

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. email	Virgina N Rustique to Ruby Shamir at 04:27:26.00. Subject: RE: update: Question. [partial] (2 pages)	12/07/1999	b(6)
002. email	Virgina N Rustique to Ruby Shamir at 10:13:40.00. Subject: RE: update: Question. [partial] (2 pages)	12/08/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
OPD ([Don't Ask, Don't Tell])
OA/Box Number: 250000

FOLDER TITLE:

[12/07/1999 - 12/12/1999]

2015-0017-F

ab1571

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Ruby Shamir (CN=Ruby Shamir/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 7-DEC-1999 11:24:39.00

SUBJECT: Re:

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

TEXT:
December 7, 1999

BRIEFING ON BRITISH POLICY ON GAYS IN THE MILITARY

FROM: Ruby Shamir

Gay men and women have always been banned from serving the British military, a policy that has been rigorously enforced. In recent years approximately 1,000 gay men and women have been discharged from the British military in recent years. Recently, the British military has overturned this policy in exchange for a strict code of conduct against any touching, public displays of affection, or relationships across ranks) but not against sexuality) in the military. The new code of conduct will come into force in the after the New Year.

This change in policy is the result of a European Court ruling in France that that ruled the British ban on homosexual as illegal. The British government said that it accepts the court ,s ruling. Under a law passed by the British Parliament, the European Convention on Human Rights will be incorporated into British law in October 2000, which will require the British courts to interpret human rights according to the convention.

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001. email	Virgina N Rustique to Ruby Shamir at 04:27:26.00. Subject: RE: update: Question. [partial] (2 pages)	12/07/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
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ab1571

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov> ("Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 7-DEC-1999 04:27:26.00

SUBJECT: RE: update: Question

TO: Ruby Shamir (CN=Ruby Shamir/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Sure -- I see him this morning and will get the lowdown. Be back shortly.

(b)(6)

V

[cc]

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

> From: Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov [SMTP:Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov]

> Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 1999 1:49 AM

> To: Rustique, Virginia N

> Subject: Re: update: Question

>

> Hey there,

>

(b)(6)

>

> Thank you for this info. I called the captain, and he hasn't called me

> back. Could you finagle the info out of him? I need the info by COB

> tomorrow and am a little concerned. Your help is greatly appreciated!!

>

> Ruby

>

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>

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>

>

> (Embedded

> image moved "Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov>

> to file: 12/06/99 05:51:19 AM

> PIC29975.PCX)

>

>

>

>

> Record Type: Record

>

>

> To: Ruby Shamir/OPD/EOP

>

> cc:

> Subject: update: Question

>

>

>

>

> Ruby --

> I just spoke to the head of our Defense Attache office, Capt. Stewart

> Barnett. I gave him your name and told him you had some questions. He

> has

> your number. Here's his: 44-171-894-0766.

> He's good. If you need to look in another direction, let me know. I'm

> happy to help.

> V

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

>> From: Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov [SMTP:Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov]

>> Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 12:46 AM

>> To: Rustique, Virginia N

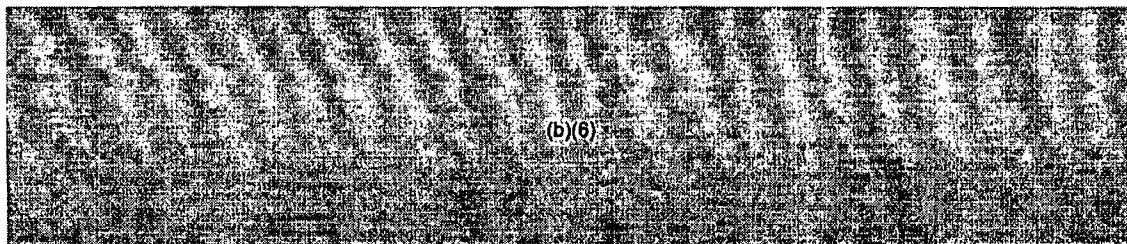
>> Subject: Question

>>

>> Hi Virginia,

>>

[0010014]



>>

>> So, I have a random question, and was wondering if you could help me

>> figure

>> it out, or direct me to the person that might know the answer.

>> Apparently,

>> Britain recently changed its rules about gays in the military. Do you

>> have

>> any information on this, specifically, what the policy was and how/why

> it

>> changed? Your help is greatly appreciated!!

>>

>> Thanks.

>>

>> Ruby

>>

>

>

>

> << File: PIC29975.PCX >>

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. email	Virgina N Rustique to Ruby Shamir at 10:13:40.00. Subject: RE: update: Question. [partial] (2 pages)	12/08/1999	b(6)

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Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System [Email]
OPD ([Don't Ask, Don't Tell])
OA/Box Number: 250000

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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: "Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov> ("Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1999 10:13:40.00

SUBJECT: RE: update: Question

TO: Ruby Shamir (CN=Ruby Shamir/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
rubes-

did you speak w/ capt. barnett. his office told me he'd place the call to you yesterday, but i just saw him and he said he'd called you today.

sorry if he didn't catch you in time for the deadline...

v

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

> From: Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov [SMTP:Ruby_Shamir@opd.eop.gov]

> Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 1999 1:49 AM

> To: Rustique, Virginia N

> Subject: Re: update: Question

>

> Hey there,

>



>

> Thank you for this info. I called the captain, and he hasn't called me
> back. Could you finagle the info out of him? I need the info by COB
> tomorrow and am a little concerned. Your help is greatly appreciated!!

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> Ruby

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> (Embedded
> image moved "Rustique, Virginia N" <RustiqueVN@state.gov>
> to file: 12/06/99 05:51:19 AM
> PIC29975.PCX)

>

>

>

>

>

[002]

> Record Type: Record

>

>

> To: Ruby Shamir/OPD/EOP

>

> cc:

> Subject: update: Question

>

>

>

>

> Ruby --

> I just spoke to the head of our Defense Attache office, Capt. Stewart

> Barnett. I gave him your name and told him you had some questions. He

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>> Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 12:46 AM

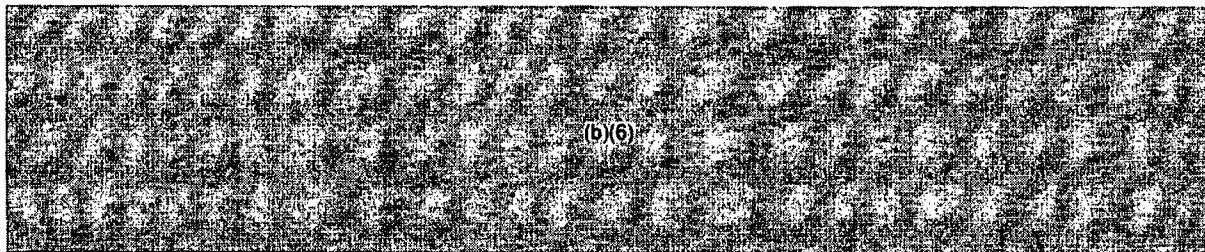
>> To: Rustique, Virginia N

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>> Hi Virginia,

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>> figure

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>> Britain recently changed its rules about gays in the military. Do you

>> have

>> any information on this, specifically, what the policy was and how/why

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>> changed? Your help is greatly appreciated!!

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>> Thanks.

>>

>> Ruby

>>

>

>

>

> << File: PIC29975.PCX >>

[cc2 cc1+]

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Melissa G. Green (CN=Melissa G. Green/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1999 09:54:05.00

SUBJECT: ISSUES TO BE COVERED IN THE PREP

TO: Patrick M. Dorton (CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Melissa G. Green/OPD/EOP on 12/08/99
09:52 AM -----

Jennifer M. Palmieri
12/08/99 09:46:54 AM
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc: Emily Karcher/WHO/EOP@EOP, Cathy R. Mays/OPD/EOP@EOP, Barry J.
Toiv/WHO/EOP@EOP, Richard L. Siewert/WHO/EOP@EOP
Subject: ISSUES TO BE COVERED IN THE PREP

PLEASE FIND DETAILED BELOW INDIVIDUAL ISSUES LOCKHART WOULD LIKE TO COVER
IN THE PREP WITH THE POTUS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW ASAP IF YOU HAVE ANY
CHANGES. Thanks.

PRE-BRIEF AGENDA FOR PRESS CONFERENCE

11:00 AM) 11:30 AM FOREIGN POLICY

Russia
Chechnya
China
Middle East Peace Process
Cuba
Roger Clinton ,s Trip to North Korea
Kosovo
Iraq
Iran
Viques
Candidate ,s Foreign Policy) Bush, Bradley
Don ,t Ask, Don ,t Tell
Foreign Travel for 2000

11:40 AM) 12:10 PM ECONOMY/TRADE

WTO
Budget) Raise Caps, Spent Surplus?
Social Security reform
Gore Tax Plan

12:20 PM) 12:40 PM DOMESTIC POLICY
Candidate's Health Care Plans (Bradley/Gore)
Gun Lawsuit
Mars Landing
Homeless
Gene Therapy
Y2K

12:50 PM) 1:10 PM COUNSEL'S OFFICE/MISC
Miranda
E-Commerce) Christmas Shopping
Library
House) Residency, Taxes

1:20 PM) 1:50 PM POLITICS/WRAP UP
HRC Campaign -- Duties (CVC), staffing at WH, Sheehy
Gore Campaign) Operation, attacking Bradley
Bush Campaign) Fit to be President
Legacy
Reflections on Millennium

Message Sent

To:

Douglas B. Sosnik/WHO/EOP@EOP
Bruce N. Reed/OPD/EOP@EOP
Patrick M. Dorton/OPD/EOP@EOP
Melissa G. Green/OPD/EOP@EOP
Melissa J. Prober/WHO/EOP@EOP
Bruce R. Lindsey/WHO/EOP@EOP
Michele Ballantyne/WHO/EOP@EOP
David C. Leavy/NSC/EOP@EOP

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jennifer M. Palmieri (CN=Jennifer M. Palmieri/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-DEC-1999 09:47:14.00

SUBJECT: ISSUES TO BE COVERED IN THE PREP

TO: David C. Leavy (CN=David C. Leavy/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce R. Lindsey (CN=Bruce R. Lindsey/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa G. Green (CN=Melissa G. Green/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Bruce N. Reed (CN=Bruce N. Reed/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Melissa J. Prober (CN=Melissa J. Prober/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Patrick M. Dorton (CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

CC: Richard L. Siewert (CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Cathy R. Mays (CN=Cathy R. Mays/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Barry J. Toiv (CN=Barry J. Toiv/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Emily Karcher (CN=Emily Karcher/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
PLEASE FIND DETAILED BELOW INDIVIDUAL ISSUES LOCKHART WOULD LIKE TO COVER
IN THE PREP WITH THE POTUS. PLEASE LET ME KNOW ASAP IF YOU HAVE ANY
CHANGES. Thanks.

PRE-BRIEF AGENDA FOR PRESS CONFERENCE

11:00 AM) 11:30 AM FOREIGN POLICY
Russia

Chechnya
China
Middle East Peace Process
Cuba
Roger Clinton ,s Trip to North Korea
Kosovo
Iraq
Iran
Viques
Candidate ,s Foreign Policy) Bush, Bradley
Don ,t Ask, Don ,t Tell
Foreign Travel for 2000

11:40 AM) 12:10 PM ECONOMY/TRADE
WTO
Budget) Raise Caps, Spent Surplus?
Social Security reform
Gore Tax Plan

12:20 PM) 12:40 PM DOMESTIC POLICY
Candidate ,s Health Care Plans (Bradley/Gore)
Gun Lawsuit
Mars Landing
Homeless
Gene Therapy
Y2K

12:50 PM) 1:10 PM COUNSEL ,S OFFICE/MISC
Miranda
E-Commerce) Christmas Shopping
Library
House) Residency, Taxes

1:20 PM) 1:50 PM POLITICS/WRAP UP
HRC Campaign -- Duties (CVC), staffing at WH, Sheehy
Gore Campaign) Operation, attacking Bradley
Bush Campaign) Fit to be President
Legacy
Reflections on Millennium

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Lisa Ferdinando (CN=Lisa Ferdinando/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-DEC-1999 09:12:55.00

SUBJECT: FOX Special Report, December 9, 1999

TO: Dorinda A. Salcido (CN=Dorinda A. Salcido/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Brian A. Reich (CN=Brian A. Reich/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Maura M. Pally (CN=Maura M. Pally/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer H. Smith (CN=Jennifer H. Smith/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rebecca J. Salay (CN=Rebecca J. Salay/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kristina Wolfe (CN=Kristina Wolfe/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Nicole L. Davison (CN=Nicole L. Davison/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jenni R. Engebretsen (CN=Jenni R. Engebretsen/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Natalie S. Wozniak (CN=Natalie S. Wozniak/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Dawn M. Chirwa (CN=Dawn M. Chirwa/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: David Vandivier (CN=David Vandivier/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lindsey E. Huff (CN=Lindsey E. Huff/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Thomas D. Janenda (CN=Thomas D. Janenda/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Toby C. Graff (CN=Toby C. Graff/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rebecca L. Walldorff (CN=Rebecca L. Walldorff/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Heather M. Riley (CN=Heather M. Riley/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jonathan M. Prince (CN=Jonathan M. Prince/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Rachael E. Sullivan (CN=Rachael E. Sullivan/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeffrey A. Shesol (CN=Jeffrey A. Shesol/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark A. Kitchens (CN=Mark A. Kitchens/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Steven J. Naplan (CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Anne M. Edwards (CN=Anne M. Edwards/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa M. Murray (CN=Melissa M. Murray/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Thurgood Marshall Jr (CN=Thurgood Marshall Jr/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeffrey M. Smith (CN=Jeffrey M. Smith/OU=OSTP/O=EOP@EOP [OSTP])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman (CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Megan C. Moloney (CN=Megan C. Moloney/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Anthony R. Bernal (CN=Anthony R. Bernal/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph P. Lockhart (CN=Joseph P. Lockhart/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Justin L. Coleman (CN=Justin L. Coleman/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joshua Gotbaum (CN=Joshua Gotbaum/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Christine L. Anderson (CN=Christine L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

TO: Irma L. Martinez (CN=Irma L. Martinez/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Anne W. Bovaird (CN=Anne W. Bovaird/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael K. Gehrke (CN=Michael K. Gehrke/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Ruby Shamir (CN=Ruby Shamir/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Ann C. Hertelendy (CN=Ann C. Hertelendy/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kimberly S. Anderson (CN=Kimberly S. Anderson/OU=OA/O=EOP@EOP [OA])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sean P. O'Shea (CN=Sean P. O'Shea/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Laura J. Lewis (CN=Laura J. Lewis/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Melissa J. Prober (CN=Melissa J. Prober/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer (CN=Sarah E. Gegenheimer/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Rochester M. Johnson (CN=Rochester M. Johnson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: June Shih (CN=June Shih/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Jason H. Schechter (CN=Jason H. Schechter/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Alison Muscatine (CN=Alison Muscatine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Laura D. Schwartz (CN=Laura D. Schwartz/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gene B. Sperling (CN=Gene B. Sperling/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
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TO: Barry J. Toiv (CN=Barry J. Toiv/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Sara M. Latham (CN=Sara M. Latham/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: William A. Halter (CN=William A. Halter/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer Ferguson (CN=Jennifer Ferguson/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lowell A. Weiss (CN=Lowell A. Weiss/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Julia M. Payne (CN=Julia M. Payne/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Richard L. Siewert (CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: gamble-bennett@dol.gov (gamble-bennett@dol.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robin M. Roland (CN=Robin M. Roland/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa G. Green (CN=Melissa G. Green/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer M. Palmieri (CN=Jennifer M. Palmieri/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Douglas B. Sosnik (CN=Douglas B. Sosnik/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TEXT:
FOX SPECIAL REPORT WITH BRIT HUME
December 9, 1999

BRIT HUME, HOST, SPECIAL REPORT: Welcome to
Washington. I'm Brit Hume.

Polls in the New Hampshire Republican presidential
race have been trending toward John McCain, and the trend has accelerated
since the debate there last week. Now there's a poll that strongly
confirms that trend and suggests McCain is now the clear favorite in a
state where George W. Bush once held a commanding lead. The latest from
Carl Cameron.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

CARL CAMERON, FOX NEWS (voice-over): Kissing Christmas shoppers in New Hampshire...

GEORGE W. BUSH (R), TEXAS GOVERNOR, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Whatever you do, don't stomp the flowers, boys.

CAMERON: ... George W. Bush faced another day and another new poll indicating that he is slipping further behind Arizona Senator John McCain in the state with the first presidential primary. A Franklin Pierce College poll puts McCain at 43 percent, 15 points ahead of Bush at 28 percent. Three hundred and sixty likely voters in the Republican primary were surveyed. A third were independents, who lean heavily toward McCain. It was the second poll in two days to show Bush trailing McCain by more than the margin of error and prompted questions about whether Bush has contemplated losing in New Hampshire.

BUSH: (laughs) No.

CAMERON: But senior advisers in New Hampshire have, in fact, warned Bush that defeat in the first primary is possible. Bush's debate performances, first in New Hampshire, then in Arizona, have done little to dispel critics' doubts about his depth. Aides now hint that Bush has begun preparing for the next debate--in Iowa Monday--in the hopes that his next effort will quell questions before they come to define his candidacy.

BUSH: The question was--they were--they were talking about, you know, do I know enough to be the president. And my answer was, you know, I'd rather be underestimated than overestimated.

CAMERON: As Bush meets and greets his way cross-country, influential backers have begun to fret about the frequency with which his intellect is questioned. For the second time in three weeks, aides acknowledged plans to add more days to Bush's New Hampshire campaign schedule after January 1st in an attempt to head off John McCain.

BUSH: I look forward to the contest. John McCain's a good man. Just think I'll do a better job.

CAMERON: And even if McCain wins the New Hampshire contest, lack of funds and organization guarantee steep uphill battles elsewhere. In New York, for instance, McCain is not even on the ballot yet and announced a lawsuit that he hopes will overturn complicated rules that require candidates to collect tens of thousands of signatures to be listed.

U.S. SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN (R-AZ), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: I'm calling on the governor and the Bush campaign to do everything they can to support this effort to make it possible not only for me, but every other viable candidate to get on the ballot.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

CAMERON: In the end, the McCain campaign believes they will get enough signatures to get on the ballot, and they concede that part of what they were doing today was not about setting any legal precedent but, in fact, casting themselves as the outsiders and the underdogs, the implication being that George W. Bush is the establishment Republican in New York, that he holds all the cards that McCain is hoping to grab.

Brit?

HUME: Carl, does anybody think that this 15-point lead at this stage for McCain might be a case of peaking too soon?

CAMERON: Well, he's actually suggested for months

that there's a fear of that, but I talked with a couple of pollsters in New Hampshire today who have suggested that it's not inconceivable that McCain could pull off a huge upset. The question really becomes where will McCain go after New Hampshire. The next major test is South Carolina, 18 days after New Hampshire. He is well behind there. And should McCain be unable to win in his home state of Arizona, for all intents and purposes, his candidacy could end. So a blow-out in New Hampshire is critical for McCain, and he needs to sustain where he's at right now.

HUME: All right, Carl. Thanks very much.

Taxes are usually an issue Republicans like to talk about and Democrats don't. But New Hampshire is famous for its aversion to taxes, and Al Gore and Bill Bradley have been going at it on the issue. But is there really a difference between them on it? Correspondent Julie Kirtz brings us up to date.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JULIE KIRTZ, FOX NEWS (voice-over): Al Gore canceled campaign appearances to attend a memorial service with the president for six firefighters killed in Massachusetts. It was a rare break in a week of aggressive jabs at his Democratic rival over taxes. When Bill Bradley refused to rule out the possibility of raising taxes if he were elected president, Al Gore pounced. He called Bradley "irresponsible." He said Bradley's economic plan boils down to this:

ALBERT GORE (D), VICE PRESIDENT, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: ... the economy ain't broke, then let's break it. I think that would be a dangerous mistake.

KIRTZ: "Wait a minute," said the Bradley campaign. "Gore is completely distorting what Bill Bradley said." "I do not propose a tax increase. The vice president knows that," Bradley shot back.

All week the Democratic campaigns have traded barbs over tax hikes, a sensitive subject for a presidential candidate of either party. In 1984, Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale said a tax increase was nearly inevitable, and he was defeated. Republican president George Bush also lost after violating his pledge not to raise taxes.

GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (August 19, 1988): Read my lips! No new taxes!

KIRTZ: Despite Gore's criticism of Bradley on taxes, the vice president refuses to make a "no new tax" pledge himself. And like Bradley, he leaves the door open to a tax increase if the economy takes a nosedive. It's the kind of fight among Democrats that makes the leader of the Republican National Committee very happy.

JIM NICHOLSON, RNC CHAIR: Gore and Bradley are--are two big-time, traditional liberals, Democrats, who believe in big government and big spending. And to do that, you have to have big taxes.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

KIRTZ: Republicans may like to lump Al Gore and Bill Bradley together, but the Democratic candidates are working to do just that, arguing not only about taxes but about health care, Social Security and Medicare. Unlike Bradley, Al Gore seems to be enjoying this political street fight, using Bill Bradley's words to try to define his own campaign.

By the way, there is a new poll out today with some new numbers on Bradley and Al Gore, showing that Al Gore is still trailing Bill Bradley in New Hampshire. Among likely Democratic voters, Bradley 45

percent, Gore 37 percent in this poll taken earlier this month.

Brit?

HUME: Julie, that poll is roughly consistent with earlier polls. No big change, right?

KIRTZ: Right. No big change.

HUME: All right, Julie Kirtz, thanks very much.

Hillary Rodham Clinton has come out against White House policy again in her New York Senate campaign. First it was clemency for suspected Puerto Rican terrorists. Now it's President Clinton's ``Don't ask, don't tell'' plan regarding gays in the military. The first lady says she opposes it, and that's designed to win over gay voters, as FOX's Molly Falconer reports.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MOLLY FALCONER, FOX NEWS (voice-over): One of the first things her husband did as president Hillary Clinton says she'd like to undo if she becomes New York's next senator.

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON (D), FIRST LADY, NEW YORK SENATE CANDIDATE: I don't believe ``Don't ask, don't tell'' has worked, and I don't believe it is ultimately the policy that we should have in our military.

FALCONER: Asked what the military's policy on homosexuality should be, Mrs. Clinton suggested we look for a different way, but didn't specify what that way might be. The first lady's efforts to stake out an independent position put the Clinton administration in the uncomfortable position of having to criticize a Clinton, if gently.

KEN BACON, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN: Mrs. Clinton, like every citizen and every political candidate, has a right to comment on Pentagon policies. Many political candidates do. And she is absolutely right. If she is dissatisfied with this policy, the place to go is Congress.

FALCONER: Her probable opponent, New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, was happy to criticize her. He's long opposed the ``Don't ask, don't tell'' policy and says the Clintons are just lost on the issue.

RUDOLPH GIULIANI (R), NEW YORK CITY MAYOR, POSSIBLE SENATE CANDIDATE: I mean, there's been so many different positions on that in the Clinton administration, I'd have to--I'd have to, like, get a road map of...

FALCONER: Mrs. Clinton may need a road map in the next few weeks as she moves away from the White House and into her New York home, and probably away from more White House policies, looking, as she was in this case, for issues that might work to her advantage.

RANDY JOHNSON, GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS: I think the lesbian and gay vote is very, very important to politics in general, and here in New York state, and certainly the upcoming Senate race.

FALCONER (on-camera): But Mrs. Clinton has perhaps found out the pitfalls of seeking advantages with differing constituencies. Her remarks about ``Don't ask, don't tell'' came before an Irish group, and she told the same group she'd like to march in the city's Saint Patrick's Day parade. Many Democrats here shun that parade because it bans gay organizations. Her spokesman says she may reconsider.

In New York, Molly Falconer, FOX NEWS.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: And coming up next: The Justice Department weighs in on what is best--or they think is best--for that 6-year-old

Cuban boy. Details when we come right back.

(18:11)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: The legal battle over custody of the little

Cuban boy pulled from the sea has begun. Fidel Castro wants 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez reunited with his father in Cuba, but the boy's other family in Florida wants him to stay in the U.S. Now, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has sent the boy's father a letter asking him to prove paternity. FOX NEWS correspondent Bret Baier reports from Havana.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS (voice-over):

Carefully-orchestrated street demonstrations in Havana grow more massive by the day as Fidel Castro turns up the pressure in an ongoing battle over immigration policy that now focuses on a 6-year-old boy, Elian Gonzalez.

The biggest protest yet, more than 100,000 strong, came on the day Juan Miguel (ph) Gonzalez received a letter from U.S. immigration authorities, the first direct response since he demanded his son be sent back to Cuba. The letter outlines what must be his first step, proving with documents that he is Elian's father and that returning to him would be good for the boy.

VICKIE HUDDLESTON, U.S. INTERESTS SECTION OFFICER:

... so that he could present the documents that would prove that he is, in fact, the father and is exercising parental responsibility, or had exercised, with Elian. So let's see what happens now. Let's see what the Cubans are going to do with this.

ERIC HOLDER, DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL: We have to make sure that the parent has not abandoned the child, has not in any way abused the child, that the return of the child to the parent would be in the best interests of the child.

BAIER: Fidel Castro says the boy's father has no interest in meeting with U.S. officials until they can tell him exactly when little Elian will return. The boy's grandparents in Cuba sense a softening stance by the U.S. government.

J. GONZALEZ HERNANDEZ, PATERNAL GRANDFATHER (through translator): When we heard the news, we were very happy. We were content that they had adopted a reasonable and intelligent view.

BAIER: Critics suspect the family in Cuba is reading from a script written by the Castro regime, all part of a cold-war-era political chess game that's been going on for 40 years.

(on camera): Cuban officials tell FOX NEWS that the Castro government has no interest in torpedoing U.S.-Cuba immigration talks scheduled to begin here on Monday. But they warn that the talks will not go far unless the boy is coming home.

In Havana, Cuba, Bret Baier, FOX NEWS.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: Still to come, former Clinton adviser on Cuba Richard Nuccio about the legal aspects of the case surrounding that little boy. Stay tuned.

(18:16)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: It's difficult for 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez to make up his mind about whether to reunite with his father in Cuba or stay in Miami with relatives. His case is unusual but still has to abide

by U.S. immigration laws.

I'm joined now by Richard Nuccio, a former adviser to President Clinton, to explain the immigration law and how the Gonzalez case impacts U.S.-Cuba relations.

Thank you for coming. Hope I've...

RICHARD NUCCIO, GEORGETOWN UNIV., FORMER CLINTON

ADVISER: Thanks for having me.

HUME: ... pronounced your name properly?

NUCCIO: Absolutely.

HUME: Good. We just heard Eric Holder say in a report moments ago that there's all kinds of weighing of whether the father has abused the child or has--and of course, whether he is the father. Does the U.S. government really feel it's in a position--I mean, does it have to, under the law, make such assessments?

NUCCIO: Well, once someone like Elian reaches U.S. shores, they have available to them a set of constitutional protections, not as full as if they were a citizen, but they do insert themselves into a legal framework. And that means there's going to be some sort of court process.

I'm not exactly sure that Mr. Holder is absolutely correct. I think somewhere it says that the INS alone will decide. I'm not sure that that's absolutely the case. There may well be appeals courts and other kinds of things that will get involved if this becomes a fight between different factions of the family--family here and family in Cuba.

HUME: Now, the president has basically indicated--I mean, understandably, the president would rather have--wouldn't go near this with a barge pole, if he could avoid it.

NUCCIO: I'm not so sure the vice president feels that way.

HUME: Well, I suppose he's in a situation where he may have to take a position, but I just wonder whether the president, if he chose to do so--for reasons of national security, foreign policy, whatever--could intervene in this case one way or the other. Is that--am I--what's the--what are the equities there?

NUCCIO: I don't think so. Once someone is physically in the United States and has a family or a group of people that want to represent them within the American legal system, there's really very little that a president could do about it.

HUME: Now, I can't remember any other cases where it was a minor like this. I'm sure they happen, but I just don't recall one. What are the precedents here?

NUCCIO: Well, there have been a whole series of these. We're only talking, really, since 1994. Before that, we wouldn't have been having this discussion at all.

HUME: Because what happened in '94?

NUCCIO: Because in 1994, the August migration crisis, when Castro pushed out tens of thousands of people from Cuba...

HUME: Right.

NUCCIO: ... the United States changed what had been up until then basically an open-door policy...

HUME: Right.

NUCCIO: ... for Cubans, who were, quote, unquote, "fleeing communism," and therefore entitled to refugee status if they ever made it to the United States. We began intercepting people and first

taking them to Guantanamo Naval Base...

HUME: Right. I remember.

NUCCIO: ... and then eventually, in May of '95, reached an accord that was negotiated secretly with the Cubans.

HUME: So if this little boy landed on our shores in 1993, he would automatically...

NUCCIO: No...

HUME: ... stay here and...

NUCCIO: No discussion.

HUME: Even if his father were clamoring for his return?

NUCCIO: The father could come and try to make a case in our court system that the mother had taken him from Cuba illegally or something, and probably he would lose that court decision. The U.S. government wouldn't have been involved at all.

HUME: Now, obviously, in political terms, this is a hugely important issue in south Florida, where the Cuban exile community remains such a big factor. What are the politics here? I mean, is it just a straight situation, they want him to stay and always will and--I mean, is there any--is there any flip--is there any other side of the equation politically here?

NUCCIO: Well, there's a--there's a very sensitive pressure point precisely on this issue that we were just talking about, that President Clinton, although supposedly he doesn't take dramatic decisions about things, did something to the Cuban exile community that no one has ever done, which is turn them from refugees fleeing communism into just economic migrants, somebody just trying to get into the United States to make a better life. That's a dramatic change in the way that Cuban exiles have been treated by the United States.

HUME: Now, that was done by executive policy change, not by any legislation, right?

NUCCIO: That's right. It was just--just a matter of the United States, from one day to the next, deciding that you're no longer welcome in the United States just because you're leaving Cuba.

HUME: And the law--the applicable law on the subject, in part, is what's called--what is it, the Cuban Democracy Act or the...

NUCCIO: No, the thing that affected the status of Cubans is something called the Cuban Adjustment Act, which was passed in 1966, a long time ago. And what that does is allow anyone of Cuban origin who makes it to the United States, no matter how they make it here--legally or illegally--to change their status after a year, to adjust their status to a legal status. What that meant is that no matter how you got to the United States before 1994, once you were here, you could apply to become an alien resident and eventually a citizen.

And so what we did, the president did in 1994, is stop people from getting here by intercepting them at sea, first taking them to Getmo (ph) and now taking them back into Cuba. And so the only people who make it to the United States are exceptions like Elian. That is, they're rescued at sea, there are reason to believe either that they are clear political refugees that had--that they would have a well-founded fear of persecution if they were taken back to Cuba, or there were a medical emergency...

HUME: Right.

NUCCIO: ... that it would be unsafe to try to return them to Cuba, and so they're brought to the United States for treatment.

HUME: Now, parse the politics of this for me. You mentioned moments ago that the vice president may feel differently about it from the president. What are his political equities here?

NUCCIO: Well, I suspect that his people are saying "This could make us look tough. We could look really good."

HUME: "If we"...

NUCCIO: "If we stand up to Fidel Castro and make it clear that we're not sending this boy back, no matter what, or we're not sending him back until our judicial system has full--a full process to review this case." A little bit of a crisis, like a little bit of a war, might not be such a bad thing from the vice president's point of view.

HUME: Well, let's think--obviously, this is--this is an issue that I suppose has some resonance around the country, but it's really hugely sensitive in that one tip of Florida, with a very large--I mean, relatively large single group there...

NUCCIO: Yes.

HUME: ... the Cuban-American community there.

NUCCIO: About three quarters of (INAUDIBLE)

HUME: Most of them are--I mean, they've tended to vote Republican.

NUCCIO: Yes, about 70 percent.

HUME: I'm just thinking--trying to think this through. It's a state with a Republican governor now, but it's been a state where Democrats have been able to carry--the president carried it. So could this--could this thing actually tip this, in your judgment?

NUCCIO: Well, the thing that Democrats have to do in Florida in the Cuban-American community is get above around 25 percent. And President Clinton has made enormous strides. Dukakis got something like 5 percent when--among the Cuban-American community when he ran. Clinton got, I think, 17 percent the first time. And he went over 30 the second time.

So you want--you're never going to get over 50 among the Cuban-American community because, as you say, there's a tradition there of voting Republican. But if you can eat into that nice chunk of Republican base, make sure that your opponent is spending money in Florida that he didn't think he would have to spend working in the Cuban-American community instead of working in African-Americans or others where--where--you know, with scarce resources...

HUME: Right.

NUCCIO: ... you're tying somebody down.

HUME: But so far, the message that's coming out of the administration doesn't quite meet the standard that you suggest Mr. Gore might like, right?

NUCCIO: That's right, and I think that's probably why this debate--we may see a little distancing...

HUME: On this question.

NUCCIO: ... on this question, as well.

HUME: Thank you very much. Very informative.

We got to take a break to do the news here, but stay tuned. The latest on the arrest of a suspected Russian spy coming up next.

(18:27)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: A Russian diplomat allegedly caught spying on the U.S. right in front of the State Department. The FBI says it happened, and it's all part of an intense covert operation on the Kremlin's part. This is days after an American is charged with spying in Moscow. FOX NEWS correspondent Jim Angle has the latest on this recent wave of seeming espionage.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JIM ANGLE, FOX NEWS (voice-over): The Russian diplomat was caught red-handed, parked in front of the State Department Wednesday, monitoring an electronic bug planted inside. FBI agents noticed the man, a known intelligence agent, hanging around outside the State Department some time last summer and had been watching him ever since. After a painstaking search, they found the electronic bug several weeks ago in a key conference room, a reminder, officials say, that Russia continues to have an aggressive intelligence operation inside the U.S.

HOLDER: You know, our relationship is not as adversarial as it was, but yet we can't leave our guard down. I mean, there are nations all around the world that are, for a variety of reasons, trying to gain access to information from us, and we just can't let our guard down.

ANGLE: The man, Stanislav Gusev, was an attache at the Russian embassy here in Washington. He promptly claimed diplomatic immunity and has been given 10 days to leave the country. In the midst of that, President Yeltsin lashed out at the U.S. over President Clinton's latest criticism of Russia's military assault on Chechnya, which has forced more than 200,000 civilians from their homes. During a visit to China, Yeltsin said Mr. Clinton must have forgotten what world he lives in, that he can't tell everyone else what to do.

BORIS YELTSIN, RUSSIAN PRESIDENT (through translator): He must have for a minute forgotten what Russia is. Russia is equipped with a full arsenal of nuclear weapons. He forgot about this, and so he decided to flex his muscles.

ANGLE: The U.S. is accustomed to hearing Yeltsin flex his muscles when confronted with criticism, so President Clinton didn't seem too concerned by Yeltsin's tone.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: You know, I didn't think he'd forgotten America was a great power when he disagreed with what I did in Kosovo. (laughs) I mean, we can't get too serious about all--we--let's not talk about what the leaders are saying and all these words of criticism.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ANGLE: Now, as far as the spy case is concerned, Brit, the expulsion of the Russian diplomat doesn't end the matter. The FBI is trying to figure out what kind of information might have been compromised before the bug was discovered, and most important, how the Russians were actually able to plant a listening device inside the State Department.

Brit?

HUME: Jim, this--this chap was not exactly a master spy, was he?

ANGLE: Well, you know, what officials say is that he would have been difficult to just pick out of the crowd. There are a lot of people wandering around over there in the summer. It's a very nice

area, lots of trees and so forth.

But once they were able to see him, which was quite by chance--they just saw him and said, ``Gee, isn't that guy one of the intelligence people at the embassy? That's kind of odd. He's just hanging around in front of the State Department."

Once they started watching him, it became painfully obvious. He would go over, park his car, sometimes sit on a park bench, sometime in the car, adjust the equipment he had to listen. And sometimes he would leave his parking space, drive around the block in a car with diplomatic plates on it and look for a better parking space so he could get better reception, apparently, from the listening device. It's like having an old TV with the rabbit ears, where you have to get it just right.

(LAUGHTER)

ANGLE: So he's--he's driving around the block and looking for the best spot to listen in on that conference room.

HUME: All right, Jim. Thanks very much.

We're going to take a break here, but coming up next, Juan Williams sits down with Republican presidential candidate Alan Keyes. Stay tuned.

(18:35)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: Republican presidential candidate Alan Keyes says he's the man to carry the torch for his party, but Keyes says media coverage of his candidacy is racist and is holding him back. He spoke about that and other subjects in this edition of ``Juan Williams's Washington."

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JUAN WILLIAMS, ``THE WASHINGTON POST", FOX NEWS POLITICAL ANALYST: Alan Keyes, candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, thank you so much for joining us.

ALAN KEYES, (R), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: Glad to be here.

WILLIAMS: Last weekend, I was watching ``Saturday Night Live," and they had little elements from the debate. When they got to Alan Keyes, they say, ``Oh, don't worry about him. He thinks everybody's racist."

In '87, when you were at the State Department, you had a fuss there with John Whitehead, who was the deputy secretary of state, about some matter, and you said it was--he behaved in a racially offensive manner. In '88, you were--complained that Carl Rowan, the black columnist, had written stuff that you considered to be racially offensive about you.

In '89, you said you thought the ``Washington Times" wasn't paying attention to your Senate race, and you again thought that maybe it had something to do with race. In '96, you said the media--and this is in the midst of the '96 presidential race--"The media has stupid stereotypes about black people." And of course, there was the event in Atlanta, where they wouldn't allow you on the stage in the debate.

So it seems like time and time again, you say racism is a problem for Alan Keyes.

KEYES: Well, I think--two things here. The business

at the State Department was not about race, and I said that quite explicitly. The papers said it was, and I said it wasn't. So I don't know where you're getting that. That was a disagreement over policy.

In other respects, though, I think this is an ongoing problem, particularly with the media. And it's not with the country or with the people. As a matter of fact, quite the contrary. As I've gone around in this election, I have found that Americans, by and large, are listening to what I have to say...

WILLIAMS: But the media...

(CROSSTALK)

WILLIAMS: ... is rejecting you, you're saying.

KEYES: The media's filtering me out because I don't--it's sort of like cognitive dissonance. Since I don't correspond to some category, their computers filter me out of the mix, and they don't want to talk about me.

WILLIAMS: You don't correspond to the category of?

KEYES: Black American. They have a racial stereotype, and I don't...

WILLIAMS: Which is...

KEYES: ... fit that stereotype.

WILLIAMS: You have to be a political liberal...

KEYES: You have to be liberal in order to be black, according to them. As a matter of fact, I've seen others that aren't so wonderful. A guy was writing the other day, talking about the debate. And I think people don't even realize, Juan, sometimes what they're saying. And his response to the debate was, "Oh, well, it was so boring. It was over--but Alan Keyes is entertaining. He's a great entertainer." Do these guys realize what they're doing?

WILLIAMS: Well, what about people who would say, "Gee, the media pays lots of attention to Colin Powell, who's a conservative Republican"...

KEYES: No, he's not. I'm sorry. Colin Powell is not a conservative. That's why he could not run for the Republican nomination.

WILLIAMS: What about the argument that you're a politician who has very low standings in the polls and very low standing in terms of fund-raising?

KEYES: Right now, you look at those very self-same phony polls--this is before the debates and everything, toward the end of October, before the debates had occurred, and I was either tied with or ahead of Steve Forbes.

And that then gets to the money issue. Meaning no particular offense, Steve Forbes has spent 20 million, 30 million bucks. I have spent between 2 and 3 million bucks. If I am basically able to achieve the same result or better than Steve Forbes, maybe money isn't as important as people think it is.

WILLIAMS: Some people say, "Alan Keyes is a zealot." Do you have the ability to really be fair, to listen, to relate, to understand what other Americans who might disagree with you are saying?

KEYES: I always listen to people. I'm always listening for the better argument, listening for somebody who will show me where I've gone wrong. And I did it on my program. I do it all the time. But if you can't show me where I'm going wrong, then don't expect that I'm going to change my position just because it would feel more comfortable to be in some other position.

I think the problem I have with that--it's deeply ingrained precisely because I spent many years of my youth thinking about slavery and why it was that for so long people kept black folks in chains, even though many people acknowledged that it was wrong.

WILLIAMS: A few quick questions. Would you be willing to be somebody's vice president?

KEYES: I have to say that if I thought there was somebody I had that much confidence in in terms of their commitment, particularly to the great moral principles of the nation's life, then I wouldn't be running.

WILLIAMS: And so none of the other candidates on the Republican side have impressed you.

KEYES: That's right. They haven't convinced me on this point at all, no. And I...

WILLIAMS: Well, just generally...

KEYES: And I absolutely...

WILLIAMS: ... to be president of these United States, you wouldn't vote for any of your fellow Republicans.

KEYES: I didn't say I wouldn't vote, but voting for somebody is different than being vice president. As vice president, you have to commit to stand there and defend everything that they do.

WILLIAMS: SO you wouldn't be vice president...

KEYES: You have to have...

WILLIAMS: ... for any of these men.

KEYES: ... confidence that they're not going to make judgments that are inconsistent with what you regard as the fundamental...

WILLIAMS: I understand.

KEYES: ... integrity required for (INAUDIBLE)

WILLIAMS: You wouldn't be vice president for any of these men.

KEYES: Well, I'll say it again. If I had that kind of confidence in any of my colleagues, then I would not be running.

WILLIAMS: What about the idea that when you are on the stage listening to the debate, have any of them impressed you?

KEYES: Oh, all of them have. Well, with one or two exceptions.

WILLIAMS: Well, who hasn't impressed you?

KEYES: Well, I hate to be ad hominem, and it's not...

WILLIAMS: It's not ad hominem. It's a legitimate judgment. The whole country's making the judgment.

KEYES: I'll put it this way. I look at that field, take myself out of it (INAUDIBLE) Forget Alan Keyes and just look at the others. The one person on that stage who to my mind has not impressed me with having real weight and substance is the guy everybody says is the frontrunner. I think he is, in fact, the weakest link up there.

WILLIAMS: George W. Bush.

KEYES: George W. Bush. And as I said in the debate the other day, come on, the presidency, like a lot of executive positions--there come moments when you have to be willing to stand on your own judgment, when nobody can make that judgment but you, when everybody will have put their oar in, but you're the guy who has to give the nod, has to say what the direction's going to be.

If you're relying on other people to put thoughts in

your head, words in your mouth, principles and so forth and so on into your thinking, then at that moment, who are you going to be relying on? Who's going to fill you up with substance that you don't have? We can't afford this, and I think that we cannot afford to have people who don't have that weight and substance in the White House.

WILLIAMS: Alan Keyes, candidate for the Republican nomination for president, thank you so much for joining us.

KEYES: Glad to be here. Thank you.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: And thanks to you, Juan.

Don't go anywhere, folks. Our panel of journalists is coming up next.

(18:44)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHEPARD SMITH, FOX NEWS: And welcome back to SPECIAL REPORT with Brit Hume. I'm Shepard Smith in New York.

It's live TV, and things go wrong. At this moment in our Washington newsroom, though no one fears at all, a bomb threat has been called in there. As a result, we've gotten everybody out of the building. I'll have you know Brit Hume was the last to go, not really wanting to give up the ship, but passing along some information about what we should discuss here.

And to that end, the Beltway Boys are with us from--where are you guys now? Safe I'm hoping? Actually, they're getting set up.

You know about the polls that have come out today. You may not. But I can fill you in to some degree on the fly here. A new poll out of New Hampshire, surveying just about 380 voters, I believe, likely Republican voters. And the gap has become even larger between the two major Republican contenders. And I can tell you that at this hour, that latest poll shows that John McCain is leading by 15 full percentage points over George W. Bush of Texas.

Now, there is another poll on the Democratic side which shows, in fact, that Bill Bradley's lead has increased dramatically, for this poll, at least, over his rival, the vice president of the United States.

So what do all of these polls mean, and are they a sign of things to come? Mara Liasson is with us now from the--from the White House, I believe, right, Mara?

MARA LIASSON, NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO: I'm not hearing...

SMITH: And Mara's not hearing us. It's one of those difficult sort of situations, and Brit wishes he could be here. But the long and short of it is, the polls are not looking good for the vice president or for George W. Bush. And of course, you have to look down the road to find out how much of an effect it's having in other cities.

Mara Liasson's IFB and communications are now up with us.

LIASSON: Hi.

SMITH: Mara, I'm glad you're there, not on North Capitol (ph).

LIASSON: Yeah, me, too.

SMITH: What do you think of this Republican poll out

today?

LIASSON: Well, I think it's quite extraordinary. I mean, there have been a lot of nervous Republicans about George W. Bush's performance, and it looks like the polls are really bearing this out. At least this poll shows he's dropping like a stone.

Now, it doesn't mean that he can't weather a loss in New Hampshire. One of the things you have to say about the Republican primary right now is the establishment is anathema to John McCain. In other words, the Republican Party establishment is not just betting on George Bush, they really like him, and they don't like John McCain.

So I think that if John McCain does win in New Hampshire--first of all, he doesn't have the money or the organization, like Bush does, across the country. But also, I think the Republican--the party establishment is not going to be so quick to throw George W. over the side and run to John McCain. But it means, obviously, George W. Bush has to work a heck of a lot harder in New Hampshire, and he has his work cut out for him now, and he doesn't have a whole lot of time left.

SMITH: Well, this particular poll coming from WNDS in--actually, let me look over here--from WNDS and from Franklin Pierce College. And the numbers are like this: McCain 43 percent, Bush 28 percent. Now...

LIASSON: It's really something.

SMITH: Yeah, that's not even close anymore, Mara. And you know, this particular primary can sometime act like a snowball down a victory slope. Any chance of that?

LIASSON: Well, it can, but you got to remember what comes next. I mean, South Carolina, which is a state that has a lot of military people in it--John McCain has said that's an important state for him. Bush is still way, way ahead there. And Bush has strength all over the country. And don't forget, he has a 50-state organization, and I don't think John McCain can say that.

And John McCain hasn't yet had--have the kind of campaign who can develop issues and proposals and big, meaty speeches on things, the way George W. Bush has. So yes, it could snowball, but boy, he'd have to work really fast. And I think George W. Bush would not only have to lose in New Hampshire, he'd have to lose big.

SMITH: Well, while we're waiting on the Beltway Boys, let's talk a little bit about this situation in Cuba--Elian Gonzalez, 6 years old.

LIASSON: Right.

SMITH: The tug-of-war's been going on. Now the folks down in--he--the folks in the United States have said, "Look, show us some proof. We'll see what we can do." But in Cuba they're saying, "Unless you can give us an absolute date and time, we don't want to even talk about it." Does it sound like to you Fidel Castro is trying to stir up some trouble which could lead to an opening of the floodgates, like 1994?

LIASSON: Well, I don't know if--I don't know about whether the floodgates will be opened, but clearly, this is a very difficult, difficult situation. This boy is not just the subject of an international custody dispute, he's the subject of an international political fight now.

The Cuban-American community wants him to stay here. They say "Why shouldn't the father come and visit him in Florida and then

decide what he wants to do?" Obviously, they believe the father would rather stay in the United States, too. John McCain has said the same thing. He'd like the father to come to Florida and then say where he wants to live with his son, betting, again, that the father would want to stay in the United States.

I don't know if you heard President Clinton yesterday. He was carefully noncommittal in that press conference when he was asked about this. He said, "Well, I can sympathize with the father. Of course, I'd rather want to grow up in the United States. It's a difficult situation, but I'm not going to make this decision. The INS is."

SMITH: Well, let's bring in the rest now, who join us from outside the house that Brit Hume built--Mort Kondracke--oh, my goodness!--Fred Barnes and Jim Angle. As Brit would say, FOX NEWS contributors all.

Hello.

MORT KONDRACKE, "ROLL CALL": Hi.

FRED BARNES, "THE WEEKLY STANDARD": Hi.

SMITH: Hi, there. You know what I'm curious about?

Yesterday, when the tide turned a little bit and Fidel Castro said, "Now, wait a minute. We want an exact time and place." There are those who would argue that he doesn't really want this economic embargo to drop at all, because if it does, in comes the United States influence, and there goes a lot of his power. How do you guys see it?

ANGLE: Well...

KONDRACKE: Well--go ahead, Jim.

ANGLE: Well, there's some truth to that. I mean, obviously, he is playing this for all it's worth. And one of the interesting things here is that the U.S. said, "Look, the father needs to come over and prove that he is, indeed, the father. That's what we need for him to do in order to move this thing forward." And Castro said, "Nope. Nope. He's not coming until you tell him when the boy is coming home." So the one step they could have taken that might have led to a fairly easy end to this thing, Castro has refused to take. He's obviously playing it to the hilt.

SMITH: Yeah, and Mort...

KONDRACKE: Yeah, my suspicion is that this is--this is domestic consumption. I mean, he's rallying his people for some--for some new reason that suits him at home. I don't--I don't think that there's a great international credit to be gained here. I think he's been under criticism internationally, and that's what he's responding to.

SMITH: Well, he's always looking for a reason to give some trouble toward his neighbors to the north. And if nothing else, you look back to 1994, when he let all those people go, and in the middle of it all, caused problems for Bill Clinton and ended up making us change our immigration policy while the sea was full of Cubans on Navy boats. You have to wonder if now, with all of these talks coming up about changing our relations and changing the immigration policies, if the bottom line is he doesn't really want that, because in the end...

BARNES: No, he...

SMITH: ... if in we come, out his power goes.

BARNES: Shep, he does want that because his--he's created an economic basketcase in Cuba. He wants trade with the United States to bail himself out. But he sees this opportunity--look, dictators

do this. When they see an opportunity to rally the people for some pseudo-patriotic reasons, that's what he's doing.

It's not that the people there love him. They know exactly what his regime there, rather than--I mean, Cuba used to be the Switzerland of the Caribbean. Now it's the Bulgaria of the Switzerland--of the Caribbean. And Castro's ruining it, has ruined it for years. Cubans can still--they know what's going on in the rest of the world, where we have this gigantic economic boom.

So he's seized on this thing. This is a loser for him, and it will be a--but I'll tell you who would be a bigger loser. If Clinton--if President Clinton lets this boy go back to Cuba or makes him go back there, it's going to be extraordinarily unpopular in the United States.

SMITH: Mort, let's get back to the polls which came out today--significant, according to some, with Bush down 15 points to McCain. Is there anything G.W. can do, at this point, to turn the tide in New Hampshire?

KONDRACK: Oh, sure. You know, I--15 points seems like an awfully big margin. The other polls, the Zogby poll was--is 3 points, I think, or 8 points, or something like that. Look, Bush is going to start turning it on in New Hampshire. There's going to be massive television. You know, he's going to be there constantly from now through the primary. There'll be other debates and stuff like that. You know, this is an eternity between now and February.

SMITH: You know--you know, Jim, as the debates have moved forward, first ours, then one over on another cable news channel--as they've gone on, George W. Bush's numbers have gone down, and John McCain's numbers have gone up. What's to suggest that that tide'll turn?

ANGLE: Well, most people believe it's because John McCain comes across as so honest, sincere, and as a non-politician. You know, this year personality plays a very big role in this race. McCain comes across as someone who is a maverick. He's sort of against Washington politics, fighting against his own party. That goes over well with the voters in this election.

SMITH: You know, Fred, as long as we're talking about it, there's another poll over on the Democratic side, and it shows Bradley's up on Gore 45 to 37.

BARNES: Now, this is in New Hampshire, though.

SMITH: Yeah.

BARNES: You got to remember, New Hampshire is this maverick state where they love to go against whoever is sort of the anointed party candidate. That's Al Gore on the Democratic side and George W. Bush on the Republican side. I mean, they're--it's sort of a built-in system in New Hampshire to sort of stir up the waters.

The big question is if McCain wins New Hampshire, which the Bush people now concede that he could do, will that give him incredible momentum coming out of there to turn around the polls and voter sentiment in South Carolina and Virginia and Michigan and Arizona and the other states whose primaries follow. The Bush people say there's--give no credence to the momentum theory, but the McCain people really believe it.

SMITH: Well, Mara, from the White House a minute ago, while you guys were getting miked up, said, ``You know what? In the long run, it doesn't matter that much because he doesn't have enough money to take him down the home stretch."

BARNES: Well, you can raise a lot of money in a short period of time, actually. McCain believes while Bush can outspend him that he, McCain, has enough money to be competitive through March 7th, when you have New York, California and New Jersey and those. He won't be able to spend like Bush, but if he's the hot candidate and getting enormous attention from the so-called "free media," which means us, then it's possible. Unlikely, but still possible.

SMITH: Fred, Mort, Jim, thank you all very much. Be careful there.

(CROSSTALK)

SMITH: Mara Liasson at the White House, great to have you.

LIASSON: Thanks.

SMITH: And that's a wrap. Coming up, "The Fox Report," much more on the Cuba situation and the struggle with the little boy, plus the KKK adopting a highway. Should it be allowed? It's all your news, fair and balanced, coming live from New York.

But first--I've always wanted to say this--that's SPECIAL REPORT for this. We'll see you next time, and in the meantime, our news is next.

END

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CNN Inside Politics

Aired December 9, 1999 - 5:00 p.m. ET

Hillary Clinton Takes Aim at 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell'
Policy; A Look at First Lady's and Giuliani's Anger
Management; Bush Campaigns in Granite State

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON, FIRST LADY OF THE UNITED STATES:
Fitness to serve in the military should be based on

one's conduct, not one's
sexual orientation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

aim BERNARD SHAW, CNN ANCHOR: Senate candidate Clinton takes
at "don't ask, don't tell," putting her at odds with the
president's policy again.

Also ahead:

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. GEORGE W. BUSH (R-TX), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE:
Starring in a new movie called "Silence In Seattle."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SHAW: George W. Bush takes a new shot at Al Gore. But
privately, are his
jitters about John McCain intensifying?

And the West Virginia mountains call a teacher to the
statehouse. Can she
beat the odds and become governor?

Judy ANNOUNCER: From Washington, this is INSIDE POLITICS with
Woodruff and Bernard Shaw.

SHAW: Thanks for joining us. Judy is off today.

New York As Hillary Clinton reaches out to key voting blocks in
state, she
is trying to highlight her differences with likely
Senate rival Rudy Giuliani. But
on one issue today, it wasn't Giuliani's stand the first
lady was disputing; it
was the president's.

position on the CNN's Deborah Feyerick reports on Mrs. Clinton's
administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays
in the military and other
matters of concern to the first lady.

powerful (BEGIN VIDEOTAPE) DEBORAH FEYERICK, CNN
CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Surrounded by a small but
group of Irish-Americans, Hillary Clinton shared her
views about gays in the
military.

H. CLINTON: Fitness to serve in the military should be based on one's conduct, not one's sexual orientation.

FEYERICK: In the past, Mrs. Clinton's liberal opinions would have made many conservative Irish Catholics shudder, but this is New York City, a tapestry of diversity, as well as an ethnic mine field, which Mrs. Clinton is learning to navigate.

NIALL O'DOWD, PUBLISHER, "IRISH VOICE": Maybe eight years ago, you know, her positions would have been hard for Irish-Americans to accept on a lot of issues, but the Northern Ireland issue has been extremely important for Irish Americans, and there's no question that without her role and her husband's role, we wouldn't have a peace process.

FEYERICK: Mrs. Clinton will be negotiating her own peace next week at a meeting with New York's orthodox Jews. Many are angry at her handling of Suha Arafat, who accused Israelis of poisoning Palestinian women and children. Mrs. Clinton failed to speak up at the time, then embraced Mrs. Arafat following the explosive remarks.

H. CLINTON: I want to clear the air. I'm not going with any particular agenda, but I want people to meet and hear from me firsthand.

FEYERICK: And what of Mrs. Clinton's scheduled meeting with controversial activist and Rudy Giuliani nemesis Al Sharpton? The mayor won't meet with him; Mrs. Clinton will.

H. CLINTON: We're going to be promoting the politics of inclusion in New York, because I think it's to the benefit of New Yorkers that people work together, even if they have differences.

FEYERICK: Mayor Giuliani's campaign spokesman dismissed the idea the mayor can be divisive, saying Mrs. Clinton's remarks were more of the same negative personal rhetoric being imported into New York

from Washington.

(on camera): Though Mrs. Clinton is doing her best to get to know New York politics, she still has a way to go to understand its nuances. When asked whether she would march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, Mrs. Clinton enthusiastically answered yes. The parade bans gays and lesbians from marching as a group.

Deborah Feyerick, CNN, New York.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SHAW: Now let's take a closer look at Mrs. Clinton's stand on gays in the military and put it in political context. For that, we turn to CNN White House correspondent John King.

John, what is her strategy? What's the strategy behind breaking with the president on this?

JOHN KING, CNN WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Well, Bernie, aides say that Mrs. Clinton simply thinks from a policy perspective that this does not work. Think back to early 1993, implementing the so-called "don't ask, don't tell" policy, one of the most controversial things this president did. Even behind the scenes, many of the president's aides will tell you the policy is not working as they had hoped it would. The number of gays and lesbians being kicked out of military actually on the rise. That was not what the president intended. The president, with just one year left, has no interest in revisiting this subject. The first lady, as she campaigns for Senate and campaigns for a very critical gay and lesbian constituency in New York state decided to speak out because, we're told she thinks this policy simply doesn't work.

SHAW: Gay rights, big issue, New York State?

KING: A very big issue, and one in which she has trouble with her opponent. He's a Republican, the mayor Rudy Giuliani,

but he passed the
domestic partnership provision in the city. He has also
been critical in the
past of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

The first lady facing trouble here. Let me run through a
few numbers to
explain this trouble. It's not just gays and lesbians,
Rudy Giuliani does well
with Democratic voters and Democratic constituencies in
particular. The first
lady in the latest Marist Institute poll getting 55
percent support in New
York City. Chuck Schumer a year ago in a very close
race, he got 74
percent support in New York City. The first lady needs
to do better there.
And among Democrats, registered Democrats statewide, the
first lady
supported by 63 percent. That sounds good. Chuck
Schumer, when he won
a tight race against Alfonse D'Amato, got 85 percent of
registered
Democrats. So the first lady has her work cut out for
her. These early
campaign controversies not helping so far -- Bernie.

SHAW: And mindful of the final point that Deborah
Feyerick just made in
her piece, the first lady taking this position on gays
and lesbians, but she's
going to be in the St. Patty's Day Parade next March,
and the parade bans
gays.

KING: It won't be long before some liberals, some gay
rights groups,
criticize what the first lady said today. Her campaign
insisting she was well
aware of the controversy when she said she very much
looks forward to
marching. Mayor Giuliani already poked fun at it. He has
marched in the
campaigns in the past, says he's marched all the way
back do his days in
college, then he paused and added, of course he grew up
in New York --
Bernie.

SHAW: John King at the White House, thank you.

Now let's talk about an area in which Mrs. Clinton
apparently believes she
has an advantage over Giuliani, namely her ability to

control her temper.

Thomas DeFrank, the Washington bureau chief for "The New York Daily News," has an article today about the first lady's anger management as well as that of Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

How short is her fuse?

THOMAS DEFRANK, "NEW YORK DAILY NEWS": Well, she's got a short fuse, Bernie, like a lot of politicians, certainly like her husband, but she's done a very good job of keeping the fuse on private display, not on personal display. I think she comes from a family where she was taught to be disciplined, under control. And I think her temperament is definitely not going to be a problem in the public arena, because I think she's much more disciplined, much more controlled than Mayor Rudy Giuliani has shown to be from time to time.

SHAW: You're anticipating my next question. Who has the shorter fuse?

DEFRANK: Well, I think Rudy has the shorter fuse in the public persona.

The mayor, despite his many attributes, he's known to be quick with a quip.

He tends to be very tough sometimes. And it's interesting that the Clinton campaign has made a command decision do go after him on this score.

They're hoping to goad him into saying something dumb, stupid, incautious, intemperate, all of the above if he can. And so far, she's showing a lot of discipline, too. So it's going to be very interesting.

SHAW: Let's look at the anatomy of Hillary Rodham Clinton's anger -- the face, the body language, the voice?

DEFRANK: Well, if she's only moderately exasperated, she might say --

she might roll her eyes and say "Jeez Louise." If she's really angry, you know

it because her voice ducks down an octave, the nostrils flare a little bit,

there's a hardening quality to her voice. And those who have survived her

private temper will tell you that when she gets to the point where she starts going in uh-huh, uh-huh in very rapid order time, it's time to look for a seatbelt. And if she gets to the point where she says, I have heard all I want to hear, I don't want to hear about it anymore, you've got to be very secure to keep talking.

SHAW: The candidates' temperament, will that really be a big factor in this race?

DEFRANK: I think it's only going to be a factor if one of the candidates shows either a temper or some lack of judicial temperament in some sort of setting. I mean, their private, you know, how they explode or how they vent in private is -- who cares, but the issue is going to be how they manage and control their public persona. And again, the Clinton camp thinks that they can get Rudy to blow. The Rudy folks are saying, we understand the game, that's what they want us to do, the mayor's going to be very disciplined.

We have got 11 months to watch, Bernie.

SHAW: Tom DeFrank, "New York Daily News," very interesting piece. Thank you.

DEFRANK: Thank you. SHAW: And we have to switch the tone of our reporting right now because we have a breaking news story from the pentagon. A United States Marine helicopter has gone down off the coast of San Diego. Eighteen marines were aboard that chopper. That's all we have to report right now. And we're scrambling to get more details. As we get them, we'll pass them onto you.

Coming up next on INSIDE POLITICS, Bob Novak weighs in on a question being asked of George W. Bush.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

QUESTION: You are contemplating the possibility of

losing this primary?

(LAUGHTER)

BUSH: No.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SHAW: We'll have the latest on Bush's prospects in New Hampshire and his day on the trail. Plus: In addition to taking on Bush, John McCain is challenging one state's rules for getting on the ballot.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: In New York today, John McCain announced a legal challenge to the state's Republican primary ballot process. The GOP presidential hopeful said he will file a federal lawsuit designed to change the system before the March 7th primary. McCain charges the process involving the collection of signatures in individual Congressional districts is weighted to exclude non-establishment candidates like himself.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOHN MCCAIN (R-AZ), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: In 49 other states, the people, the voters -- the Republican voters -- have an ability to make a choice without the obviously confusing and Byzantine kind of situation that exists here in New York State. I'm sorry we had to file this lawsuit. I know that Guy and our team have exhausted every other option before we do this, but I'm also sure that we will prevail.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SHAW: McCain was referring to the chairman of his New York campaign, Staten Island borough president Guy Molinari.

McCain may face an uphill battle against George W. Bush in New York, but the dynamic is very different in New Hampshire.

CNN's Candy Crowley has the latest on Bush's bid to bounce back in the Granite State.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

CANDY CROWLEY, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): George Bush finished off a two-day campaign swing against the backdrop of New Hampshire blues.

BUSH: Thank you for your endorsement. I accept.

CROWLEY: A law enforcement endorsement is welcome to counter blues of a different sort: Seven weeks out from the primary, the Governor of Texas has a race on his hands in the Granite State.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I am a Republican. I am torn between you and John McCain, and in layman's terms, what makes you different from him?

CROWLEY: Every poll shows John McCain near, even with, or ahead of George Bush in New Hampshire.

Where did that 33-point lead go? For one thing, there have been a lot of campaign dropouts, and McCain is largely the beneficiary.

But some critics blame the Bush message.

DICK BENNETT, NEW HAMPSHIRE POLLSTER: The themes that he has been talking about have addressed mainly this compassionate conservative. It doesn't reach into the conservative Republican base as much as it should.

CROWLEY: What do New Hampshire conservatives want to talk about on the eve of the new millennium? Same thing they wanted to talk about in the old millennium.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I find that I am currently in the highest tax bracket, and about a million people like me are in a higher tax bracket than Bill Gates.

BUSH: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I have a real problem with that. Yes, I gather you picked up some of that.

CROWLEY: Then, too, Bush did not come early or often to a state that expects both.

BUSH: Thank you.

People are making up their mind. This is what this is all about. And I have got a lot of work to do, and I am looking forward to doing it.

CROWLEY: Bush will step up his New Hampshire stopovers in January.

He has been to the state nine times, compared to 22 trips for John McCain.

McCain has virtually lived here, running a one-state national strategy.

Bush has been all over the map, running, in essence, a general campaign.

More often than not, his sights set on the Clinton-Gore administration.

Thursday's hit, the failure of the World Trade Organization meeting in Seattle.

BUSH: They weren't forceful as free traders, and Vice President Gore has been amazingly silent on the issue, starring in a new movie called, "Silence in Seattle."

CROWLEY: Bush's intrastate national campaign strategy has made him a formidable front runner everywhere but New Hampshire. Prevailing wisdom is that a loss in this first primary state could loosen Bush's grip elsewhere.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I am wondering if you are contemplating the possibility of losing this primary?

BUSH: No.

CROWLEY (on camera): While no candidate likes to publicly entertain the thought of losing before the votes are cast, strategists

both here and in Texas
believe with organizations in place in 50 states, a loss
for Bush in New
Hampshire, while not desirable, is certainly survivable.

Candy Crowley, CNN, Gosstown, New Hampshire.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SHAW: For more on the Bush-McCain race in New Hampshire,
and other
campaign 2000 matchups, let's bring in Bob Novak of "The
Chicago
Sun-Times."

Bob, what is the buzz on that Republican primary in New
Hampshire?

ROBERT NOVAK, "CHICAGO SUN-TIMES": Bernie, it is too
early to
say anything definitive, but there are multiple
indications from several polls
that not only is John McCain ahead of George Bush in New
Hampshire, but
he's moving well ahead. And one pollster told me today
there is a chance for
a blowout in New Hampshire where McCain wins big.

Now, it's been always considered at this counting --
proposition, that Bush
-- which is, New Hampshire isn't a good state for Bush,
that he could lose
New Hampshire narrowly and it wouldn't make much
difference with all his
money and his advantage elsewhere. But what if he is
blown out by a big
margin in New Hampshire, would that have an impact
elsewhere? Nobody
knows, but it is one reason why the Bush people I talked
to want the
governor to do a little better in the poll -- in the
coming debates, and to
campaign a little harder in New Hampshire.

SHAW: Very interesting, especially with South Carolina
following New
Hampshire. On to the Democrats -- Gore, Bradley. How's
the tax issue
playing in that race?

NOVAK: This is wonderful. You know, in a "Washington
Post" interview,
Bill Bradley said that he would consider raising taxes
to finance his health

care plan, and the Gore people jumped on it. Well,
yesterday in New
Hampshire, Gore said, when he was pressed, that he would
-- couldn't rule
out a tax increase. So I was talking to...

SHAW: Said he didn't have a crystal ball.

NOVAK: He didn't have a crystal ball. So I said, they
are in the same thing.
He said, no, one is considering it, the other is not
ruling it out.

The truth of the matter, Bernie, is being for higher
taxes is not that bad in a
Democratic primary, and they're just about on the same
level there. I don't
think it's a factor.

SHAW: Finally, New York Senate race, Mayor Giuliani's
crackdown on the
homeless.

NOVAK: Another non-factor, I believe. I think this is an
issue that certainly
gives the people, the liberals, African-Americans, some
feminists who like
Hillary Clinton -- it's going to give them more reason
to be for. But I think
the upstate and suburban voters, who are the swing
voters -- I think it's a
non-factor in this race.

Obviously, the factor that might be important is in the
Jewish vote in New
York where Mayor Giuliani is going to be run very well.
Does this hurt him
with the Jewish vote in New York? I really don't think
so. No matter what
the polls say, I don't think the homeless is a factor
that goes into a broad
base of support in voting in New York, or anywhere else.

SHAW: We're hearing it from Bob Novak's notebook, thanks
very much.

And INSIDE POLITICS will be right back with more.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: And there is much more ahead here on INSIDE
POLITICS.

Coming up, Bill Bradley takes his campaign to
California, but is a meeting

with a GOP hopeful in his future?

Plus...

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JUDY WOODRUFF, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Her stand against a practice called mountaintop mining has become her passion, so much so that it has taken her out of the cloistered world of books and into the rough-and-tumble of West Virginia state politics.

(END VIDEO CLIP) SHAW: Judy Woodruff on a West Virginia scholar turned candidate and the issue driving her unlikely bid for governor.

And later...

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRUCE MORTON, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): It must be hard for this president. The kids grow up and leave, of course. Wives follow careers, but he was the most important man in the world for seven years, and now maybe he isn't.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SHAW: Bruce Morton on what can be a lonely life, even for a president.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: We'll have more of this day's political news coming up, but now a look at some other top stories.

Thousands came from across the country and across the oceans to pay tribute to six firefighters killed in a warehouse blaze in Worcester, Massachusetts. President Clinton made the pilgrimage as well.

CNN White House correspondent Chris Black now with the sights and sounds of an emotional ceremony that moved many to tears. We'll have that report shortly.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin lashes out over U.S.

criticism of Moscow's
military campaign in Chechnya. Mr. Yeltsin is in China
where he reminded
the United States that his country still controls a vast
nuclear arsenal.
Chinese leaders are supporting Russia's campaign in
Chechnya.

A Russian diplomat has been caught eavesdropping on the
U.S. State
Department building. The embassy attache was arrested
yesterday but
declared diplomatic immunity. He has been ordered to
leave the United
States within ten days. Last week, Russia expelled a
U.S. diplomat on
charges of spying.

NATO's top commander is warning Yugoslav President
Slobodan Milosevic
not to interfere with the independence-minded government
of Montenegro.
Montenegro is one of two republics that make up
Yugoslavia and it is
currently trying to democratize its institutions. NATO
officials say they'll
keep a close eye on Milosevic so he doesn't move against
the Montenegrin
government.

When INSIDE POLITICS returns, Bill Bradley reaching out
to
African-Americans and to a would-be Republican rival.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: Now to Bill Bradley in California, where his focus
today was on
some Americans who have not profited from the economic
boom. CNN's
Jennifer Auther covered Bradley's appearance in Los
Angeles -- Jennifer.

JENNIFER AUTHER, CNN CORRESPONDENT: Bernie, Democratic
presidential hopeful Bill Bradley addressed the National
Congress of Black
Churches, that is an ecumenical coalition of eight
historically
African-American denominations. The former three-term
senator from New
Jersey reiterated his view that race is at the very core
of many domestic
issues, including health care, gun violence, and
economic equality.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BILL BRADLEY (D), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE: We can't afford in this new economy not to have everyone with the tools to advance. We can't afford to have a 21st century stained by the same racism that poisoned the 20th century. We cannot be who we can be as a people, unless we realize the ultimate truth that we all advance together, or each of us, in some way, some poisonous way, is diminished. But you and I know that we still have a long way to go.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

AUTHER: Bradley evoked memories of days spent in the Little League during segregation, and then to the inequality he viewed that was race-based when he played for the New York Knicks in the 1960s. He told this group of about 150 that he'd like to be the one to make a difference.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRADLEY: I don't believe we have to settle in America. I don't think we should settle for lifting a few children here, and a few children there out of poverty. I don't think we should settle for an infant mortality rate among black children in this country that's nearly twice of that white children in America. I don't think we should settle for a Medicaid system that is failing. I don't think we should settle for taking a few guns here and a few guns there off the street. And I don't think we should settle for a certain percentage of people of color in government. I think what we need are people of color deciding what government does.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

AUTHER: Bradley is definitely trying to close the gap that Vice President Al Gore has within support among African-Americans in this country. On

another note, Bradley's aides today confirmed that talks are under way with Republican presidential hopeful John McCain, the senator from Arizona.

Nothing is final, but the two, if they can complete these talks, would be in New Hampshire. They want to reemphasize their support for campaign finance reform -- Bernie.

SHAW; Thank you, Jennifer Auther in Los Angeles. And we have much more in what you just alluded, too.

CNN has learned that Bradley and Republican John McCain will appear together in Claremont, New Hampshire, next week -- a week from today, in fact -- to underscore mutual support for campaign finance reform. They are planning to publicly agree to renounce the use of unregulated soft money if they become the presidential nominees of their respective parties. And they're planning to seal their agreement with a handshake, and much the same way as you see this, in the same town where President Clinton and then House Speaker Newt Gingrich pledged to change campaign finance laws in 1995.

Postscript: Nothing substantive was accomplished as a result of the Clinton-Gingrich pledge. So why do Bradley and McCain want to reenact that moment in political history? Well, let's bring in our Bill Schneider.

Bill, what would a McCain-Bradley handshake mean for campaign finance reform?

WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, CNN SR. POLITICAL ANALYST: Well, Bernie, Bradley and McCain both have a mutual interest to make campaign finance reform a bigger issue to voters. They both claim the issue is their own, and they use it to portray opponents as compromised by special interest money, Bush because he's raised so much of it, and Gore because of his role in the 1996 fund-raising scandal. The fact that the handshake across

parties is very important. Reform cannot work unless both parties accept it.

McCain and Bradley are saying you want to clean up the political system?

Start by nominating the two of us.

SHAW; But doesn't memory say that the '95 Clinton-Gingrich handshake also was across party lines?

SCHNEIDER: Sure it was. But as you said, nothing really came of it. A year

later, the Clinton administration broke all records in raising and in spending

soft money. And since then, the Republican Senate has let McCain-Feingold

-- that reform bill die. The voters didn't seem to care very much. They've

become pretty cynical. Now, McCain and Bradley are announcing a

compact: That if they become the nominees, they will direct their parties not

to raise or spend any soft money. And in fact, the McCain campaign has

informed CNN that Mr. McCain intends to reject soft money, regardless of

what the Democratic nominee does.

SHAW: Interesting. But in New Hampshire, McCain and Bradley are

competing for the same independent voters.

SCHNEIDER: Well, you might think so, but take a look at the polls. Now,

Bradley does much better among independents than he does among partisan

Democrats. And McCain does better among independents than among

partisan Republicans. But the independents who are voting for Bradley are

liberals who usually vote in the Democratic primary. The independents who

are voting for McCain are conservatives who usually vote in the Republican

primary. All they have in common is that they're not partisan, and they prefer

candidates who challenge the party establishments, like McCain and

Bradley. Bradley and McCain are betting that they will not take votes from

each other. Precisely the opposite: That if they can dramatize the issue of

campaign finance reform, both of them will benefit. And that is their mutual

interest. SHAW; Bill Schneider, thanks very much.

SCHNEIDER: Sure.

SHAW: For the second time in this edition of INSIDE POLITICS, we have to change the tone of our normal reporting. First, we told you about the Marine chopper going down off the coast of San Diego. And now our White House correspondent Chris Black on the story, the memorial service for the six firemen killed in the Worcester, Massachusetts, factory fire. Here now is Chris Black with the sights and sounds of today's very moving memorial service.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

CHRIS BLACK, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): It was time to say good-bye.

CLINTON: We hope that by our collective presence, we will speak louder than words in saying that your tragedy is ours.

BLACK: Outside, firefighters from California to Canada marched through the streets of Worcester, paying tribute to six brothers who lost their lives searching for people in a burning warehouse.

UNIDENTIFIED FIREFIGHTER: On my walk from the fire station I seen a sign that said everything. It said, most cities have one hero. The city of Worcester was blessed with six.

BLACK: Massachusetts senior senator remembered the men he called our watchmen on the wall. Senator Kennedy might have been speaking of his own losses.

SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY (D), MASSACHUSETTS: I wish that loved ones did not have to die too young. I wish that none were lost in the high noontime of their lives. I wish that tragedy never haunted a single soul. But I know that sometimes life breaks your heart.

BLACK: And here is the city called the "Heart of

Massachusetts," hearts
were breaking. The mayor canceled school, and thousands
watched and
listened outside the convention center.

(on-camera): Only two of the six bodies have been
recovered. Throughout
the service, Worcester firefighters continued their sad
duty sifting through the
ashes searching for some sign of the last four, who may
never be found.

(voice-over): Vice President Al Gore stopped by the
smoldering warehouse
to offer words of comfort. At the service, Worcester's
Congressman
thanked the president for answering his call to attend,
and then he spoke to
the 17 fatherless children.

UNIDENTIFIED CONGRESSMAN: An entire nation joined
together to
say that your fathers are special.

BLACK: What can be done or said to those who have lost
so much? The
Firefighters Union presented a Medal of Honor to each
family, Senator John
Kerry and Congressman McGovern offered American flags,
and the belief
that untimely lives of Thomas and Timothy, Paul and
Jeremiah, James and
Joseph had meaning.

Chris Black, CNN, Worcester, Massachusetts.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: Next year in West Virginia, voters will have a
chance to re-elect or
unseat their current Republican governor. Several
candidates are already in
the race. But one West Virginia resident, inspired by a
single cause, is
battling for the right just to be listed on the ballot.

Judy Woodruff traveled outside the beltway to meet this
political newcomer
to find out what's driving her uphill campaign.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

WOODRUFF (voice-over): Denise Giardina is at home in a classroom.

DENISE GIARDINA, WEST VIRGINIA GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE: Well, first of all, let me put this down. The powerful make the decisions.

WOODRUFF: She's a professor of English literature at West Virginia State College.

GIARDINA: If you notice, the top of the quotation's good old J. Alfred Prufrock on there. Do I dare disturb the universe? Do I dare?

WOODRUFF: She's also a successful author, writing late into the evening, or giving readings from one of her award-winning novels.

GIARDINA: So why did they listen this time?

WOODRUFF: "Storming Heaven" deals with the West Virginia she grew up in, a state of striking natural beauty, which she fears is now in peril because of modern mining.

GIARDINA: Soon they will be tearing the whole tops off of mountains, and scooping out the coal like eating a soft-boiled egg.

WOODRUFF: Her stand against a practice called mountaintop mining has become her passion: so much so, that it has taken her out of the cloistered world of books and into the rough and tumble of West Virginia State politics.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I want to introduce Denise Giardina for governor.

(APPLAUSE)

GIARDINA: I'm the only candidate running who's against mountaintop removal. WOODRUFF: For 30 years, it has been one of the most efficient ways of getting at the state's most valuable natural resource: coal. Instead of tunneling into the mountainside, mining companies use powerful explosives

literally to blow the top off of the mountain and get at
high-grade coal
underneath.

The blasted rock is then dumped into valleys and over
mountain streams.

So far, about 500 square miles of West Virginia's
mountainscape have been
leveled. Denise Giardina showed me one site near
Charleston.

WOODRUFF (on camera): West Virginia didn't look anything
like this
when you were growing up, did it?

GIARDINA: No. I never would have dreamed that this kind
of thing would
be done to a mountain.

Can you imagine doing this to Colorado's mountains or
Vermont's mountains
or the Alps? Just actually gorgeous mountains, and we're
making them dead
places basically for short-term gain. And nobody will
ever see these
mountains again.

WOODRUFF (voice-over): For someone so opposed to the
influence of
mining, Giardina's background might surprise you. She
was born into a
mining family in southern West Virginia. Her grandfather
emigrated from Italy
to work in the mines. Her uncle died of black lung.

(on camera): What is really driving you to do this?

GIARDINA: I don't think I could live with myself right
now if I weren't
doing this. It just feels like the right thing to do.

WOODRUFF (voice-over): It may feel right, but by taking
on the coal
industry she's challenging a defining way of life in
West Virginia. Coal is one
of the state's biggest employers, it's greatest taxpayer
and a major
contributor to political campaigns.

She's opposing the Republican governor, who used to be a
mining executive
and is against a ban on mountaintop mining.

GOV. CECIL UNDERWOOD (R), WEST VIRGINIA: It would be a financial disaster for the state of West Virginia. If we were to lose 25 percent of our mining, it would cost the state over a \$100 million in taxes.

WOODRUFF: And it's not just the Republicans she's up against. Veteran Democratic senators Robert Byrd and Jay Rockefeller also vigorously support mountaintop mining, along with virtually the state's entire political establishment.

(on camera): But the biggest hurdle Giardina faces in her bid for the governorship comes long before any votes are cast. She is struggling simply to get her name on the ballot, because complex rules in West Virginia make it almost impossible for any third-party candidate to run for office.

(voice-over): Like independent candidates throughout the country, to become an official candidate Giardina needs to gather thousands of signatures. In West Virginia, independent candidates have a tougher time than most.

GIARDINA: I have until May to get these signatures, 14,000 of them.

WOODRUFF: But a 75-year-old law in West Virginia means that she has to warn every potential signer that they can't vote in the primary election if they sign her petition. Because of a recent amendment to the law, Giardina argues it is no longer valid and she is fighting in court to get it changed. In the meantime, collecting signatures is a battle in itself.

GIARDINA: It says here that if you sign this you are giving up your right to vote in the primary election. However, that's no longer the case. The legislature did away with this provision, because it no longer applies, but they didn't take the language off the petition. You can vote now in the primary if you want to. But we're still required by law to tell you you're not supposed

to, which is really goofy.

WOODRUFF: The state's Democratic Party believes the law is valid and is challenging Giardina in court. According to the state party's co-chairman, the

Democrats want to keep Giardina out of the race, because they believe she would take votes from their candidates.

While she is surrounded by political opponents, Giardina is getting support from outside the political establishment.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hello, Harry?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: First of all, I want to tell you, everything you spoke about so far, I support you 100 percent.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I like just about everything that you have to say.

GIARDINA: I appreciate that.

We just have a history in this state, I think, of supporting the big corporations over the little guy.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thanks for calling.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: All right.

WOODRUFF: Both the state's main newspapers have defended the outsider's right to run for office. Paul Owens (ph) is the political editor of "The Charlestown Daily Mail."

PAUL OWENS, POLITICAL EDITOR, "THE CHARLESTOWN DAILY MAIL": Well, her candor is so refreshing. It's not the kind of behavior you get from normal politicians who qualify their answers and leave -- do a lot of equivocating when you ask them a simple question.

WOODRUFF: When it comes to mountaintop mining, West Virginia's governor is very straightforward. He says mining companies have an

excellent record of restoring mined sites into land that
can be used for
building projects, like this state prison.

UNDERWOOD: I've been on many of the sites, and properly
done, I think
it's a benefit to West Virginia.

WOODRUFF (on camera): The denuding of the mountain, the
changing of
the contour of the mountain, and the tree removal and
all the rest of that is
not something that you think should be of concern?

UNDERWOOD: You don't understand that we have practically
very few
acres of level land in this state, and that's one of the
problems that we've had
over the years in diversifying our economic base. We
need more acres of flat
land.

GIARDINA: If it's so wonderful to have all that flat
land, why don't we
export that technology to Vermont or someplace, you
know, and say, well
you want to flatten your mountains too? It'll be good
for you, you know, you
can develop your economy even more. You know, I mean,
it's absurd on it's
face.

WOODRUFF (voice-over): Adding more urgency to the
debate, a federal
judge recently agreed with environmentalists that valley
fills from
mountaintop mines violate water quality standards. This
could lead to a
mining ban, but mine workers, mining companies and the
state are all
appealing the ruling. The fear of a ban has already led
to some layoffs.

Terry Vance (ph) has been out of work for four months,
and blames
environmentalists like Denise Giardina.

TERRY VANCE, FMR. MINE WORKER: She's offered no plan
whatsoever, alternative plan for mining the coal or
anything. Apparently, all
she wants is to do away with coal mining, and save the
mountains, for what?

WOODRUFF: What Giardina wants to save those mountains

for the future

West Virginia, one she hopes is without mountaintop mining.

GIARDINA: My point is it's on it's way out. It doesn't have anything to do with local lawsuits or local environmentalists, it's on it's way out. It's going to run out in 30 or so years. Why should we wait 30 years or so for the roof to fall in and let our kids deal with it?

Judy Woodruff, CNN, reporting.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SHAW: In California, a political issue has drawn the attention of the cast of the sitcom "Will and Grace." The show's actors are starring in a political ad, voicing their opposition to proposition 22. The referendum would deny legal recognition of same-sex marriages.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP, ANTI-PROPOSITION 22 AD)

UNIDENTIFIED ACTOR: Hi, we're the cast of "Will and Grace."

On March 7, Californians will go to the polls to vote either for or against basic civil rights.

UNIDENTIFIED ACTRESS: Proposition 22, known as the 9th initiative, would legalize discrimination against gay and lesbian Americans and their families.

SHAW: The show "Will and Grace" is about a gay man who is best friends with a straight woman. This ad marks the first time the entire cast of a network television show has participated in a political ad.

When we return, President Clinton's newfound solitude. Bruce Morton ponders whether it is indeed lonely at the top.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SHAW: Updating for you now a very exhausting and dramatic story

underway as we report these latest details to you on the
crash of that Marine
chopper off the coast of San Diego. Eleven Marines have
been rescued, 11

have been rescued. A total of 18 were aboard the
chopper, and now Navy
Seals, Navy Seals are in the water searching for the
other seven Marines.

We're going to have a live update from the Pentagon at
the top of the hour at
6:00 p.m. on "WORLDVIEW."

President Clinton is nearing the final year of his
presidency, and as our Bruce
Morton reports, it may be a lonely 12 months at 1600
Pennsylvania Avenue.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MORTON (voice-over): He's alone a lot now, notice?
Walked up to the
Christmas tree lighting alone. Not so many vacation
threesomes anymore.

That recent Middle East trip was ladies only. And she's
involved with other
men -- mentors, like Daniel Patrick Moynihan; rivals,
like his honor, the
mayor. She got this house; has referred to it as "my
house."

H. CLINTON: I thought about the furniture I have and the
furniture I need
to get.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES:
She's going to spend a long time in New York. So she'll
be there a lot, she'll
be here when she can, I'll go up there when I can, and
I'll -- we'll be
together as much as we can.

MORTON: His right-hand man's gone a lot, too, running
for Mr. Clinton's
job, running for president. More reporters following
him, sometimes, than
following the main man, the former main man. W. CLINTON:
Well,
obviously he's not around as much. We don't have lunch
every week and I
miss that terribly.

MORTON: You know what Harry Truman said, Mr. President.
If you want
a friend in Washington, get a -- well, you have one of

those, of course. It
must be hard for this president. Kids grow up and leave,
of course. Wives
follow careers. But he was the most important man in the
world for seven
years, and now maybe he isn't, and there's that other
thing he can't seem to
shake.

W. CLINTON: Well, the mistake I made was self-inflicted
and the
misconduct of others was not.

MORTON: Presidents have an official song, of course,
"Hail to the Chief."
Mr. Clinton, these days, may be humming another one:
"All By Myself,
Alone."

Bruce Morton, CNN, Washington.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SHAW: That's all for this edition of INSIDE POLITICS.
We'll see you
again tomorrow, when we'll have Bill Schneider's
political play of the week.
And you can go online all the time at CNN's
allpolitics.com.

I'm Bernard Shaw in Washington. "WORLDVIEW" is next, as
we look at
the lighting of the Capitol Tree on the West Plaza here
in Washington.

END

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Lisa Ferdinando (CN=Lisa Ferdinando/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:12-DEC-1999 16:00:17.00

SUBJECT: CBS Face the Nation, December 12, 1999

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READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Brian A. Reich (CN=Brian A. Reich/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Maura M. Pally (CN=Maura M. Pally/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer H. Smith (CN=Jennifer H. Smith/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rebecca J. Salay (CN=Rebecca J. Salay/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kristina Wolfe (CN=Kristina Wolfe/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Nicole L. Davison (CN=Nicole L. Davison/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jenni R. Engebretsen (CN=Jenni R. Engebretsen/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Natalie S. Wozniak (CN=Natalie S. Wozniak/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Dawn M. Chirwa (CN=Dawn M. Chirwa/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: David Vandivier (CN=David Vandivier/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
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TO: Lindsey E. Huff (CN=Lindsey E. Huff/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Thomas D. Janenda (CN=Thomas D. Janenda/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Toby C. Graff (CN=Toby C. Graff/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Victoria L. Valentine (CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Rebecca L. Walldorff (CN=Rebecca L. Walldorff/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Heather M. Riley (CN=Heather M. Riley/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Jonathan M. Prince (CN=Jonathan M. Prince/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Steve Ricchetti (CN=Steve Ricchetti/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rachael E. Sullivan (CN=Rachael E. Sullivan/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeffrey A. Shesol (CN=Jeffrey A. Shesol/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark A. Kitchens (CN=Mark A. Kitchens/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Steven J. Naplan (CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
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TO: Anne M. Edwards (CN=Anne M. Edwards/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Thurgood Marshall Jr (CN=Thurgood Marshall Jr/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Jeffrey M. Smith (CN=Jeffrey M. Smith/OU=OSTP/O=EOP@EOP [OSTP])
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TO: Elizabeth R. Newman (CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Anthony R. Bernal (CN=Anthony R. Bernal/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TO: Joseph P. Lockhart (CN=Joseph P. Lockhart/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Justin L. Coleman (CN=Justin L. Coleman/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joshua Gotbaum (CN=Joshua Gotbaum/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
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TO: Christine L. Anderson (CN=Christine L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

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

TO: Irma L. Martinez (CN=Irma L. Martinez/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Anne W. Bovaird (CN=Anne W. Bovaird/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael K. Gehrke (CN=Michael K. Gehrke/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Ruby Shamir (CN=Ruby Shamir/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Ann C. Hertelendy (CN=Ann C. Hertelendy/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kimberly S. Anderson (CN=Kimberly S. Anderson/OU=OA/O=EOP@EOP [OA])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sean P. O'Shea (CN=Sean P. O'Shea/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Laura J. Lewis (CN=Laura J. Lewis/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

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

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Melissa J. Prober (CN=Melissa J. Prober/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer (CN=Sarah E. Gegenheimer/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Rochester M. Johnson (CN=Rochester M. Johnson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: June Shih (CN=June Shih/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jason H. Schechter (CN=Jason H. Schechter/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alison Muscatine (CN=Alison Muscatine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
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TO: Laura D. Schwartz (CN=Laura D. Schwartz/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gene B. Sperling (CN=Gene B. Sperling/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Barry J. Toiv (CN=Barry J. Toiv/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sara M. Latham (CN=Sara M. Latham/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: William A. Halter (CN=William A. Halter/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer Ferguson (CN=Jennifer Ferguson/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [OMB])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lowell A. Weiss (CN=Lowell A. Weiss/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Julia M. Payne (CN=Julia M. Payne/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Richard L. Siewert (CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: gamble-bennett@dol.gov (gamble-bennett@dol.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robin M. Roland (CN=Robin M. Roland/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa G. Green (CN=Melissa G. Green/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
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READ:UNKNOWN

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

TEXT:
CBS FACE THE NATION
DECEMBER 12, 1999

SPEAKERS: BOB SCHIEFFER, HOST, CBS FACE THE NATION
GLORIA BORGER, U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT
CORRESPONDENT
MADELEINE ALBRIGHT, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE
HAROLD ICKES, HILLARY CLINTON CAMPAIGN ADVISER

SCHIEFFER: Today on FACE THE NATION, Secretary of State
Madeleine Albright and Hillary Clinton's top adviser, Harold Ickes.

No one's busier than Secretary of State Albright these days. On the agenda, this week's Middle East talks between Israel and Syria, the case of the Cuban boy, the discovery of a sophisticated listening device at the State Department, and troubles with Yeltsin. We'll ask her about all those issues this morning.

Then we'll turn to the New York Senate race and talk with Hillary Clinton's top adviser, Harold Ickes.

Gloria Borger will be here, and I'll have a final word about old time invective.

But first, Secretary of State Madeline Albright on FACE THE NATION.

ANNOUNCER: FACE THE NATION, with chief Washington correspondent, Bob Schieffer. And now, from CBS NEWS in Washington, Bob Schieffer.

SCHIEFFER: Good morning again. And Madam Secretary, welcome. You're here in our studio this morning.

A very troubling thing, it seems to me. The State Department has now warned all Americans traveling abroad to take extra security precautions between now and the first week in January. It says there's a possibility or you have information that there may be attacks planned where large gatherings of people are taking place--celebrations and so on. What can you tell us about it?

ALBRIGHT: Well, basically we believe we have an obligation to let the American people know when there are potential terrorists threats, and we are concerned about Americans traveling abroad and being in large groups, and we are suggesting that if they do travel abroad, that they be in touch with the American embassy and the consulate and take care.

SCHIEFFER: Well, now, there will be some large gatherings in this country, of course, on New Year's Eve--Times Square, down on the mall here in Washington. Do you have any security concerns about those gatherings?

ALBRIGHT: Well, I think we always have to be vigilant. But the warning that we put out was for Americans abroad, and it is not something that is--that we--as we see it as targeted against Americans here.

SCHIEFFER: You know, you do this, the State Department does this from time to time, but this one seems a bit more ominous in some way.

ALBRIGHT: Well, I think we are concerned, obviously because there are a lot of activities going on, and I think that there are more specific indications.

But we don't want to discourage people. We want people to be very vigilant, and we want people to contact their--our embassies.

If people want more information, I'd suggest that they get in touch with our web site, which is www.state.gov.

SCHIEFFER: Let me ask you, this is obviously aimed at--you're worried about some sort of a terrorist attack. Could it be Osama bin Laden? Is it anything to do with him?

ALBRIGHT: Well, let me say, we are--there are number of groups that we are watching obviously for some time. We have been concerned about Osama bin Laden, but these are--there are a variety of groups that we have been concerned about and are watching.

And we are concerned. There's no question about it. And we have to be vigilant, which is why we put out the warning.

SCHIEFFER: More than one group.

ALBRIGHT: Probably, yes.

BORGER: Madam Secretary, peace talks start next week between Israel and Syria. We have a wire report this morning that said that Syria's foreign minister is so optimistic that he's confident that a peace deal can be reached with Israel within a few months. Do you agree with that assessment?

ALBRIGHT: Well, you know, what is great is that this is the first time that we have had this kind of high-level meeting between a Syrian foreign minister and an Israeli prime minister. And I felt, when I was on my trip there last week, that there was a sense of optimism and a desire by both parties to stop talking about talking and getting down to negotiations.

There clearly are very hard decisions to be made, and they're going to be talking about four basic areas, that is, withdrawal from the Golan Heights, the mutual security arrangements, the content or character of the peace and the timetable.

And what we hope will happen while they're here this week is that they will set out the agenda for--obviously there'll be more talks--and I had a sense of optimism after I had my meeting with President Assad. But nobody should underestimate. This is going to be tough going, but we--this is an amazing moment, and there is a sense that a historic opportunity is present.

BORGER: Do you think this is the closest they've ever come right now?

ALBRIGHT: Well, it's certain they've never met at this level. And I think that that is very hopeful.

But I think there are lots of things that are going to have to be talked about.

BORGER: Let me also ask you, we have a wire story that says that this morning Israel signaled that it would look to United States taxpayers to bankroll any pullout from the Golan Heights. Would we be willing to finance that?

ALBRIGHT: Well, first of all, I think it's kind of premature to discuss it. But as a matter of record, I think that...

BORGER: They're saying that.

ALBRIGHT: Well, but I think that as a matter of record we've seen that after Camp David that there was--that the United States Congress and the administration came forward with some assistance after Wye.

And I think we've got to remember that if we manage this, this will be 50 years of work that will have been accomplished for a comprehensive peace that I think everybody will cheer and be happy to contribute to.

SCHIEFFER: You just called this an "amazing moment." Tell me why it's an amazing moment. What made it so?

ALBRIGHT: Well, I think--on my trip, what was interesting was even from the minute that I landed in Saudi Arabia and met with the king and Crown Prince Abdullah, there was a sense there that they wanted--they also, the Saudis, saw this as a time for moving forward and a time that we had to seize the opportunity.

And when I met with President Assad, I got a sense--some 20 minutes into the meeting--that we were going a somewhat different direction, that there was, again, that people were tired about negotiating about negotiations.

ALBRIGHT: And Prime Minister Barak has had such energy about getting into the peace process issues. And obviously, has set deadlines

for the Palestinian track. And what--and then when I met with Chairman Arafat, he also wanted to see that track move forward.

And what I have made quite clear is that we can do, or they can, we are there as the honest broker, the parties themselves have to make the decisions. But this is a time when the tracks can move forward on their own speed and we are not going to do one track at the expense of another.

BORGER: Would we be interested in participating or leading an international peacekeeping force?

ALBRIGHT: I think that is a premature question. And I think that we'll see how it develops. Neither party has asked us to do that. And I think we've got a ways to go before such questions can be answered.

SCHIEFFER: Madam secretary, I have to ask you about this thing that happened last week, we all learned about, that somehow or another, the Russians apparently put some very sophisticated listening device in a conference room on the very floor of the State Department where your office is. Do you know yet, how it got there, or how long it's been there?

ALBRIGHT: First of all, let me say I consider this a very serious matter. And we have worked very hard, the diplomatic service has, Diplomatic Security Service, has worked very hard with the FBI. They have been--I was briefed about this a couple of months ago, they have been working on this and we stopped it, we discovered it. And I think that's very important.

The other point I think is important for your viewers is while it was on the same floor that I'm on, the State Department is a huge square building, and this is on the other side of the square. And the most sensitive offices, which are my corridor, none of those have been--that we've swept those and there was nothing there.

SCHIEFFER: But as yet, you don't know how it got there, or how long it's been there?

ALBRIGHT: Well, this is under investigation. And I do not know the specifics of that. But I think that we are going about it the right way. We are very concerned about how this happened, and tightened security obviously.

SCHIEFFER: In a broader sense, does this say in some way that perhaps the Russians are stepping up their spy activities now?

ALBRIGHT: I wouldn't characterize it. I think the thing we have to remember is that spying is an old form; that it's always been going on. It's our responsibility to protect ourselves against it. We have to do a better job. I have been consistently tightening security from where I found it. We have specifically tightened a whole host of policies.

Our problem, to a great extent, is resources. Because at the same time that we're doing this, we've got the problem with trying to make our buildings overseas secure against terrorists.

BORGER: Is it possible that there's a mole in the State Department?

ALBRIGHT: I--you know, it's--I'm not going to speculate on that. We are--they're questioning people in terms of trying to find out, you know, witnesses to things, but I'm not going to speculate on something like that.

BORGER: So, but the fact that they're questioning people, it makes you think that this could have been an inside job, because they hid this bug in molding, and...?

ALBRIGHT: I can't comment on the details of it. But the

questioning is not in terms of questioning suspects. It's mainly trying to find out who saw what and trying to piece the story together.

And what I've done is, my Assistant Secretary for Security is not a diplomat, I can't disparage diplomats. But I now have a 27-year veteran of the secret service who is my Assistant Secretary David Carpenter. And he is going about this in a very, very systematic way.

SCHIEFFER: Just one more question about this. Do you know, or is it possible to know if serious security leaks came out of this? I mean were there discussions in this room that we wouldn't have wanted the Russians to know about?

ALBRIGHT: Well, this is not, as I said in the most sensitive part of the State Department. And as far as we can tell, a lot of the meetings there were not the kind that would be the most secret or sensitive as far as we know.

SCHIEFFER: Let's talk a little bit about this young boy that's become the center of this diplomatic situation between Cuba and the United States. What's going to happen there, Madam Secretary? Shouldn't this boy be sent back to his father? I mean, in any court in this country when there is a father there, wouldn't he have rights over anyone else's rights?

ALBRIGHT: Well, first of all we have to remember that this is a case--there's a little boy involved in it. And also there are various legal provisions. The immigration and naturalization service is going through processing. We have sought--or the INS has sought to interview the boy's father. And there has been no response from Cuba on that. And I think that what we have to do is follow through the legal parts of this, and that is what we're doing.

BORGER: Will you return the boy without an interview? Do you have to have an interview?

ALBRIGHT: I think that--we believe that INS is doing the processing. They are the ones that are in charge of it. I'm not going to speculate on that, but I think that the boy--I mean, Bob just said that often, you know, the parental rights, and what has to be established here are the parental rights and the father needs to be interviewed.

BORGER: Do you have any message to Fidel Castro on this?

ALBRIGHT: Well, the main thing that I have is just a general message, to remember that this is a little boy and not a political football.

SCHIEFFER: Let's talk a little bit about Russia. Mr. Yeltsin this week said perhaps the United States has forgotten that we're a country with nuclear weapons. Is that a threat? Is that something you take seriously? It sounds kind of scary on first hearing.

ALBRIGHT: Well, we don't take it as a threat and Prime Minister Putin indicated it was not. I think that we clearly are watching a very difficult situation in Russia, a country that has been a superpower, our major adversary, that is going through a very difficult time. I think that what President Yeltsin was doing was basically reminding the world that Russia counts. We met with President Yeltsin, President Clinton and I, in Istanbul. He is a fierce defender of Russian national interests and energetic. And at the same time, we have a lot of business to do with Russia.

SCHIEFFER: Some people say that maybe he was just drunk.

ALBRIGHT: I'm not--you know, I think that he was stating the case that Russia needs to be recognized. And one of the problems here, if

you think about it, here was a country, which for 70 years was out there as a superpower that's going through very, very difficult changes. And I think we have to recognize that.

BORGER: Realistically, Madam Secretary, what can we do about Chechnya? You have a situation where the top Russian commander has said we won't allow these people to survive the winter? What can you do?

ALBRIGHT: Well, let me just say the Chechnya issue is again a very difficult one. The Russians were concerned about terrorist threats. They had buildings that were bombed in Moscow. There was an attack by rebels from Chechnya into Dagestan. And they were concerned about that. The international community, we as leading it, have made very clear that while they may have a terrorist problem, they cannot deal with this by indiscriminate bombing of civilians, and that they need to understand that the only solution to this is a political solution.

What has been hopeful in the last day is that Prime Minister Putin has indicated that they are beginning to talk to some of the representatives of the Chechen leader, Maskhadov. There is a mission going from the OSCE in the next couple of days and the international community, the Europeans with us, have been talking about a political solution. It is very bad. There is no question. We are very concerned about the civilians.

SCHIEFFER: But you seem to see just a glimmer of good news here?

ALBRIGHT: Perhaps. I want to be very realistic about this. They have a goal. They want to make sure that Chechnya does not keep causing them problems. On the other hand, I think that they have understood the international pressure to some extent and there is a sense that Russia is becoming isolated. We're having meetings next week in Europe. I'm going to be in Berlin where we're meeting with the G-8, where Russians are the eighth member of that. And clearly this is going to be a topic of discussion. And so they know that this is on our minds.

I have talked to Foreign Minister Ivanov practically every day. We are either talking about resolutions at the UN or about Chechnya or other things and they know how seriously we take this.

SCHIEFFER: Madam Secretary, thank you so much. It's an understatement to say that you have a busy week ahead of you here.

ALBRIGHT: Well, thank you. It's great to be with you both.

SCHIEFFER: When we come back, we'll switch gears and talk about that New York Senate race in just a minute.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SCHIEFFER: And we're back now with Harold Ickes, who of course was a senior adviser to Bill Clinton throughout a lot of his presidency. Now most people say you're the senior adviser to the Hillary Clinton campaign. Welcome, Mr. Ickes.

ICKES: Thank you, Bob.

SCHIEFFER: So your candidate this week separated herself from her husband. She said the president's don't ask-don't tell policy in regards to gays in the military has not worked. She seems to have convinced one person, the president. He now comes out yesterday and said well, in fact that is right. They haven't worked. Will we see more of this as this campaign unfolds?

ICKES: I think you're going to see differences of issues develop, Bob. I mean, the president represents the nation. He represents a different constituency than Hillary, who is running as we all know, has declared her candidacy, unlike Mr. Giuliani, and has said that she'll

serve the full six years, unlike Mr. Giuliani. So you are going to see some differences and you're going to see a lot of similarities.

SCHIEFFER: But is it fair to ask why now? Why all of a sudden do we find out that Hillary Clinton has decided don't ask-don't, tell doesn't work? And then the President of the United States says oh yes, that's right. Why didn't he say that last year?

ICKES: I don't know. That's a question you'll have to ask the president of the United States. I'm not in a position to answer that. She has looked at this and she thinks it doesn't work and she said so the other day.

BORGER: Is it difficult then for the president to campaign for her, if they disagree on more and more issues as the campaign goes along?

ICKES: No, absolutely not. First of all, this is Hillary's campaign. The president will be doing what, hopefully he will be doing what she asks him to do. But this is her campaign. She's got to run it and she's going to run it and win.

BORGER: But how involved is he? How involved is the president going to be in this campaign?

ICKES: That will depend upon Hillary and what she wants. He is, in my view, the best campaign strategist that I have ever met. Obviously they are close. They talk about a number of issues on a continuing basis. But his exact role in the campaign has not been defined and that will be worked out.

SCHIEFFER: Is she going to march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade? Because as you know, with your background in New York politics, this is a very controversial area. Because the Order of Hibernians do not allow gay people to march in that parade. And now--or gay groups, her gay supporters are telling her now, don't march in this parade. Is she going to?

ICKES: She hopes to. She hopes the parade will be inclusive. I remind you that Pat Moynihan, Ed Koch, Peter Vallone (ph), Rudy Giuliani and many others marched in the parade. She hopes to but she hopes it will be inclusive.

SCHIEFFER: Well, what does that mean though? Does that mean if it's not inclusive, if they can't march, the gay folks can't march with their banners that she won't march?

ICKES: Right at this point she hopes to march and she hopes it will be inclusive. And that's where we are.

BORGER: Right now Mrs. Clinton is not doing as well in the polls as I think you would probably like, particularly in the suburban areas of New York. One latest poll said she's behind 59-34 in the suburbs. Why do you think that is?

ICKES: I think part of it--most of it, Gloria, is that people just really are not familiar yet with her issues. There are two overriding issues it seems to me. Number one, Hillary's on your side on a whole range of issues: education, health care, the economy. We can go into details on those at a later point.

Two is, who is going to be most effective in the United States Senate? Those are two key issues and that's what the voters are going to be deciding on in November of 2000.

People know Hillary as the first lady. Many people don't know where she is on a number of issues. But as she campaigns now full bore in New York which she's going to--she's been there a lot already. She is going to increase that extensively after the first of the year. People are

going to really learn about her differences with the mayor.

For instance, on education, the mayor cut the construction budget \$7 billion for a school system that in many cases that is crumbling. He cut \$360 million from the education budget itself. Hillary is in favor of increasing educational opportunities. That is only one difference. As the differences come out, I think people will make a judgment on who is on your side and, two, as importantly, as importantly, who can best function in the United States Senate.

SCHIEFFER: Gail Sheehy says in her book about Mrs. Clinton that in a discussion between you and the first lady, you describe the Senate race as a race for redemption. First, did you say that? And do you believe that?

ICKES: No, I did not say that. And I don't believe it. I think that there are people who believe that, and people have said that to me, but I did not make the quote that Ms. Sheehy represents me as making in that book. But obviously there are a number of people who think that part of this is a race for redemption.

This race is two-fold. One, New Yorkers, a broad spectrum invited her to come in and run. Two, she was going to live New York anyway. Three, she has a history, a long history of public service and she wants to continue that. She felt that the United States Senate was a place she could achieve that.

BORGER: Al Gore is having a little bit of trouble in his presidential campaign these days. Do you think that he might actually hurt her race in New York?

ICKES: No. New Yorkers are notoriously independent. They are not--whoever they vote for for president is not going to affect their vote for the United States Senate, and there will be a large turnout.

BORGER: But do you think that he's doing so poorly that anyway he can drag her down?

ICKES: No, not in any way shape or form. People--New Yorkers are very, very independent. When they vote for the top of the ticket--as the president, the United States senator--they know exactly who they want to vote for when they pull the lever, and their vote for president is not going to affect their vote for the United States senator.

SCHIEFFER: Some of the New York dailies have been kind of hard on Mrs. Clinton, talking about her temperament. Does it concern you that maybe she might blow a gasket during this campaign?

ICKES: No. I think there was--I think when she first started to get out and about, there were people--members of the fourth estate who wondered how she would react towards the press, because there was a lot of mythology that she was--had sort of an adverse view towards the press.

I think as you look back over the sweep of the last five or six months, her relationship with the press has been terrific. She's been open, she's been holding press conferences on a weekly and sometimes a daily basis. Her relationship with the press I think is excellent.

She is not going to blow a gasket. Anybody who's watched Hillary Clinton knows that she is very self-disciplined.

SCHIEFFER: Well, we'd like to have her here, so we are depending on you to help us get her.

(LAUGHTER)

Thank you, Mr. Ickes, nice to have you this morning.

ICKES: Thank you.

SCHIEFFER: I'll be back with a final word in just a minute.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SCHIEFFER: Rummaging through a collection of Eric Severeid's old commentaries, I suddenly realized what we're missing in this presidential campaign. We are sorely in need of more creative name calling. The best the Republicans have managed so far is when the Manchester Union leader endorsed Steve Forbes, even though he ``looks like a geek," as the newspaper put it. Now that's catchy, but we can't count that, since it was meant as a compliment, I guess.

No compliment was intended back in 1952 when Harry Truman called the Republicans ``smolligosters" (ph). And Washington was so shocked then that Eric Severeid had to remind his listeners that name calling has always been a revered part of American politics. He remembered how General Winfield Scott's opponents called him the ``peacock of politics--all fuss, feathers and fireworks," and how they said President McKinley ``had the backbone of a chocolate eclair."

For pure invective, I have always been partial to John L. Lewis's description of Roosevelt's vice president, Garner, as a, quote, ``labor-baiting, poker playing, whiskey drinking evil old man."

Well, this year's Republican debates have been polite as a sixth grade spelling bee. So if the Democrats want higher TV ratings for theirs, maybe Bill Bradley should start by calling Al Gore and ``Internet inventing, Love Canal discovering, earth-tone wearing tree hugger."

And what if Gore just called Bradley ``a big dribbler," and then sat down.

Anyhow, if you hear of a candidate in either party who says his opponent has the backbone of a chocolate eclair, call me. I may vote for him.

That's our report. We'll see you next Sunday right here on FACE THE NATION.

END

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

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CREATION DATE/TIME:12-DEC-1999 07:12:21.00

SUBJECT: SLATE NEWS: Sun., Dec. 12, 1999

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READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
SLATE NEWS: Sun., Dec. 12, 1999

--today's papers: "Don't Ask" Don't Work

today's papers

"Don't Ask" Don't Work

By Andrew Nieland

The New York Times leads with President Clinton's announcement (or admission) that the administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding homosexuals in the military isn't working. Rather than implement a new policy, Clinton is expected to push military officials to better enforce the current one. The statement was prompted by his wife's remarks earlier this week that gays and lesbians should be allowed to serve openly. The Los Angeles Times reefer Clinton's remarks, and leads with an expose on failings of the state's education system. California's director of special education maintains that as many as 250,000 children have been incorrectly assessed as "learning disabled" and funneled into California's special education programs simply because they were not taught to read. The Washington Post leads with the State Department's warning that Americans abroad should take extra security precautions in the next month; the department has "credible information" that terrorist groups are planning attacks that target American citizens. The LAT, whose sources are quoted by the Post, reefers the announcement.

Despite the WP headline, Americans abroad needn't run for the hills just yet. Such announcements are relatively common, although they usually accompany military actions, economic sanctions, or other foreign policy initiatives (yesterday's warning was the fifth since October). The Post suggests that the warnings are a reference to Osama bin Laden's terrorist organization, but the link is dubious: officials wouldn't name a group, they only "indicated that [bin Laden's group] is the most important organization seeking to

undermine U.S. interests." The Post also points out that attacks could occur any time from now until the first week in January, when the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends. Does the State Department's announcement mention Ramadan, or did the WP add it? Either way, someone seems to be equating Islam and terrorism without explaining why. And wouldn't a Muslim terrorist be less likely, not more likely, to take terrorist action during a holy month?

The WP and the LAT front stories highlighting different facets of the AIDS epidemic. The Post examines Africa, where the disease kills 5000 people each day, and could kill as many as 13000 per day in 2005. The article stresses the economic ramifications of these statistics: in Kenya and Zimbabwe, projected GDP in 2005 may be as much as 20% lower than it would have been without the disease's effect on young workers. The LAT article on AIDS in the US emphasizes a more encouraging trend--hospices once filled with patients dying from AIDS are emptying and closing because their patients are getting better and leaving, a phenomenon dubbed "the Lazarus syndrome."

The LAT points to today's to-close-to-call presidential race in Chile as a sign that the country's democratization has progressed since dictator Augusto Pinochet stepped down over ten years ago. The contest, which includes candidates from Chile's main right and left parties as well as four independent candidates, is expected to end in a run-off, the first in the country's history.

A NYT special report examines Clinton fundraiser Terry McAuliffe. McAuliffe is seen as part of a new breed of entrepreneurial fundraisers who leverages their services not to obtain cushy ambassadorial posts or lobbyist clout, but to help fuel telecommunications, banking, and real-estate business deals. They've also help fuel some lawsuits: "I've signed thousands of documents, but never read them," McAuliffe remarks. Unlike Vernon Jordan, who plans to relocate to a New York City investment bank when his friend Bill steps down, McAuliffe plans to stay active in politics, and is already raising money for Hillary Clinton's senate bid.

Now That's Synergy: Used to be that only movie studios could use high-profile glossy magazines to flog their product. Now, the NYT reports, tobacco companies are paying publishers like Time, Inc. millions of dollars to generate magazines similar in look and feel to popular twentysomething mags like Maxim and Mademoiselle. The new magazines, packed with tobacco ads, are an attempt to plug the "communication gap" (as an RJ Reynolds memo puts it) created by independent magazines, which generally limit tobacco ads to only two or three percent of total ads. But persistent rumors that Joe Camel has signed on to star opposite Gwyneth Paltrow in an upcoming Miramax police drama are just that.

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TEXT:
FOX NEWS SUNDAY
December 12, 1999

Guest: John McCain; Vito Fossella; Charles Rangel; Brit Hume; Mara
Liasson; Juan Williams

SNOW: There's a new GOP front-runner in New Hampshire. He's
tanned, rested and ready. He's John McCain and he's all ours this morning.
A yuletide brawl in Gotham. Rudy Giuliani says he wants the homeless
indoors and in jobs. Does that make him Scrooge or the harbinger of
reforms yet to come. We'll quiz New York Congressman Vito Fossella and

Charles Rangel.

Plus, is it easy to spy on the State Department? We'll ask our panel: Brit Hume, Mara Liasson and Juan Williams on the December 12th edition of FOX NEWS SUNDAY.

Good morning, and welcome to FOX NEWS SUNDAY. Our guests will join us in a moment. But first, the headlines from Kathy Wolff at FOX NEWS CHANNEL in New York.

(NEWSBREAK)

SNOW: Thanks, Kathy.

Senator John McCain stormed into the lead in a series of New Hampshire polls last week, thus becoming the brand-new front-runner in the Granite State's Republican presidential primary. He joins us now.

We just saw this story about Senator Bill Bradley. You're going to have a press conference with him later in the week on campaign finance reform.

After this irregular heartbeat--and we all hope he's well...

MCCAIN: At least he has a heartbeat.

SNOW: That's right. Do you think it's important for all candidates to follow your lead and just dump out their full medical records?

MCCAIN: I don't know. I'd like to leave that decision up to them and to the media. I thought that probably I should, not only because of the fact that I'd committed to a full disclosure campaign, as far as the, you know, what we stood for and all those kind of things, but in addition, I thought that a lot of the media people would find it very interesting and entertaining. I'm an orthopedic surgeon's dream or nightmare, depending on how you look at it.

SNOW: You're the next best thing to a hockey player.

MCCAIN: That's right.

SNOW: With Senator Bradley, though, inquiring minds are going to want to know. Don't you think it would be sensible at least to put out that portion of his medical records?

MCCAIN: Yes, but that's a decision they have to make.

One thing I've tried not to do is decide for other candidates what they should do during this campaign.

SNOW: Another story we just saw in the news broadcast, and we've seen a lot of them in recent weeks, the president now says the ``don't ask, don't tell'' policy was implemented improperly. Number one, do you support the ``don't ask, don't tell'' policy?

MCCAIN: Absolutely, and I respect the individuals who are responsible for crafting it, including General Colin Powell.

SNOW: So the president is--what do you make of the president's latest statement?

MCCAIN: I don't know. It seems to me that that kind of statement undermines the men and women in the military who are trying to implement a policy that has been in existence for seven years. If the president wants to review the policy, that's fine with me. All policies should be reviewed from time to time, and I think it might be appropriate to do so. But to--this kind of thing.

What do you think the men and women now who are in positions of command all over the world in the military are saying to themselves this morning? ``What's he talking about? I've been trying to do the best that I can.''

MCCAIN: Now, if they're problems in this policy, then let's

talk about them in an orderly fashion under a policy review, rather than this kind of a--well, it's just kind of typical of this president, and naturally suspicions will arise that he's following on to help his wife's candidacy for the Senate. It's an inappropriate comment, especially in the context in which he made it.

SNOW: Is it political pandering?

MCCAIN: There's going to be that suspicion because otherwise you would think he would call the joint chiefs together over at the White House and said in a formal way, look, I need to review this policy. I don't think it's being implemented right or it's not working right, or something like that, rather than coming on the heels of his wife's announcement.

SNOW: A state representative, a Republican representative from your home state is a reservist and acknowledged homosexual. Now it looks like he's going to get the boot. Is that the proper policy?

MCCAIN: I don't know because I don't know the details of it. Steve May is a fine man and a friend of mine, and I want to sit down with him and look at the specifics of his case.

Look, there will always be problems in a policy of this nature. This is the most volatile, emotional issue probably that we face in many respects, so I think we ought to correct where errors are made and we ought to implement policies that are correct, but if there's violations of it, like any other policy, then we should address them.

SNOW: Well, you've just said the president undermines moral when he doesn't follow--when he doesn't support military leaders. Members of the Army have already looked at this and said you violated the policy, and even though he's got top of the line marks, he's going to have to go. Doesn't it undermine their authority to say, well we've got to think about this?

MCCAIN: No. I'm his elected representative. I think every citizen has the right to come to their elected representative to seek help if they feel they're not being fairly treated.

SNOW: On gay rights, do you oppose same-sex marriages?

MCCAIN: Yes, I do.

SNOW: OK. You've met with the log cabin--how about hate crime statutes, for them or against them?

MCCAIN: I think existing statutes are appropriate and I think we ought to pursue existing statutes, and I don't think that it's necessary to have additional laws passed just on that basis.

SNOW: So, you don't support Attorney General Janet Reno's request for hate crime statutes? MCCAIN: No.

SNOW: That being the case, you've met with log cabin Republicans and it sounds like you're opposed to virtually every key portion of their agenda, is that true?

MCCAIN: First of all, they're Republicans, they believe in less government, lower taxes, a strong national defense. There's many issues in which we are in agreement. There's issues which we are in disagreements. You just articulated some of them. But every president should meet with people they disagree with, and in particular you should meet with members of your own party, even if you're in disagreement.

SNOW: What do you make of George W. Bush saying, well, I'm not going to meet with these guys?

MCCAIN: Again...

SNOW: Blown opportunity?

MCCAIN: ... that's a decision he has to make. Leave others to decide whether that's right or wrong. My position is that you should meet with everybody, no matter who you disagree with, and whether you disagree or not.

SNOW: Let's hit a hot button issue for Republicans...

MCCAIN: What did we just cover?

SNOW: Well, we're just getting warmed up. Abortion. You have said that you oppose abortion except in cases of rape, incest and the life of a mother.

MCCAIN: Yes.

SNOW: The life of the mother clearly a case where you have to competing rights to life.

MCCAIN: Yes.

SNOW: What is the moral distinction between a baby conceived by rape and incest and a baby conceived in other ways? Why don't those babies have a right to life?

MCCAIN: You're exactly right. This is a terrible moral dilemma that everybody faces when they address this issue. I happen to have obviously come down on making a very difficult, Solomon-like, decision on this.

SNOW: Why did you choose those two?

MCCAIN: Because I felt that they were compelling reasons to make exceptions. But look, I understand on a talmudic (ph) level that it's very difficult to make that differentiation.

SNOW: What are those reasons? That's what I'm curious about.

MCCAIN: Well, I think the exception of rape and incest are clearly those that are compelling reasons that an exception can be made because of the unique circumstances surrounding those two situations.

SNOW: I'm--rape being because it's not consensual?

MCCAIN: Yes, and the trauma associated with it and all of the aspects of it, that are very, very difficult. And by the way, very, very personal.

SNOW: And many people say, ``Well, there are other traumatic circumstances around abortion." If trauma is the key, then it seems to be you're on a slippery slope, are you not?

MCCAIN: Sure you are. You have to make--on many of these kinds of very difficult moral issues in America, you have to make decisions that are very difficult. I happen to have, after a lot of thought, come down on the issue of rape or incest.

And I know that that makes me less than pure and perhaps open to the same kind of discussion that we described. But it's a terrible personal moral issue. But what I intend to do, Tony, is sit down with pro-choice people and work together to make adoption easier in America, to improve foster care, and work on areas that we can together to reduce and eventually eliminate abortion in America.

We are polarized. The two ends of the spectrum have turned a cause into a business. The great middle in America would like to try to at least work together on issues we can agree on on this very difficult issue.

SNOW: If you reverse Roe vs. Wade States and people can debate it again, do you think it should be reversed?

MCCAIN: Yes. Yes.

SNOW: You do?

MCCAIN: Yes.

SNOW: Speaking of which, the United States Supreme Court...

MCCAIN: Are there any, is there any other non-controversial issue?

SNOW: I'll try--we'll try to work on it. We'll get there.

MCCAIN: OK.

SNOW: You said Sandra Day O'Connor is one of your favorite justices of the Supreme Court.

MCCAIN: Yes. She's a wonderful person from my home state of Arizona.

SNOW: What do you think is her most significant contribution to constitutional law?

MCCAIN: I think one area she's worked on is the protection of the rights of Native Americans. And I think that's a much neglected area, our first citizens. I think obviously she has been involved in some key decisions, as far as reversing, or at least modifying, some of the more liberal actions of previous courts.

SNOW: When you talk about Supreme Court, the next president is probably going to pick the--at least three members of the Supreme Court, the majority of the federal bench have enormous impact. Do you or do you not think that a person's position on such issues as abortion should figure into whether you would appoint them to the Court?

MCCAIN: I think there should be one overriding factor or consideration made in that selection process. And that is how closely they've adhered in the past to the Constitution of the United States. I would not impose any litmus test.

But if they have closely adhered to the views of our Founding Fathers, to the Constitution of the United States, then they're my select appointee.

SNOW: Well, people on the left and right will both say their guys are adhering to the Constitution. Who do you pick as your referee?
MCCAIN: No. I think we all know that the Warren Court took great flights away from any envisioning that our Founding Fathers had about the interpretation of the Constitution of the United States. Judge Scalia is a fine judge, Judge Rehnquist is a great hero of mine, along with a couple of others.

So, I think it's pretty clear what strict interpretation of the Constitution is all about.

SNOW: So anybody recently appointed that you wouldn't have appointed?

MCCAIN: No, I don't think so.

SNOW: One of the things you...

MCCAIN: Oh, I wouldn't have appointed the Clinton appointees. I would have appointed others. I'm sorry.

SNOW: OK.

MCCAIN: The Clinton appointees, I would not have appointed.

SNOW: You've talked a lot and feelingly about moral standards. One of the things you're now going after is the fact they use, I guess, cartoon characters in gaming? What's that all about?

MCCAIN: The gaming industry is now putting cartoons on slot machines. In other words, rather than the bar or whatever it is, there's like, cartoon characters.

MCCAIN: What's that all about? You know, let's not try to entice young children to be involved to make this very--frankly, a serious

issue more attractive yet to young children. But I'm not advocating any censorship of them. I hope they'll show good sense.

SNOW: Now, you have said that your favorite rock band is...?

MCCAIN: Nine Inch Nails. Nine Inch Nails. Yes, my daughter who is now 15 has kept me up to speed. I think the Back Street Boys are her favorite, but I'm terribly concerned, she seems to become enamored with Ricky Martin and I know he is a handsome guy but that's not the one I want her to marry.

(LAUGHTER)

SNOW: Speaking of controversy, I want to flash up some Nine Inch Nails lyrics. This is one on their most recent album. It says, ``I play a game. It's called insincerity `` you can figure out what all those things are.

MCCAIN: Yeah.

SNOW: And after that the lyrics get really nasty.

MCCAIN: Yeah.

SNOW: Are you sure you're a Nine Inch Nails fan?

MCCAIN: I was joking when I said it. Obviously, I have not seen their words of their songs. And I was trying to make light of this whole issue of the generation gap that many of us politicians have with younger Americans. But, no, I take exception...

SNOW: Well, your daughter does promotion in the rock business.

MCCAIN: Oh, my daughter Sydney. I thought we're talking about my 15-year-old daughter. Yeah. My daughter Sydney works for Capital Records. I'm very happy and proud of the work that she does. She is a wonderful young woman.

SNOW: Well, if it's any consolation, we've had to hide our daughter's Britney Spears album. We're going to take a break. We'll be back with more of Senator John McCain in just a couple of minutes.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SNOW: We're back with Senator McCain. Now joining the fray, our FOX NEWS panel: Brit Hume, Washington managing editor of FOX NEWS; Mara Liasson of National Public Radio; and Juan Williams of the Washington Post.

Senator McCain, Vice President Al Gore has said that he is the only candidate that's supported campaign finance reform before he ran for president. What do you think?

MCCAIN: I just think that--then, therefore, while he was inventing the Internet I was inventing television. I mean, he also said that he cosponsored McCain-Feingold three years after he left the Senate. That's a unique parliamentary maneuver.

Look, I welcome the vice president's involvement in this issue. But the real scandal in Washington was not Monica Lewinsky, it was the debasement of the institutions of government by the Clinton-Gore campaign--renting the Lincoln bedroom, selling seats on official trade missions--and frankly, that will be a stain on American political history.

SNOW: Are you afraid all the records are going to be destroyed and we'll never find out?

MCCAIN: Oh, I think Fred Thompson will tell you that we will never find out all the--including how many millions of dollars of foreign money came into that campaign.

LIASSON: Senator McCain, you've said a lot about campaign finance reform but not as much about other domestic issues. I want to ask you about Social Security. Most of the experts say that to keep Social

Security solvent for the baby boom generation we're going to have to do one or a combination of the following three things, which is: cut benefits, raise taxes or raise the age of eligibility. Do you agree with that?

MCCAIN: No. I think you take 62 percent of the surplus, put it into Social Security, make it solvent, keep it off budget--and I mean really off-budget, not for use for emergency purposes. We spent \$4.5 billion in emergency for the 2000 census. We didn't know the year 2000 was arriving, and--allow people to invest part of their taxes earmarked for Social Security to investment, in investments of their choice.

I am convinced that that will make the Social Security system solvent.

LIASSON: And not raise the eligibility age...

MCCAIN: And not raise the eligibility age limit or cut benefits.

LIASSON: And if you let people take the payroll taxes and put them into private retirement accounts, what happens when the market goes down and they're left without Social Security benefits?

MCCAIN: Well, since 1945 the stock market has had an average return of 5.5 percent. The return on Treasury bills is three percent. That's an average since 1945. And I don't think that this economy is going to meet the unending, rosy scenarios. I think we're going to have ups and downs, although I'm very optimistic about it.

But I'm confident that our last 45--nearly 50 years of experience will hold.

HUME: Senator, if you're optimistic about the long-term direction of the stock market, or perhaps the near-term as well, what prompted you say in one of those debates that you fear that this market's growth may be a bubble?

MCCAIN: What I said was that I am concerned that we haven't defied every single law of economics and history. I am excited about the future of America in this information technology revolution. But that doesn't mean there aren't going to be some cyclical effects still associated with it, and it doesn't have to be deep and it doesn't have to be severe. It can be soft landings. But I don't think that we have suspended all laws.

HUME: Well, which laws do you think would have to be suspended for this market to grow, just as it has, for example?

MCCAIN: Well, I just think it is--it is--the size of the growth is in some defiance of our history. Although this new technology has obviously allowed to define some of them.

I just think--and I'm very optimistic in the long term. But I don't think that it's appropriate for us to base all of our assumptions, i.e. tax cuts and others, on the most optimistic scenario. I think it's far better to pay for tax cuts with eliminating corporate welfare, eliminating unnecessary spending. In that way you can take any shocks that may come or any fluctuations.

But I am overall very--I'm not "irrationally exuberant," but I am very "rationally optimistic."

WILLIAMS: Senator McCain, one of the things that you and I have in common is that we were both born in Panama. We have the transition of the control of the Panama Canal to the Panamanians coming up shortly. Are you in support of that treaty signed by Jimmy Carter in the '70s, or do you think that it was a mistake?

MCCAIN: I think it was a mistake, and there's nothing we can do about it, though. I'm concerned about Chinese concessions at both ends of the canal.

But I'm also very worried, Juan, about the political will in Panama to continue to use the revenues for maintenance and upkeep and modernization of the canal. People tell me that that's going to be a very tempting source of money for the Panamanian government.

MCCAIN: But it's--there's nothing that's going to be done about it. I wish we hadn't done it. But I have to move on.

WILLIAMS: Well one of the affairs that's been articulated, the Chinese now have control of both ends of what's called a choke point in terms of shipping both militarily and economically, posing a threat. Do you in fact think the Chinese are out to dominate that canal and let's connect it for a second to Wen Ho Lee. Do you think Wen Ho Lee is guilty of espionage in that case out in New Mexico?

MCCAIN: I don't know whether Mr. Lee is guilty or not. I noticed he was just arrested and I think he deserves the benefits of our system of justice. I'm concerned when Chinese concessions are at both ends of the canal, but does that mean I think the Chinese are ready to strike and take over the canal? No, I wish that they had given those concessions on a more competitive basis than the government awarded them. But it's not a good thing, but I don't think it's reason for us to abrogate the treaty. I don't think any legal scholar would broach that.

SNOW: Senator, staying on the issue of China, the Chinese, according to press reports, are now aiming missiles at Taiwan. Do you--what does the United States need to do to demonstrate to the Chinese that it's serious and that it doesn't want China to do such things?

MCCAIN: Well, I think you can do several things. I think you could have a consistent foreign policy towards China, which this administration has not conducted. Candidate Clinton called them the Bloody Butchers of Beijing and in '98 he called them our strategic partners. They are neither.

I think we have to make it very clear the consequences of aggression against Taiwan far outweigh any benefits. From a practical standpoint, I would develop sea-based missile defense capabilities that I could move in international waters if necessary. I would also support Taiwan entry into the WTO. Look, the Chinese have got to understand that it is in their interest, not ours, in their interest, to enter the world stage as a superpower in a peaceful and cooperative manner.

SNOW: So in other words until the Chinese behave better, we'll treat Taiwan as an equal on the world stage with China?

MCCAIN: They are a freely elected democracy. You know that because you see pictures of them in fist fights on the floor of their parliament on occasion.

LIASSON: Senator McCain, you are for China's entry into the WTO.

MCCAIN: Yes.

LIASSON: The deal that was struck to let them in doesn't require that they improve their human rights record. It doesn't call for any kind of labor and environmental standards, the kind of things the president called for at the WTO meeting in Seattle. Why is that a good thing?

MCCAIN: Because they are entering the world stage as a superpower. The question is how do we most beneficially affect that entry

and obviously the responsibility lies with them. But I believe that free trade and knowledge and information will lead to democracy and freedom over time.

I also think that we need to have a very clear message to them we expect progress in human rights and treatment of the Tibetan people. Sanctions have only worked once since the end of world war II effectively. That was against South Africa. And that was when every nation in the world joined in those sanctions. No other nation in the world would join us practically speaking if we impose sanctions on China. So it's not only a matter of practicality but a matter of how do you best think the Chinese will improve.

If you use Mao Zedong as a zero, and ten perfect, probably Deng Xiaoping was a three. A guy who was welcomed here as a hero. These people are about a six. We need to get them to a nine or ten.

HUME: Senator, you were widely credited after the second debate with having displayed a greater knowledge of Dean Acheson, a man about whom Governor Bush had just finished reading a book. And I want to ask you about him and what do you think, for example, about his role in the firing of Douglas MacArthur in the early 50s?

MCCAIN: First of all, I have not read the book. I've got a copy of it. But I think that Dean Acheson played a key role there. And yet, as Harry Truman had the sign on his desk, the buck stopped there. This was a situation where it was absolutely mandatory that Harry Truman and Dean Acheson assert the supremacy of civilian government over the military.

My personal hero is Douglas MacArthur. Anyone who has read "An American Caesar" knows this is an extraordinary man. But when he was acting in an insubordinate fashion he had to be removed from office. Dean Acheson played a very important role in that decision. But the real person who bore the responsibility and I think the historical credit was Harry Truman.

WILLIAMS: Let me ask you a quick question about affirmative action. Are you in favor or opposed to it?

MCCAIN: Again, it depends on definition. If you want to give people an equal opportunity, which they do not have in this country, I think it should be--and I do--I think it should be based on economic lines and not on ethnic lines.

WILLIAMS: And that makes you a supporter of vouchers in charter schools, is that right? But wouldn't that, in fact, therefore, undermine the quality of public schools available to most American children?

MCCAIN: I would like to see funds for a voucher--test voucher system come from corporate welfare such as sugar subsidies, ethanol subsidies and gas and oil subsidies. I would not take the money from existing public education. I'd like to test every school district in America, the poorest school districts and see if they work or not.

LIASSON: Can we follow up on this education issue?

MCCAIN: Yes.

LIASSON: You've said that a good teacher shouldn't be paid less than a bad senator.

MCCAIN: Exactly.

LIASSON: Now, I know you're not in the business of naming bad senators, but given how small the federal role is in education, how would you make that happen?

MCCAIN: I would...

LIASSON: How would you raise teacher pay?

MCCAIN: ... encourage, I would encourage in every one of the states in America merit pay for teachers, teacher testing, teacher competency and those who display that kind of competency should be--have their pay dramatically increased, those that don't, should be encouraged to find another line of work. It's a terrible inequity in America when a lawyers make an average of \$79,000 a year and a teacher \$39,000 a year.

SNOW: So, would you use federal money to provide that cushion?

MCCAIN: No. No, I would not.

SNOW: So, you'd encourage the states to find other ways to make money?

MCCAIN: And I would find ways to encourage the states to do that. I think it's a mistake for us to think that the federal government and the federal bureaucracies know what's best in Arizona, and I don't know why I mentioned New Hampshire...

(LAUGHTER)

... when they really know. But we've got to encourage choice and competition.

SNOW: Let's hit a series of issues very quickly. Number one, this Russia spy scandal. What do you make of this?

MCCAIN: I think the fact is, the Cold War's still over; countries still engage in espionage, our friends as well.

SNOW: Is it no big deal as the president says?

MCCAIN: I think it's--I think it's cause for a review of the security procedures at the State Department. But I'm not trying to excuse this administration. But throughout our history, this kind of thing has happened. Internal vigilance is the answer.

SNOW: Spying is not new. Elian Gonzalez, a young six-year-old who's in Miami right now. His father wants him back. You and others--the vice president says, well, why don't we offer his father a visa? And we can figure out if he really wants his son. What do you think?

MCCAIN: I think his father should come to the United States or even to a neutral country and then declare his intentions for his son. I don't think any father in the world wants his son to grow up under communist tyranny without a lack of opportunity that he would have in a free and democratic nation.

SNOW: If the father for some reason wanted to stay in Cuba, shouldn't the father and son be reunited?

MCCAIN: I think this is a very tough choice, and we've faced it in the past. It was a son of a Ukrainian Russian back many years ago during the Cold War, as you might remember. He sued his parents so that he could stay in the United States. It's a very difficult choice, but I think most children at the end of the day, would like to have...

SNOW: He's a six-year-old.

MCCAIN: Yes. Listen, I know this is a tough decision. But his mother gave her life in order that this son of hers might have the opportunity for freedom.

SNOW: Final question, I want to--we're going to talk about this in the next segment. Rudolph Giuliani's policy towards the homeless, good idea or bad idea?

MCCAIN: Listen, I'm a great believer in Rudy Giuliani. He's changed New York, and I lean towards his position, but I don't know enough of the details to know about it. But this is going to be the most exciting Senate race in the history of America, and if I'm the Republican nominee, I'm afraid it's going to be overshadowed by it.

LIASSON: Senator McCain, can we get off all this substance and talk about political tactics and strategy for a minute?

MCCAIN: Sure. Sure.

LIASSON: You're surging in New Hampshire, you've had a wonderful week, you're on the cover of Time magazine. But I want to ask you if you think you can go the distance. You're behind in South Carolina, you don't have the kind of money and organization of George W. Bush. What's your plan for after New Hampshire? How do you win this nomination?

MCCAIN: Candidates have safes full of strategic plans and ideas. Ours is very simple. "Win," you know, in New Hampshire. Win in South Carolina, continue the traction that we're making, move into the succeeding states, and use the earned media, as well as the money that we're coming in.

Look, I have no illusions. We're still way behind, a long way behind. The reason why I'm doing well in New Hampshire is because we've been able to get out the message of reform, reform, and reform. And I don't know if I can get that message out nationwide. We're way behind. We're still the underdog.

But I'm very happy with where we've come to and we're having a lot of fun, and I'm not afraid of losing. So it's very enjoyable.

HUME: I was afraid you'd peaked too soon in New Hampshire, up 15 points in one recent poll.

MCCAIN: Obviously, I think that poll is an aberration. I think it's going to be very close in New Hampshire.

HUME: But it's in line with the trend, though Senator. I mean...

MCCAIN: Well, then it should be at 50 next week. But I think the point is that it's going to be very close. Governor Bush and his people are going to pour a lot of money into New Hampshire and the media. And I think--and he's a very fine candidate. He's a good man, and I've enjoyed these debates and I think it's going to be very tight in New Hampshire. We've got a long way to go in South Carolina, as you pointed out.

And so, look, we're still--odds strongly against us. But it's been a lot of--it's been a great crusade. SNOW: OK. Senator McCain, thanks for joining us.

MCCAIN: Thanks for having me on.

SNOW: Up next, is Rudy Giuliani a grinch or a visionary when it comes to the homeless?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GIULIANI: The response to homelessness is not some romanticized general response, it's a practical response.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SNOW: New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani has announced a two-pronged attack on homelessness. He wants police and social workers to move the homeless off the streets and into hospitals, shelters, or treatment facilities. And he wants the city's sheltered dwellers to get a job or move out. Hillary Rodham Clinton and her backers have blasted the proposal, raising the question, "Is this a good or a bad idea?"

Here with answers are New York Congressman Vito Fossella and Charles Rangel. Also here, Juan Williams.

Representative Rangel, why is it a bad idea?

RANGEL: I didn't hear anything about social workers with the

mayor. Certainly the courts have disagreed with the mayor and Cardinal O'Connor has disagreed, an expert that deals with the complex problems of the homeless, clearly it's a political thing. We had a tragic accident when someone who was thought to be homeless attacked an innocent person on the street. And the Mayor wanting to show how great he was by clearing the street and handcuffing and arresting the homeless.

SNOW: Well, Mr. Rangel, the mayor's office says it only arrested those who had actually broken the law or had outstanding warrants and that's moved four times as many into shelters or to treatment, as it has into jail.

Now my question is, "What's wrong with taking people off the streets in December and putting them in warm places?"

RANGEL: There's absolutely nothing wrong with it. The mayor's dramatically changed his position. But still he says that he's prepared to take children away from their parents, throw them in foster care, and the courts have said that this would strike terror in the hearts of those people who are poor and homeless through no fault of themselves.

What he should be doing is trying to get jobs for people and treatment for people. That's what any person should do. That's not how he started out. And fortunately public opinion has changed his mind and I'm all for him correcting it. SNOW: Well, Mr. Rangel, as I understand it, the homeless are--able-bodied homeless are expected to get a job within a month. In that time, the city provides job training, child care, and free transportation, and those who can't get private sector jobs get public sector jobs, get jobs with the city. What's so brutal about that?

RANGEL: The truth of the matter, until we heard from Hillary Clinton on this, until we heard from the courts on this, until there was just an outcry from the decent citizens of the city of New York, this was not the policy of the mayor. He didn't say that, he just said if you don't get a job, you're not going to get into the shelter, and you're going to get arrested if you didn't get off the streets.

WILLIAMS: Congressman, for...

RANGEL: I think that if we take this approach as a sound approach and yet, the courts have restrained the mayor, the mayor's appealing the decision, and some of the mayor's people said the fact that it's Christmas, which the courts mentioned, the fact that it's winter, which the courts mentioned, should not be an issue because he's only dealing with the law. I don't really believe that the mayor's as really insensitive as he wants to be.

WILLIAMS: Congressman Fossella, let's...

RANGEL: I think he thinks he has a constituency and he's playing to it.

WILLIAMS: Congressman Fossella, let me quickly ask about the notion that even if you take a minimum wage job in these boom economic times, you may not have enough money to pay the rent in any place--to get a place in New York City. Doesn't that mean that the city should have a special care with the homeless?

FOSSELLA: Well, let me back up a step, because I think anybody, whether you're a resident of New York City, or have traveled to New York City in the last several years, have seen the dramatic difference.

You know, in 1992 and '93, New York was a crime zone, welfare rows were up, and there were people terrorizing the streets. You know, people in New York City were afraid to walk through Central Park, you were afraid to stop at a traffic light. My community in Staten Island Ferry

Terminal was a den of drug addicts and despair. A group of individuals burned down that terminal, it is yet to be rebuilt.

And over the last several years, we've seen people put back to work, economic growth, meaning people can stand on their own two feet. And at the core of this is assuming that that individual who is homeless, but for a variety of reason, may suffer from mental illness or substance abuse or something else. At the core of it is the belief that those people can stand on their own two feet and provide for themselves and be free and independent.

Now lately, what we've heard is a trumpet of individuals who claim that trying to put people back to work, trying to put people--and allow them to stand on their own two feet and provide for themselves and their family, is somehow a bad idea.

FOSSELLA: I don't think that's the right policy for those individuals. And secondly, there are innocent New Yorkers who expect to live in a safe and secure city. And I think the mayor and elected officials have a responsibility to those individuals to provide for that.

WILLIAMS: But, Congressman, what I was saying to you is you don't want to demonize the poor. You mentioned the fire in the terminal. But, you know, I guess that brings to mind what happened in Worcester this week. But nonetheless, you don't want to demonize the poor and you certainly don't want to demonize children, 40 percent of the homeless are children. So I think if you have adults taking minimum wage jobs, still can't house their children, you wouldn't want to point fingers at them and take their children away from them, would you?

FOSSELLA: No. I don't think anybody is demonizing the poor. If anybody is demonizing the poor, it is those that believe the poor have to live their whole life dependent on the government, whether it be the city or federal government. And what you try to do, and sadly, I haven't heard anybody on the other side, the first lady on down, offer constructive solutions to solve this problem. It is the same people that were saying in 1992, 1993, and 1994 that you can't reduce the welfare rolls, you can't solve the homeless problem. And we're hearing the same people and the same rusty rhetoric without real solutions.

WILLIAMS: Well, Charlie Rangel...

FOSSELLA: So nobody is demonizing the poor. If anybody is demonizing, it is those who believe these people who are really trying to work their way back into society and I think we should try and do that.

WILLIAMS: All right. Let me ask Congressman Rangel to quickly respond to what you are saying because I think Congressman Fossella makes a good point that the poor, or the homeless in this case, have to have some obligation to society. They have to be willing to show they want to do better for themselves, don't they Congressman Rangel?

RANGEL: You bet your life. And not only that, if they engage in criminal activities, they should be arrested and thrown into jail. You know, to listen to Vito and sometimes to listen to the mayor, even though he's now reformed, you would think these homeless people, these hopeless poor folks, wanted to lay in the street. That they enjoy what they're doing. Most all of the people, if they are able to work, they are looking for jobs. Some of the people that are in these darn shelters are working people. All they need is a hand. Some of them just need a place to wash up and to find a job. But to say that you've got to take away their children--and this is what the court stated--and to say you can't go to a shelter unless you have a job, and to use handcuffs instead of trying to

find out what these hopeless people need, is wrong.

Now, the mayor is changing it because the whole world knows he's wrong. And this is not--you don't get a reputation like this just for dealing with the homeless. If you're dealing with powerless people, you expect whether they're vendors, whether they're college students, taxi drivers, the mayor is a get tough guy.

SNOW: But Charlie Rangel, isn't it also true this law is going to take effect in the Christmas season because there is a state law that was going to take effect December 12. The mayor wasn't responsible for that, was he?

RANGEL: I'll tell you one thing: The courts said that the mayor is wrong. Cardinal O'Connor asked him...

SNOW: No, the court said...

RANGEL: Yes.

SNOW: No, the court hasn't thrown it out. They said they want to hear it. But let me go back to Vito...

RANGEL: They said January 14. And the mayor wants it done before Christmas. What's the big deal?

SNOW: OK. Let me go to Vito Fossella. We've got about a minute. I want to focus in on the one point that Charlie Rangel has raised before. Suppose you're a homeless mother. You have kids. You go ahead and get your job, and you have to stick your kids in child care all day long and you don't know the quality of that. Why is it such a good idea to separate mothers from their children?

FOSSELLA: I don't think that's been done, first of all. But, again, the important thing to remember here is the other side doesn't offer anything in terms of real solutions. Does this mean that this mother should spend her entire life in a shelter along with the kids? No, I don't think so. The fact the New York City spends over half a billion dollars in trying to help. And I disagree respectfully with Mr. Rangel to suggest there aren't people trying to help individuals get back on their own two feet.

If we truly believe in what this country is all about, we're going to try to help that mother get a job, raise her family, on her own and be a free and independent member of society. And not someone who has to live their whole life dependent on what the city elected officials think or the federal elected officials think for that matter.

SNOW: OK. Vito Fossella, you get the last word. Vito Fossella, Charlie Rangel, thanks for joining us this morning.

FOSSELLA: Thanks.

RANGEL: Thank you.

SNOW: When we return, our panel on spying at the State Department.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE: What I have tried to do ever since I became secretary, is to tighten the security arrangements in the department.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SNOW: And it's panel time for Brit, Mara and Juan. Let's begin with a subject we teased, Brit, which is this Russian--the Russian spies managed to, we presume they're Russian spies, managed to plant a listening device in a conference room on the seventh floor of the State Department.

HUME: One of my colleagues had a hilarious comment about that

because this is a room in which a lot of discussions of oceanographic issues pertaining to the Baltic Sea or somewhere are discussed, and he said, they probably got some very interesting stuff about Charlie the Tuna. If I remember, Tony, that was you.

SNOW: That was me. And you'll hear that line again later in this broadcast, ladies and gentlemen.

HUME: Oops.

SNOW: But, that's OK.

HUME: Oops.

LIASSON: The point is, spying still goes on. And I guess what was interesting--was interesting was just the details of this and how it was placed. They don't still know how it was placed. It was clearly somebody on the inside had to go into that room at least twice. And it's unclear how much damage was done. As Brit said, this wasn't the room where the big foreign policy decisions were discussed.

WILLIAMS: Sounds to me like a baby monitor was stuck in there and the guy had to be across the street, right, like you're listening to your kid in the other room. This is a pretty ridiculous piece of spying.

HUME: It was a Radio Shack walkie talkie.

LIASSON: He had to activate it to hear it. In other words, he had to be very close to the building to turn it on and hear it.

SNOW: That's right.

WILLIAMS: Well, so I guess this is a pretty ridiculous piece of spying, not James Bond for sure. SNOW: Well, here's the interesting thing. You know, you had to walk in and activate it, so they had to know somebody was having meetings, so somebody has to sort of get tipped off and they go strolling around the State Department, you know, with their ears being pointed in the right direction.

LIASSON: A tin can, in other words.

HUME: A piece of tin foil and a...

SNOW: The question here is, are these the dumbest Russian spies or are we not getting the whole story?

LIASSON: Well, no, the fact that they could get in there and place it and it wasn't detected and it took a long time to find it, I mean, that shows some expertise. I think the question is how much damage was done and we don't know that yet.

HUME: I think the whole has--is still more comic than it is anything to worry about.

WILLIAMS: Definitely more Austin Powers.

HUME: It reminds of--yes, years ago when General Motors was spying on Ralph Nader, he figured out that he was being spied on because he said, it wasn't common for him to come out of stores and always find several guys in blue surge suits standing around looking at lamp posts.

(LAUGHTER)

This reminds me of that.

SNOW: Let's switch now to domestic politics. Mara, a week ago we were talking about the big speculation, which was, to put it bluntly, whether George W. Bush is a dope. What has happened in the last week?

LIASSON: Well, I think that he hasn't dispelled that. And the media has piled on. There have been a lot of articles about George Bush's gray matter, his performance in the debates, while he didn't destroy himself, he didn't implode or make any big gaffs. He wasn't dominant as a front-runner should be.

SNOW: But, Juan, is this one of these things where we in the

press are sort of saying, we're smarter than you are? Because you take a look at the national polls, George W. Bush still has, as John McCain said, in fact I don't know if we can get our FOX NEWS opinion dynamics poll up on this in the Republican field. But he has basically a commanding lead. Sixty-five percent to 14 percent in the national polls despite the debates.

WILLIAMS: Well, the problem for George W. Bush is that at some point, the press barrage starts to take a toll. And the official word in all the press reports this week was lackluster. His performance in the debates was lackluster. It did not justify his front-running status or that 65 percent number that you saw. That could take impact. It could happen.

HUME: It's also worth noting, Tony, of course, this is not a national race. People don't go to the polls all at once and vote. This is a series of local races, that of course, that's where the debates are conducted. The viewership in New Hampshire of Mr. Bush and all the others for that first debate in which he took, it was very, very high and after that. And he's been skidding in the polls ever since.

He needs, it seems to me, and I think his people around him now recognize it, he needs to do well and to be commanding in one of these debates, and he's got to do it. And my guess is, he probably can, but that remains to be seen.

If he can, the atmosphere will quickly change and the story will move onto something else, but he has to do it.

LIASSON: Nothing about the debates has dispelled the tremendous advantages that George W. Bush has. Not just money, not just organization, but the loyalty of the Republican establishment, which is not going to throw him over the side as quickly as I think the Democrats were if Gore starting going south.

HUME: I think that's true, but I would also say, though, that the one thing that has gone is this sense that he's an inevitable winner.

LIASSON: That's right, that's right. The invincibility is gone.

HUME: Yes, that hurts.

WILLIAMS: The question becomes, how--if he's having such trouble in the debates against the Republican candidates, how would he do against Al Gore? How would he do against...

LIASSON: Right. How would he do against Gore? Of course. That has...

WILLIAMS: But, you know, the inside word in his campaign is, he's got such a strong reserve of capital, money, that he can take a bump against McCain and survive it.

HUME: I think that's true for the purposes of the nomination, Juan, but he doesn't want to be down in New Hampshire. He's changed the planning for his campaign to greatly increase the number of days he will spend in New Hampshire. It is now felt within his inner circle that not appearing in the earlier debates was a mistake. The point was made, you know, that when he appeared in these two, New Hampshire and Arizona, he doubled his lifetime political debate experience, which shows you also that these debates, you know, assuming he can do OK in them, maybe good for him.

LIASSON: Experience is extremely valuable. You cannot get it any other way but going into these debates.

SNOW: You can't get experience other than getting experience. There's been discussion, we didn't have a chance to get to this with

Senator McCain, that he's just about tapped out in New Hampshire. About spent everything he can. George W. Bush still has a lot of money he can spend.

LIASSON: That's right.

SNOW: Is that part of the Bush strategy, too, at the end, you know, close with a flourish.

LIASSON: Sure, I mean, that means a lot. You can spend a lot of money on Boston television. That doesn't count against the New Hampshire limits. And you know we--the debates have been the big story of the last couple of weeks. Debates are not the only game in town. I mean, television counts for a lot. One-on-one campaigning where George W. Bush is quite good, counts for a lot in New Hampshire. So I think there are a lot of other factors here.

SNOW: We would be remiss if we didn't go to the Democratic side. We got to do this. Gore-Bradley. It's been a fun week and now all of a sudden Democrats are--at least Al Gore is saying he's going to raise taxes.

WILLIAMS: You know, there's so much distortion going on and I think Al Gore runs a risk now of beating up Bill Bradley too strongly. And it reached the point where people might have a response and say, listen, this is not true. In addition to which, you are both for these packages. It is a matter of the extent and the specifics. And on that basis, Al Gore is in trouble of demagoguing this issue and then being attacked for it.

LIASSON: One thing we know about Al Gore, nuance is not his strong point. He often doesn't know how to calibrate an attack and he is a very tough attacker.

But what I think is really interesting about the tax debate between Gore and Bradley, first of all, who would have thought raising taxes is a bad thing in a Democratic primary. It shows you who the party has changed. But also, the Gore people made a calculation and they know that Bradley is doing well among conservative Democratic men and independents. And those people are averse to taxes and that, I think, is one of those reasons why he made those attacks.

However, that being said, I think this did backfire on Gore. I talked to several Gore officials who said, well, this isn't exactly the result that we wanted, although it is a heck a lot better for Gore to be attacked about demagoguing on taxes than the color of his suits.

HUME: I think Mara has got it right. But I think this does emphasize the characteristic about Gore is that he is a savage campaigner. And as the Bush people look at this, they got to know this will not be easy if they end up against Gore.

SNOW: Very quickly, is Bradley's health an issue?

HUME: I wouldn't think so for very long.

LIASSON: It sounds like an annoyance, not a life-threatening...

WILLIAMS: Well, but it causes people to wonder. You don't want a sick president.

SNOW: Should he release his medical records so people know?

HUME: Sure.

LIASSON: Everybody should.

WILLIAMS: Absolutely.

SNOW: There we have it. OK. And on that note of advice to Senator Bradley, we're going to switch to another sport. It is time to preview the NFL on Fox with our good buddy, James Brown. J.B., good morning.

BROWN: Good morning, Tony and a non-political comment, I admired Bill Bradley when I was in high school because he was an excellent student athlete.

Coming up on FOX NFL SUNDAY, the King is alive and well, and I'm not talking about Elvis, but the rookie quarterback for the Tampa Bay Bucs, Shaun King who's got the Bucs believing in miracles. We'll also have a comeback story of Terry Collins of the New York Giants who had a giant week last week. Pam Oliver has that story. We'll have a report on the big Colts-Patriots match up. And also the Skins, what's happening with their struggling offense all of a sudden? We'll do all that coming up on FOX NFL SUNDAY. Now back to Washington where it's brisk. Tony Snow.

SNOW: All right. Thanks J.B. When we return, is Maxwell Smart running security at the State Department?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SNOW: Well, as you know, Russians broke into a high-level conference room at the State Department, and concealed a listening device in the middle of a wall. When somebody would tip them off about a meeting in the room, they'd send a snoop to the neighborhood and activate the bug.

Well, it took the administration two years to discover the breach. But the State Department says not to worry. It says they've sent disinformation through the microphone, and besides, the conference room is used for low-legal stuff, such as oceanography. Oceanographic disinformation. Meaning what, Charlie the Tuna?

The alibi sounds fishy to me. This administration has tried repeatedly to increase its power to snoop on private citizens. It always has dirt on political opponents. But it seems kind of laid back when it comes to keeping secrets from potential enemies. Which probably explains my sick suspicion that we don't know the whole truth about this case and probably don't want to.

That's it for today. Have a great week and remember to start your Sundays right here on FOX NEWS SUNDAY.

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