visit the Lesomo Village and attend a Kgotla [HO-tla] - the Botswanan equivalent of a Town Hall meeting.

Key Event Day 2: A down day and opportunity for the President and the First Lady to experience the majesty of Africa's natural environment. They likely will spend part of the day on Safari.

Key Event Day 3: Back in Gabarone, POTUS will meet with leading African environmentalists and speak to our common environmental challenges. Then, POTUS flies to Senegal.

Wednesday, April 1 - Thursday, April 2 -- Senegal

* POTUS wanted to visit a francophone country and one that, in fourth decade of independence, is strongly committed to democracy and human rights.

Key Events Day 1. POTUS will observe ACRI training exercise involving U.S. Special Forces, speak to this important initiative to help Africa develop an indigenous peacekeeping force, and praise participation of African nations in international peacekeeping. POTUS also will meet with President

Diouf and visit
a Senegalese village. He also will conduct a roundtable discussion
with
non-governmental leaders on democracy and human rights.

Key Event Day 2: POTUS will end trip to Africa where continent's
relationship
with U.S. first began -- Goree Island, where so many Africans began
their journey
to America as slaves. POTUS will reflect on legacy of slavery and
opportunity we
now have to make a new beginning in our relationship with Africa.

* Then, for those of us still left standing, we'll head home.

4

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

McCurry4.doc

EDUCATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

The Education for Development and Democracy Initiative seeks to
boost African
integration into the global community by improving the quality of,
and technology
for, education in Africa.

Primary and Secondary Education

* Pilot schools will be selected as community resource centers to
provide
educational materials and serve as bases to improve local teacher
preparation and
training for out of school youth. Centers will provide computers with
access to
internet, CD-ROM resources and Desktop Publishing capability.

* School-to-school partnerships between U.S. and Africa and among
African schools
via computer technology and exchanges.

* Improving girls' education through several avenues, including
leadership
identification and possibly scholarships, raising community awareness
and support
for educating girls, school feeding programs, and mentoring by older
girls and

women.

Higher Education

* U.S.-African linkages will be built through assistance with curriculum development aimed at labor-market oriented training and training in business, health, science, math, technology and engineering; assistance with teacher training, and linking university and community. Technology linkages will be established via the internet.

Professional Training and Civil Education

* Partnerships between U.S. and African government institutions and civil society, and among African government institutions and civil societies.

Exchanges and visits will be supplemented by in-country training project to enhance policy and operational skills and promote networking across political and government/civil society divisions.

* Access to technology and internet linkages for policymakers and civil society leaders will be provided through USIA, which will also supply computer training modules and other training materials. Africa civil education efforts aimed at under-reached populations and schools will be supported and expanded in order to help establish a democratic culture.

GREATER HORN OF AFRICA & AFRICA FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES

Africa faces a serious food security problem. Reforms in a number of countries have boosted production, but civil strife and poor economic policies in several others have led to economic stagnation and a fall in per capita production. This initiative looks to:

* ensure hungry children will be better nourished;

- * avert crises like Rwanda and Somalia;

- * provide U.S. business with opportunities in a growing, more prosperous Africa.

We have two Initiatives that directly address these issues. In 1994, the

President launched the Greater Horn of Africa Initiative (GHAI). The GHAI is intended to bolster African capacity to enhance regional food security and both prevent and resolve conflicts by attacking the root causes of food insecurity and conflict. The Greater Horn countries include Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

In FY 1998, USAID will launch a renewed effort to improve food security in Africa, the Africa Food Security Initiative (AFSI). The AFSI focuses on agricultural development in order to improve childhood nutrition and increase rural incomes. The FY 98 budget for the first "pilot" year of this 10-year AFSI program is \$30 million. The funds will support agriculture and food security activities in Ethiopia, Uganda, Mali, Malawi and Mozambique.

GREAT LAKES JUSTICE INITIATIVE

With its history of recurrent genocide, armed rebellions, protracted internal conflicts, and mass population displacement, the Great Lakes region of Africa is one of the world's most crisis prone. In Rwanda, for example, up to one million persons were massacred in less than four months in 1994. This genocide was followed by the largest single-day refugee outflow in history: in one day, over 250,000 Rwandans crossed the border into Tanzania. The absence of justice -- both political and socio/economic -- has been a key contributing factor.

The legacy of genocide and the continuing violence and absence of rule of law are

the region's overarching challenges. Without justice, the prospects for sustainable peace, economic development and inclusive governance are bleak.

However, the Great Lakes region also possesses tremendous promise. New leaders and vibrant civil societies are committed to the search for pragmatic and collaborative solutions to the region's ills.

Through the Great Lakes Justice Initiative (GLJI) we will work together as partners with both the people and the governments of the region to build judicial systems which are impartial, credible, effective and ethnically inclusive. GLJI will be pursued in conjunction with other U.S. efforts to address ongoing political, economic and security challenges in the region.

The Administration's FY 99 budget request included \$30 million for implementation of the GLJI. The countries currently slated to participate are DROC, Rwanda and Burundi. Partnership is the hallmark of this initiative. We therefore plan to define further the vision and to develop the specific operational goals in concert with African leaders, civil society, international and indigenous NGOs and the donor community.

Possible activities include: assistance to courts, prosecutors, police, bar associations and law schools; support for community based dispute resolution and prevention mechanisms and support for the International Crimes Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).

Trade and Investment and Fact Sheet

The President called for quick passage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act during the State of the Union. The Act complements the Partnership for Economic Growth and Opportunity.

All 42 African countries eligible for the GSP program can participate in some of

the Partnership's programs (Level 1). Special programs (Level 2) provide additional economic incentives to countries pursuing aggressive, growth-oriented economic reforms. The goals of the Partnership and Act are to help countries spur economic growth, diminish dependence on foreign assistance and forge business ties with U.S. companies.

Level 1 programs include:

- * Renewal of the GSP law that provides greater market access to least developed countries, which include 29 African countries;
- * Establishment of two large investment funds -- \$150 million and \$500 million -- guaranteed by OPIC;
- * Appointment of an Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Africa and a senior adviser for African programs at the Export-Import Bank; and
- * USAID programs to strengthen U.S. and African business and assist regional economic integration in Southern Africa.

Level 2 Partnership programs include:

- * Annual Cabinet-level economic cooperation forums;
- * Extinction of concessional bilateral debt for the poorest Level 2 countries;
- * USAID programs for bilateral technical assistance, economic policy reform, and agricultural market liberalization; and
- * If doing so will not harm U.S. industries, the Act allows duty-free, quota-free entry under the GSP program of textile and other products currently excluded from the program.

Under the Act and Partnership, free trade agreements may also be considered for countries that have met the rigorous requirements for negotiations.

FACT SHEET ON CLIMATE CHANGE/ENVIRONMENT

THE CHALLENGE: Africa's vast natural resource base is at risk due to shrinking forests, desertification, loss of biological diversity and water degradation. Natural disasters (climate changes, population growth, disease, famine) compound these problems.

WHAT IS BEING DONE BY AFRICANS: Africans are developing new mechanisms for protecting the environment despite significant problems in institutional capacity. More than 40 African countries have developed National Environmental Action Plans with donor and World Bank assistance. Governments and local communities are becoming partners in protecting the environment. There is greater regional cooperation and African countries are voicing their concerns in numerous international fora.

WHAT IS OUR STRATEGY:

Encouraging active African participation in the formulation and operation of the "Clean Development Mechanism" (CDM) established by the Kyoto Protocol. CDM is a project-based, free market mechanism designed to provide incentives for the private sector to enter into cooperative projects to reduce emissions in the developing world. It will help secure more meaningful participation from developing countries while meeting their goals for technology transfer and economic progress.

Supporting the objectives of the Desertification Convention. The President submitted the treaty to the Senate for its advice and consent in August 1996.

Encouraging sustainable use of Africa's natural resources, combat desertification, halt deforestation, preserve biological diversity, maintain coastal areas, improve water quality and halt the spread of infectious diseases.

In FY 98 USAID will provide over \$80 million to assist African countries to protect the environment. Over a period of six years ending in FY 99, USAID will have contributed approximately a half billion dollars for environmental protection in Africa.

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA

THE CHALLENGE: Democracy and human rights are top U.S. priorities in Africa, and are key to crisis prevention, economic growth and social development. When the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, sub-Saharan Africa had only a handful of democracies. Today more than 20 African countries have governments resulting from generally free and fair elections -- from Mali to Mozambique, Botswana to Benin, and Ghana to South Africa.

Yet democracy in some nations appears to be no more than a facade for one-man/one-party rule. Cameroon and Togo, for example, have long-serving "elected" leaders who fail to submit themselves to entirely free and fair electoral contests. The threat of army mutinies also is present in too many countries, as demonstrated by the recent turbulence in the Republic of Congo and the Central African Republic. A number of nations in West Africa suppress critical reporting by local press through criminal libel statutes. Others, such as Nigeria, harass or detain political opponents. In the Great Lakes region, war, genocide, political and economic disarray, and resultant refugee flows have destroyed social cohesion, shredded the rule of law, and led to massive abuses. In many nations, prison conditions are harsh, treatment of criminal detainees is brutal, and security forces harass the common citizen with impunity.

WHAT WE ARE DOING: The USG supports African efforts to build

democracy and respect for human rights through a number of initiatives: (1) the Great Lakes Justice Initiative; (2) the Education for Development and Democracy Initiative; and (3) the G-8 Democracy Initiative originating from the Denver Summit. In this initiative, the U.S., the UK, France and other donors will sponsor a workshop for African leaders, donors and civil society in Mali in April 1998 focusing on democracy and good governance. The U.S. also will continue its long-standing efforts to strengthen the rule of law, electoral processes, voter education and civil society capacity. U.S. funding for the three initiatives and continuing programs will reach approximately \$200 million in FY 1998.

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Africa Questions and Answers

Is this trip soft? Why are we not tackling the hard problems like Nigeria, DROC, Sudan?

* Absolutely not. Ask me after visiting six countries in ten days if the trip was soft.

* The trip is designed to promote democracy and human rights, expand our trade and investment partnerships, and help our allies and partners in Africa invest in the future by promoting education, economic opportunity and access to technology.

* The President will also stop in Kigali to underscore our sympathy for the victims of genocide and our belief that this must never happen again

by ensuring
that Rwanda's transition is successful and that mechanisms for conflict
prevention are strengthened and supported fully.

* The President will review with his counterparts ways in which
African
governments and our own policies can encourage real transition to
civilian,
democratic rule in Nigeria so that it can fulfill its potential to be a
regional
leader.

* The Summit in Kampala hosted by Presidents Clinton and Museveni
will look at
issues of regional stability, conflict prevention and resolution, and
democracy
and respect for human rights. We will be seeking to design with these
African
leaders strong policies that will encourage respect for the rule of law
and
democratic elections in DROC.

* At the Summit, the President will also meet with some of Sudan's
neighbors and
may look at ways to end Sudan's brutal civil war by reinvigorating the
peace
process on Development]. both through increased pressure on the
Sudanese
Government and through a reinvigorated. Our abhorrence of Sudan's
support of
terrorism and its efforts to de-stabilize neighboring governments will
also be
discussed.

What is the status of your Nigeria Policy?

* We are concerned about the lack of democratic voices, continuing
serious human
rights problems, and the controlled nature of the transition now
underway.
Nigerians now have a chance to effect a transition to democracy as
they prepare
for legislative elections in April followed by Presidential elections in
August.
If these elections result in leaders selected in free and fair competition,
much
will have been accomplished.

* We will continue to call upon the government of Nigeria to fulfill its

commitments to return Nigeria to civilian, democratic government. We will base our evaluation of the process on the actions and accomplishments of the government.

* The Government of Nigeria working through regional fora has helped foster nascent democracy in Liberia and worked to restore a democratically-elected president in Sierra Leone. We will continue to cooperate with them in support of these vital efforts.

What is the US-French relationship as it relates to Africa? Is there cooperation, contention, between the French and the US over the US new Africa policy?

* Increasingly we and the French share a common agenda throughout Africa which is to promote democratic government, respect for human rights, and market economies open to foreign investment.

* We consult regularly on these issues and on how to support African governments in building responsible and representative governments as well as military institutions which respect civil rule and protect peace and stability.

* We are especially pleased with the mutual cooperation we are undertaking with France, Britain and African governments under the African Crisis Response Initiative which provides military training for African forces so that they can participate in assuring regional security and peacekeeping.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Why is Kabila coming to Entebbe Summit and aren't you worried about his recent undemocratic behaviour?

* The new government has been in power approximately ten months. Its record to date has been mixed, and we have ongoing concerns about specific issues that we

take up with the government on a regular basis.

* US policy is to engage the Government and people of the Congo to promote democratic and economic reforms and respect for human rights. It is the President's strategy to avoid a failed post-Mobutu transition that leads to renewed conflict, refugee flows, and other humanitarian disasters that could destabilize the region and require a costly international response. In order to address this, the President thought it was important to have Kabila at the Entebbe Summit.

* While, President Kabila has set a calendar for democratic reform leading to elections and has formed a relatively broad-based cabinet, his government has banned political party activity and harassed some opposition figures and journalists. Security forces continue to commit abuses, including extra-judicial killing and arbitrary arrest and detention. We are particularly concerned by the detention and internal exile of prominent opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, which we have publicly condemned.

* The President intends to raise these issues personally with President Kabila and make clear our determination to see a successful completion of the UN human rights investigation into reported massacres during the 1996-1997 rebellion which ultimately toppled Mobutu.

What is your reaction to President Kabila's decision not to meet with your Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa, Jesse

* We were obviously disappointed that President Kabila and Foreign Minister Karaha declined to meet with Rev. Jackson. But, the purpose of Rev. Jackson's visit was to emphasize that government, other political groups, and the civil society all have important and constructive roles to play in the

Congo's
recovery.

* Rev. Jackson met with a cross-section of political leaders and civil society groups and succeeded in conveying that message.

What is the status of the U.N Human Rights team?

* We are pleased that the team's field deployment has resumed. This appears due to improved cooperation on the Congolese side and a more pragmatic approach on the part of the team.

* The Government of the DROC has agreed to the UN's request to extend the deadline for completion of the investigation to May 31, as requested by Secretary General Annan.

* We continue to monitor progress of the team closely. We are concerned over recent reports that security forces briefly detained two local citizens who had spoken with the team.

* We remain strongly committed to seeing full cooperation by the Congolese government with this investigation.

In light of recent developments, does the U.S. still plan to provide direct assistance to the Government of the DROC?

* In December, Secretary Albright announced our intention to work with Congress to provide \$35-40 million in bilateral aid and to contribute \$10 million to the World Bank Trust Fund for the Congo. That remains our intention.

* Any bilateral assistance would be channeled principally through NGOs, although we would also plan to provide modest and carefully targeted aid directly to the central government for technical assistance to key ministries (Justice, Health, Finance), to promote democratic reform and the rule of law, and to improve public health.

* We will not provide direct budget support or aid to the security forces. This is carefully targeted assistance in areas intended to help the people of the Congo advance their political and economic transition.

* (if raised) We are well aware of Congressional restrictions on providing certain types of assistance to the Congo. We intend to discuss thoroughly with Congress all available options for proceeding with an assistance program, including possible legislation or exercise of waiver authorities.

What is the U.S. doing to freeze Mobutu's assets?

* We do not believe that Mobutu's family or close associates hold any significant assets in the United States.

* We're studying our options but have not taken any decision.

LIBERIA

Does the U.S. support the Government of Charles Taylor in Liberia? Why or why not?

* Charles Taylor was elected as the President of Liberia in August 1997 following nearly 7 years of civil war. The elections were deemed free and transparent by international observers. We said at the time of his inauguration, and as recently as Rev. Jackson's visit in February and the visit of our Special Envoy for Liberia in early March, that we will support the Liberia and its people in their efforts to rebuild their nation and institutions.

* Special Envoy Howard Jeter recently led an interagency team to Liberia to explore with the government, civil society leaders, the UN Special Representative, and ECOWAS how we can best be of assistance in helping Liberia rebuild.

SOUTH AFRICA

Why is President Clinton visiting South Africa?

* South Africa and the United States have close bilateral relations based on our diverse and open societies, an attachment to democratic principles and human rights, and a shared vision of a peaceful and prospering African continent and international community.

* Since apartheid ended with the election of Nelson Mandela as President in 1994, government, business, and personal links between the two countries have expanded rapidly. The U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, created in 1994 during Mandela's state visit to Washington, has helped to revitalize a relationship that had been stunted during the final decades of apartheid.

* The United States was pleased to host President Mandela's State Visit in 1994. President Clinton was honored to accept President Mandela's invitation to pay a State Visit to South Africa in connection with his current tour of Africa and honor him for his historic role in transforming the modern South Africa and to recognize our strong mutual partnership.

What will the President's visit to South Africa accomplish?

* First and foremost, it will underscore the friendship between our two countries and the determination of the United States to improve our ties even further.

* The President will meet with President Mandela to review developments in our relations and to exchange views on issues of mutual concern. Among other topics, President Clinton will emphasize the commitment of the United States to an enduring and cooperative friendship and our determination to continue helping South Africa -- in line with the government's priorities -- to achieve its goals.

- * The President will take advantage of the opportunity to explain to President Mandela the nature of the United States' new engagement in Africa.
- * The President will also highlight rapidly growing U.S. investment in South Africa and the southern African region.
- * The visit will allow the President to witness first hand South Africa's transition to democracy.

Does the South African government oppose the African trade bill? If so, why?

* I understand South Africa has expressed concern about the linkage the Bill establishes between the economic policies of African nations and their eligibility to benefit under the proposed provisions.

* Nevertheless, I also understand South Africa has expressed its support for the Bill, which we intend as a sign of support for steps being taken by Africans themselves. Many other African nations have already expressed their appreciation for this clear signal of support from the United States.

* The Bill enhances trade benefits and political contact at high levels for African countries that are engaged in pursuing reform policies in the areas of trade, investment, economic policy management, and human resources development.

* The philosophy of the Bill is simple: America stands ready to help those African countries that help themselves. Our purpose is to establish a framework consistent with U.S. trade legislation that will permit African countries to increase their trade with the U.S and this approach has received strong support among many other African nations.

Sometimes, the U.S. and South Africa appear to have a "love-hate" relationship.

What accounts for the occasional friction that arises?

* There is no doubt that our relations are excellent, and I am convinced that both sides are committed to improving our ties even further.

* It is important to remember that we are still in the relatively early stages of building relations across a broad range of areas -- diplomatic, legal, commercial, defense, and others. The Binational Commission has lent valuable momentum to this effort. As we work together to arrive at mutual understandings that protect the interests of both nations, differences are inevitable, but we have already proven our ability to work through complex issues cooperatively.

* The U.S. is committed to dialogue on the basis of the complete equality of sovereign states to resolve the problems we encounter and solidify our friendship.

* As with all friendships we will, at times, disagree on some issues, but we have confidence that we can work through these issues together.

What is the U.S. doing in response to President Mandela's criticism of USAID's South Africa programs?

* I would first like to note that we are proud to be able to assist the South African government and the people of South Africa to achieve their goals. We are committed to working closely with the government on our assistance programs. We are pleased to be helping in the critical areas of education, health care, housing, and urban development. Our programs are also helping to promote economic growth and the consolidation of South Africa's democratic transition.

* The concerns raised have given us an opportunity to sit down once again with the South African government to review our programs, their intentions and who should be the focus of our efforts.

* Much has happened since South Africa's transition, and the U.S. will make every effort to ensure that our assistance supports the government's objectives.

What is the U.S. doing to help South Africa combat its serious crime problem?

* As the President has often addressed, as the world grows more interdependent, crime has become a transnational problem requiring increasing international cooperation. We have been ready to assist South Africa in coping with its crime problem and in July 1996, Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki signed a declaration on Mutual Anti-Crime Cooperation outlining ways our countries can work together to reduce organized crime, drug trafficking, money laundering, and international terrorism.

* Steps we have already taken in cooperation with South Africa include opening offices of our Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and U.S. Customs Service to maintain liaison with South African law enforcement authorities.

* We are working with South African ministries to provide assistance in the areas of investigative training for police and improving coordination between police and prosecutors. In addition, through a USAID program we are helping to increase access by the people to the justice system, for example, through training of lawyers.

What are U.S. views on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission?

* We believe the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, under the very able leadership of Archbishop Desmond Tutu (whom we hold in the highest regard) has played an important and very constructive role in South Africa's

transition and
is making a real contribution to national reconciliation.

* I don't want to comment on an internal matter for the South African people, but
I will note that as a measure of our support, we have provided funds through our
USAID program to assist the Commission's operations.

Do you have any comment on South Africa's friendly relations with Libya and Cuba?

* South Africa is a friend and ally of the United States and we agree on many
issues, but in the area concerning rouge states we simply disagree.

* It is the policy of this government to urge all countries to press Libya to
cease their support of international terrorism, stop their abuse of human rights,
and halt their pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

* We will continue to insist that Libya comply in full with all UN Security
Council Resolutions, including surrendering the Pan Am 103 bombing suspects for
trial in the U.S. or U.K.

* The promotion of a peaceful democratic transition and respect for human rights
in Cuba is the goal of our policy. The time is long overdue for the Cuban
government to join its neighbors in the western hemisphere in establishing
democratic government, freely elected by the Cuban people, and based on the rule
of law and respect for fundamental freedoms.

* We will continue to urge all countries to use their influence to press the
Cuban government for a peaceful democratic transition and to respect the human
rights of the Cuban people.

* While we disagree with South Africa on these issues, the President will make
clear to President Mandela our strong views on the approach with regards to Cuba
and Libya.

Are the U.S. and South Africa cooperating on the ACRI?

- * The United States remains committed to enhancing the peacekeeping and humanitarian relief capacities of African states.

- * We are working closely with African nations, the UN, the OAU, the United Kingdom, France, and other partners to help develop this capacity.

- * South Africa and the U.S. have discussed the ACRI initiative on many occasions, and we stand ready to continue consultations.

- * We are pleased that our cooperation on defense matters is deepening over time -- as evidenced by the establishment of the Binational Commission Defense Committee -- and we look forward to productive consultations with South Africa on the ACRI and other defense and security matters of mutual interest.

What does the lifting of debarment mean for U.S./South African defense trade?

Background:

[With the lifting of debarment, several U.S. defense firms have expressed interest in sales to South Africa. None has yet submitted requests for licenses to market their products in South Africa. The Swedish government has asked us how the lifting of debarment will affect the previously-denied request from a Swedish/British consortium to market SAAB's Gripen fighter (which contains U.S. components, including the engine) in South Africa. We anticipate the Department of State will receive a renewed marketing license request for the Gripen shortly.]

- * On February 27, Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki announced suspension of debarment of Armscor, Denel (and its divisions, including Kentron) and Fuchs Electronics.

* The decision to lift debarment will pave the way for enhanced bilateral defense trade relations and cooperation, and will strengthen our overall national security relationship. We are pleased that our mutual efforts to bring this matter to closure have succeeded, and I extend our thanks to the South African side for its commitment and perseverance.

Does this give a green light for South Africa to buy U.S.-origin defense articles such as aircraft?

* The lifting of debarment means that defense trade requests involving these and other South African defense entities will be reviewed by the U.S. Government under the same standards and controls that are applied universally. These standards include consistency with U.S. foreign policy and national security interests, and furtherance of world peace.

* These South African firms will now be on the same footing as all other firms for license applications. The suspension of debarment removes the presumption that license applications for trade with these firms would be denied.

How will the U.S. control U.S. technology once sold to the South Africans?

* An essential condition for the suspension of debarment was the establishment by South Africa of programs to monitor and control the use of U.S.-origin products and technology. We are satisfied that South Africa has established the required programs ("compliance programs"), and we will continue to work closely with South Africa to ensure that the programs operate effectively.

Pharmaceuticals/Intellectual Property Rights

Do you have any comment on South Africa's "Medicine's Law," which the U.S. believes infringes on the patent rights of the U.S. pharmaceuticals industry?

* First, we support the South African government's intent to provide safe and affordable health care to all.

* At the same time, we are very concerned about the implications of the law for the patent rights of U.S. pharmaceuticals firms.

* I continue to discuss our concerns with representatives of the South African government. We hope to be able to develop an approach that will allow South Africa to have more affordable health care without sacrificing internationally accepted intellectual property rights.

Will the U.S. take South Africa to the WTO?

* I do not want to speculate on a hypothetical. I would like to emphasize, however, our desire to work amicably with South Africa on this matter. At the same time, we will ensure the protection of the rights and interests of U.S. pharmaceutical firms.

BURUNDI

Why is Burundi not being invited to the Kampala regional summit?

* The GOB was not invited because the regime which took power in 1996 overthrew a democratically elected president and government and is subject to regional sanctions.

* USG diplomats will continue to engage GOB officials at all levels in an effort to promote a negotiated political settlement to the civil war.

What is the U.S. doing to help stem the violence in Burundi?

* The level of violence remains troubling. With negotiations stalled, frustrated rebel groups may intensify their military efforts. It is imperative that an inclusive negotiating framework be re-established as soon as possible.

* USG diplomats, including Special Envoy Howard Wolpe, are working closely with the regional states, the Burundian Government, and the international community to reinvigorate the regional peace process.

* We continue to stress the futility of a military solution to the conflict, emphasizing that only a negotiated political settlement will further lasting peace in Burundi.

Why did the regional states impose a blockade on Burundi?

* The regional states imposed an embargo on Burundi in lieu of a regional military response to the July 1996 coup. The region modified the sanctions in April 1997 to allow for the flow of humanitarian goods.

* The regional states have refused to lift the sanctions, arguing that the sanctions are a necessary diplomatic tool to pressure the military government to negotiate a return to democracy.

* The USG supports the regional embargo as a means to force the military regime to negotiate a political settlement.

What is the state of U.S. bilateral relations with Burundi?

* The 1996 coup, which overthrew the democratically elected President, negatively impacted US-Burundian relations. While we do not recognize the current regime as legitimate, we continue to work with the GOB at all levels in an effort to further a negotiated political settlement that culminates in a restoration of democracy.

* Our policy priorities in Burundi are humanitarian in focus. USG diplomacy concentrates on preventing a return to large scale ethnic killings, ending the cycle of violence and impunity, and promoting a return to democratic government.

KENYA

Why has President Moi been invited to the Kampala Regional Summit?

* Kenya is a traditional partner in East Africa and we cooperate closely on regional issues. The size of its economy and its transportation links make it a linchpin of the region. The Governments of Uganda and the United States considered Kenya's importance in extending the invitation.

* We consult with President Moi on a range of regional issues. He is the chair of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD)-sponsored peace talks on Sudan. Kenya has also played a constructive role in the past on talks aimed at resolving conflicts in Somalia and the Great Lakes.

* President Clinton looks forward to the opportunity to hear President Moi's ideas on important regional issues and to express our own concerns about questions of economic reform, good governance and the promotion of democracy in the Kenya and in the region.

What is the state of our bilateral relationship with Kenya?

* Kenya and the United States enjoy close and cooperative relations. We have a longstanding partnership for development before independence. We have worked together closely in response to regional humanitarian crises and security threats.

* We take an abiding interest in Kenya's progress towards more effective democracy. Our government has played an active role in encouraging the development of Kenya's civil society. We are encouraged by the commitment of the Kenyan people to democracy, evident in the increased turnout on election day. An impressive 68% of registered voters cast a ballot. Our goal is to help Kenya establish a democratic system that will honor this emerging

democratic culture.

What are the prospects for peaceful democratic reform in Kenya?

* Kenya faces substantial challenges in its evolution to a free and fair democracy, but there are also grounds for hope.

* Among the challenges are the country's fiscal and economic difficulties. They have created a difficult environment for many Kenyans. Ethnic tensions, often manipulated by political or community leaders, complicate efforts by those pursuing inclusive dialogue on political reform.

* The challenges can be overcome if the government asserts a constructive leadership role. President Moi, his Ministers and the ruling-party should welcome the apparent interest of so many Kenyans in questions of democracy and economic policy. The growth of Kenya's robust civil society, its relatively open public dialogue about reform, and its millions of experienced voters give us grounds for hope.

Why is President Clinton not visiting Kenya?

* President Clinton gave full consideration to a stop in Kenya during his visit. Unfortunately, he was able to schedule only a handful of countries during this visit and was not able to add Kenya.

* Kenya is an important U.S. partner in Africa and a key to growth and stability in East Africa. For this reason, once it became certain that he would not be able to go to Kenya on this trip, the President was interested in holding direct talks with President Moi in Uganda. We are pleased he will have that opportunity.

Does the United States hold the Kenyan Government responsible for recent ethnic violence in Kenya, as Special Envoy Jackson stated? If so, why is President Clinton meeting with President Moi?

* Special Envoy Jesse Jackson made clear our belief that the Government of Kenya has a unique and natural responsibility to see to the protection of all of its citizens, regardless of their ethnic identity or political persuasion. He conveyed that view directly to the Government, and we are pleased that the violence has abated.

* Rev. Jackson did not assign blame, to the government or any other political group, for starting or sustaining the conflict. We encourage more effective action to bring the perpetrators to justice, but we discourage a singular focus on pointing fingers. Kenyans need to find ways to overcome the divisions that have fed the sort of tragic violence we witnessed in January and February.

* President Clinton's decision to meet with President Moi in Uganda does not imply agreement with the Government of Kenya on all matters. One of the most important purposes of such meetings can be to explore areas of disagreement and to ensure that our concerns, whether they be about democracy, ethnic reconciliation, or economic reform, are clearly conveyed.

Rwanda

Why is President Clinton visiting Rwanda?

* The President is going to Rwanda to affirm genocide is unacceptable wherever it occurs. He is going to Rwanda to remind the world of the unspeakable horror which visited Rwanda and which continues to haunt the Great Lakes region of Africa. The President will also acknowledge that the international community shares with Africans, some responsibility for failing to respond adequately to the 1994 genocide.

* President Clinton applauds the efforts of the Rwandese people to live together and to rebuild a united nation. Americans stand with Rwanda as it seeks to build national institutions accountable to all its citizens. The President's

discussion will focus on ways to avert future tragedies and promote human rights, justice, economic development, democratization, and regional stability.

How do you assess the fighting in Rwanda today? Is the situation deteriorating?

* Fighting in Rwanda intensified with the return of the former Rwandan army known as the ex-FAR and the genocidal militias known as the Interahamwe from eastern Zaire late 1996 and early 1997. These were the soldiers who originally launched the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 which claimed up to one million lives. Acts of genocide by these forces continue against civilian targets.

* Most of the fighting is localized in the northwest area of the country.

Although GOR troops continue to win every head-to-head battle with the insurgents, the rebels persist in their genocidal attacks.

* The insurgents have no visible command and control structure and no articulated political platform. We cannot predict how long the insurgency will last.

* We deplore the violence in the northwest and are especially concerned by the number of civilians who have died as a result. We urge both rebel and government forces to respect the lives of non-combatants.

Why is the U.S. not more vocal in condemning human rights abuses by the Government during counterinsurgency operations in the northwest?

* We have been vocal and we will continue to stand firm on the necessity of protecting civilians, in all cases, including during counterinsurgency operations. We have repeatedly communicated this view to the Rwandan government publicly and privately, most recently by Secretary Albright. When President Clinton meets with President Bizimungu and Vice President Kagame he too will emphasize the importance which the US attaches to this issue.

* Recently there has been a decline in the number of abuses attributable to the Rwandan Patriotic Army (RPA). The GOR has also shown an increasing willingness to court-martial those soldiers accused of human rights abuses. These are positive developments which we will continue to monitor closely.

What is the US view regarding accusations that Rwanda committed massacres in Zaire in 1996-97?

* We view these accusations seriously. We have consistently called for an investigation into reports of refugee massacres in Zaire, and due process and accountability for those found responsible for atrocities.

* We support the efforts of the UN Human Rights Investigation in Congo. The UN team is currently in the interior carrying out its mission.

* The Government of Rwanda has informed us that they also view accusations of Rwandan involvement in massacres seriously, and will hold accountable any Rwandan soldiers involved in any atrocities.

What does the US think of the re-education camps run by the Rwandan government?

* Following the massive return of refugees in late 1996, the GOR determined there was a need for a program to counter the message of hate/genocide with which many refugees were bombarded in the camps of Eastern Zaire. It instituted "Reeducation camps" which are month-long programs for adults comprised mostly of lectures/discussions which focus on the importance of forging a national identity.

* We believe that reeducation seminars are a potentially useful method to facilitate ethnic unity and counteract extremist propaganda. However, we do not agree that participation should be a prerequisite for employment; rather, we believe that the programs should be more widely and frequently

available.

* Most reeducation camps were closed at the end of 1997. However the GOR does plan to continue the program in some form. Participation in a reeducation program is a condition for civil service employment. This program has had no effect on the majority of the returned refugees since over 80% of that population are small agricultural farmers.

Can you comment on USG military assistance to Rwanda? Why has the USG trained an army accused of severe human rights abuses in both eastern Zaire and northwestern Rwanda?

* One of the primary goals of our military training in Rwanda is to help prevent human rights abuses. Following the genocide of 1994 in which up to one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed, the United States committed itself to help rebuild Rwandan society. Part of this rebuilding effort is assistance to the Rwandan military. Our assistance focuses on professionalizing the RPA and training its officers to work in a multi-ethnic, pluralistic environment. We have provided training in humanitarian demining, rule of law, human rights and public information, and in support for refugee repatriation.

* We provided a half day of marksmanship training to 30 students in 1996 as part of our standard package of professional soldier training for the military. Through this assistance program, we aim to promote the protection of human rights and to help Rwanda to develop a disciplined, professional, apolitical military.

* We have protested military excess and indiscriminate use of force to the highest levels of Rwanda government. In recent months, there has been a decline in the number of abuses attributable to the RPA. This is a positive development,

which of course bears close monitoring.

* We note that a military prosecutor who has been instrumental in court-martialing Rwandan soldiers accused of human rights abuses was trained under the U.S. military assistance program.

Over 100,000 persons are in prison in Rwanda in absolutely horrid conditions.

Many of the prisoners have not even been advised of the charges against them.

What is the US doing about this issue?

* This is a very complex, tough issue. Clearly the victims of genocide deserve justice. The guilty must be held accountable for their actions. The culture of impunity has been a big contributor to the cycles of violence which have plagued the Great Lakes region of Africa.

* Equally important is ensuring due process for the accused. It is clear that the GOR will not be able to process all of the current cases through normal judicial means. It will remain politically difficult, however, for the GOR to consider "alternative mechanisms" until the masterminds of the genocide are convicted.

* We are encouraged by the progress which the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) has made within the past year. Both indictments and surrenders to the Tribunal are up. We are hopeful that the tribunal will soon complete its first trials.

* Our new Great Lakes Justice Initiative (GLJI) will help further develop Rwanda's domestic justice system. Through GLJI we hope to help develop judicial systems which are impartial, credible, and effective throughout the region.

It is now public knowledge that Rwandan troops played a key role in the overthrow of the Mobutu government. Are Rwandan troops still in Congo? What is our policy

on this issue?

* Ex-FAR and Interahamwe soldiers used the refugee camps in former eastern Zaire to launch cross-border attacks on Rwanda. This posed a national security threat for Rwanda which eventually led to their participation in the overthrow of the Mobutu government. Nevertheless, throughout the crisis in Zaire, the U.S. worked energetically to achieve a negotiated solution to the conflict and condemned all cross-border military activity.

* Most Rwandan troops have now been withdrawn from Congo. It is up to sovereign governments to determine the nature of their military alliances and cooperation. We do believe, however, that the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Democratic Republic of Congo could have a stabilizing influence on the region.

Rwandan VP Kagame is one member of a new generation of African activist leaders. How much activism does the USG endorse, at least tacitly, by allowing governments such as Rwanda to shape events outside their own countries?

* Regional alliances based on economic and political concerns are a logical outcome of increased regional and global interdependence. Regional economic cooperation could help increase Africa's participation in the global economy with one possible benefit being a reduced need for aid from the west. We will continue to encourage regional cooperation in Africa provided it falls within the bounds of internationally accepted norms and laws.

What can you tell us about genocide suspect Elizaphan Ntakirutimana who is currently imprisoned in Texas? Why haven't we surrendered him to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda?

* Mr. Nkatirutimana has been indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for

Rwanda (ICTR) on genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law. He was arrested and jailed in Texas in 1996 with a view to his surrender to the Tribunal. In December 1997, an U.S. magistrate ordered his release finding the relevant U.S. statute unconstitutional and that there was a lack of probable cause. Subsequently the ICTR submitted additional information to the court and Mr. Ntakirutimana was re-arrested last month.

* We strongly believe that there is a proper legal and factual basis for surrender of the indictee to the Tribunal and that it is up to the Tribunal to determine this individual's guilt or innocence.

* We cannot speculate as to when the indictee might be surrendered but hope that it will be soon.

UGANDA

What is the USG's view of Museveni's human rights record?

* Uganda has made substantial progress on human rights since President Museveni came to power. Rule of law has been restored in most of the country. There continue to be a handful of extrajudicial killings by security forces every year, about which we expressed concerns to the government, but they are a fraction of what accompanied the regimes of Idi Amin and Milton Obote.

* Uganda elected a Constituent Assembly, adopted a Constitution, and held national elections in 1996. Although those elections were flawed by restrictions on political party activity, they marked a step forward for democracy in Uganda. The Parliament, though dominated by "Movement" supporters of President Museveni, is demonstrating an assertiveness in challenging policies and the conduct of government officials.

* We have many areas of concern. Pre-trial detention in Uganda is excessive, and

prison conditions are harsh. Security forces do beat and on occasion kill criminal suspects. The GOU has from time to time detained a critical journalist on suspect charges. And we believe that Uganda's current "no-party" system is not in the long-term interest of the country. There will be a referendum on multi-partyism in 2000. Although this will be a positive development, we still believe that the government should regardless move toward a more pluralist political system in which freedom of assembly is complete.

* Trends are important in assessing Museveni's human rights performance. Not only has he brought substantial progress to Uganda over the regimes that preceded him, he continues to proactively seek ways to ameliorate ethnic and religious divisions in the country. The Government takes steps to punish abuses against citizens by security forces, and there is a sense that it is actively working to address shortcomings in its justice and prison systems. While the greater pluralism is necessary in politics, his efforts to include traditionally marginalized groups such as women are important.

What does the U.S. think of the Ugandan Government's penchant for crossing borders for military purposes as it has in the former Zaire and Sudan?

* The United States Government has expressed concerns to the Government of Uganda in the past about reports of cross-border activities. We did so in early 1997 in response to reports about possible Ugandan involvement in the then Zaire.

* We recognize that Uganda has had legitimate security concerns about the inability or unwillingness of neighboring states to prevent incursions by armed bands from their territories into Uganda. In the case of the former Zaire, certainly, the government of President Mobutu failed to restrain attacks from Zaire's territory against Uganda and its neighbors. In the case of Sudan, the

government is in complicity with a brutal insurgency, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), which is attacking Uganda.

* Uganda has repeatedly expressed its support for regional efforts to prevent conflict within and between states of the region. We intend to continue working with Uganda on these efforts.

Why is the U.S. such a strong proponent of multi-partyism in some countries like Kenya but has cozied up to Museveni, who has banned political parties from contesting elections?

* The United States has encouraged the expansion of political pluralism throughout Africa. We have advocated political inclusion both privately and publicly in Uganda, and both the Secretary of State and the First Lady did so in 1997.

* We believe that we must approach the goal of expanding political pluralism with a clear knowledge of local realities. We promote core beliefs, like political pluralism, in our approach to both Kenya and Uganda, but we also work within the historical, social and political context of both countries.

* In the case of Uganda, we believe that we can give credit for some unique and positive political developments while emphasizing the need for improvement in other areas.

* We welcome Uganda's efforts to bring women and other traditionally marginalized groups into government, and we look with enthusiasm at its plan to devolve power to local elected bodies. On the question of multipartyism, we have every expectation that the Government of Uganda will search for a means of giving greater space to organized political competition and that it can do so without increasing the danger of ethnic identification or sectarian violence.

What is the U.S. doing about corruption in Uganda?

* The United States has joined other donors in expressing concern that there is a need for greater transparency in the government's regulatory and economic role. The misappropriation of military resources has also been cited as a concern, both by President Museveni himself and by international donors.

* The World Bank has included improved economic governance in its country strategy for Uganda, an emphasis that we support. Bank funding is supporting work by the respected NGO Transparency International, which is working with the business community in Uganda to target areas for Government reform.

* While corruption is a problem in Uganda, the Government has in several cases shown the will to combat it. The recent censure by the Parliament of a ranking Government Minister, the Minister of State for Education, may also demonstrate the emergence of checks and balances on this issue.

What is the U.S. reaction to opposition charges that Kenya's general elections have been manipulated and are seriously flawed by irregularities?

* There was a great deal of confusion in Kenya today about the election process. Some polling stations opened for an additional day of voting. Others in places where the process yesterday was also incomplete did not. There also was uncertainty about when vote counting would begin and end in specific locations. We regret the poor organization that has marked the polls so far.

* Despite the bureaucratic flaws in the process, we are encouraged by the level of peaceful, popular participation in the election and the conduct of party agents, election observers, and presiding officers at many polling places. The Kenyan people through their actions have demonstrated a commitment to democracy.

Now we urge all parties to resolve the flaws and uncertainties regarding this election process in a non-violent and transparent manner.

(if asked) There have been some reports that the organizational flaws in the election were more damaging to opposition candidates and may have been international.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Elephants/Ivory Trade

Does the United States support Botswana's policies on elephants and the resumption of trade in elephant ivory?

* The U.S. accepts the decision last year of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The Convention of Parties approved a proposal that would enable Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe eventually to resume limited trade in elephant products, including ivory.

* We have pledged to work with the governments of Botswana and other countries to ensure that the CITES criteria and controls for trade in ivory are properly implemented.

* Botswana's thriving elephant population is testimony to the government's commitment to protect the species.

Does the U.S. support the killing of elephants for profit?

No, the United States does not support killing elephants for profit.

We understand that Randall Robinson and TransAfrica are opposed to the African Growth and Opportunity Act? Why? What is the Administration's position?

* The Administration strongly supports rapid passage of the bill. We have been working with bi-partisan backers of the bill to try and ensure the broadest

possible support.

* Randall Robinson has expressed concerns about the bill.

* I will say, however, that certain of his assertions are incorrect:

-- The bill does not adversely affect existing GSP eligibility for those countries that do not qualify for the enhanced GSP benefits offered by the bill.

The bill offers new GSP benefits, and does not restrict current benefits in any way.

-- The bill will not lead to termination of existing U.S. assistance programs

in those countries that are not found eligible for the enhanced benefits of the

bill. The bill, in fact, encourages nation-building assistance in such areas as

health, education, and governance.

* I understand that the dean of the African diplomatic corps here in Washington

has written to Mr. Robinson noting that "the African nations overwhelmingly

support H.R. 1432" and that they "believe that this legislation will reinforce

the efforts of the Clinton Administration announced last summer to begin a new

partnership with Africa for growth and opportunity."

* The bill also has broad support in the larger community. Those who have added

their voices of support include Andrew Young, David Dinkens, The U.S. Conference

of Mayors, Dorothy Height and the National Council of Negro Women, a number of

church organizations, and others.

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