

Personal —

Jennifer O'Connor

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Dear Maggie,

I just wanted to say good-bye,
as you're moving over to the Labor
Department. You've always been one
of my role models here - brilliant,
politically savvy, willing to do the
hard work (sometimes a rarity!) and
never rattled by the "background
noise." I hope we'll have chances
to work together in the future.
Best wishes, Jen



THE WHITE HOUSE

Smoked Salmon with Peppercorn Crust and Tarragon Mustard

Appetizer—serves 8.

1 side of fresh salmon, filleted
kosher salt

Tarragon Mustard Sauce:

2 oz. Dijon mustard, 6 oz. lowfat sour
cream, 1 bunch fresh tarragon, chopped;
mix all ingredients, season to taste,
let stand to blend flavors

Pepper melange:

1 Tbs. each rough, cracked
peppercorns using black, white, pink
and szechuan peppers

Outside charcoal grill with lid

Double handful of wood chips, soaked in
water

Light charcoal in outside grill. Allow to burn down to glowing coals while preparing salmon. Preheat oven to 325°. Lightly season both sides of filet with kosher salt. Using cracked peppercorns, coat both sides of salmon pressing pepper into filet well. In a large non-stick pan, heat a little vegetable oil and sear filet on both sides for about 2 minutes each. (Cut filet in half if necessary.) Place salmon on wire rack of grill. Into a small, aluminum foil lined pan, place 3 to 4 hot coals. Place some of the soaked wood chips on top of hot coals to create smoke. Place this pan inside grill on wire rack with fish. Close grill. When smoke subsides, repeat smoking process. After second time, remove salmon to baking dish and place into 325° oven for 7 to 10 minutes until just flaky. Remove from heat and cool. Cut into bite sized squares and serve on platter with sauce on the side.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Egg Nog

Makes 1 gallon.

5 yolks
5 whites
1 1/4 c. sugar
3/4 c. bourbon
3/4 c. cognac
3/4 c. dark rum

1 qt. milk
1/4 tsp. salt
1 pt. heavy cream
nutmeg
vanilla extract

Combine yolks and sugar in bowl and beat to ribbon stage. Add bourbon, rum, cognac to yolk mix—set aside. Whip egg whites and salt to stiff peaks. Whip cream to medium peaks. Fold whipped whites and cream together. Combine white/cream mix to yolk/liquor mix. Mix well. Add nutmeg and vanilla to taste. Adjust thickness with milk to desired consistency. Store very cold, blend well before serving.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Spice Fruit Bars Christmas Cookies

Makes 90 bars.

Cream together:

1 lb. sugar
6½ oz. butter
8 oz. molasses
Pinch of salt
1 tsp. lemon rind
1 tsp. mace
1½ tsp. cinnamon

Add to mixture:

½ oz. baking soda dissolved in ⅓ c. water
4 eggs

Mix 6 cups bread flour into above mixture.

Add the following:

3 oz. sliced almonds
3 oz. currants
2 oz. candied lemon peel
2 oz. candied orange peel

Allow mixture to rest overnight in refrigerator. Using a number 8 tube, pipe 6 strips of mixture on parchment paper, 4" apart. Bake at 350° until firm. Allow to cool. Brush on chocolate and decorate with nonpareil. Yield: 6 strips, each cut into 15 pieces.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Fruit Punch

Makes 1½ gallons.

1 c. sugar
1¼ c. fresh lemon juice
1½ c. apricot nectar
2 c. fresh orange juice
3 c. fresh apple cider

1½ c. pineapple juice
2 qt. ginger ale or 1 qt. ginger ale &
1 bottle champagne
2 c. cranberry juice
3 oz. grenadine syrup

Mix together and serve very cold.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Chorizo Cornbread Stuffing

Good side dish with turkey or chicken. Makes 4 servings.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 2 tsp. olive oil | 2 tsp. ground cumin |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | 2 Tbs. white bread crumbs |
| ½ c. butternut squash, diced ¼" | ½ c. stale cornbread, crumbled |
| ¼ c. carrots, diced ¼" | 1 egg, beaten |
| ¼ c. sundried tomatoes, diced ¼" | 1-2 oz. turkey or chicken stock |
| ¼ c. Chorizo sausage, cooked, drained,
and crumbled | Salt and pepper to taste |

Preheat oven to 350°. Heat olive oil in pan. Sauté garlic until soft. Add squash and carrots, sautéing until tender. Add cumin, salt and pepper. Add tomatoes and warm but do not overcook. Set aside to cool. Combine cornbread, bread crumbs and Chorizo in a bowl. Add vegetable mixture and, using two forks, toss together. Add egg. Toss to mix. Add small amounts of stock, tossing mixture to achieve stuffing consistency. Bake in covered dish in 350° oven for 30 minutes.

Optional preparation: Spread stuffing onto turkey scallopini and roll up, tucking edge under roll. Roast in 350° oven for 25 minutes. Slice and serve.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Butternut Squash Salsa

Good with Chorizo Cornbread Stuffing and as an accompaniment with turkey or chicken. Makes 1 cup. (Easy to double.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 tsp. olive oil | 1 Tbs. olive oil |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | 1 tsp. ground cumin |
| ½ c. butternut squash, diced ¼" | ¼ tsp. jalapeño chile, diced |
| ½ c. carrots, diced ¼" | 1-2 Tbs. chopped cilantro |
| ¼ c. fresh tomatoes | lime juice and sugar to taste |
| 1 Tbs. rice wine vinegar | |

Heat 1 teaspoon olive oil in small pan and sauté garlic until soft but not brown. Add squash and carrots. Cover and steam until just tender. Cool and add tomatoes. In a small bowl, mix rice wine vinegar, olive oil, cumin, jalapeño chile and cilantro. Add a little lime juice and a pinch of sugar to taste. Pour mixture over cooled vegetables and toss to mix. Serve at room temperature. Best made ahead so flavors can blend. Store any leftovers covered in refrigerator.



We are pleased to announce that

Lauren M. Supina

has joined Ameritech

as Manager of External Relations

in the Chicago Office

225 W. Randolph Street, Floor 30A

Chicago, IL, 60606

Telephone: (312) 727-1619

Facsimile: (312) 727-6310

Ameritech®

Maggi,

Ben Chance à Paris!

J'espère que tu as une bon
temps! I spent some time
there during + after college + I
loved it! (I was a waitress
on the Champs Elysees one summer)
Life in corporate America is
good to me! I miss
Lauren M. Supina

D.C. + my friends but I
realize this is a good step for
me.

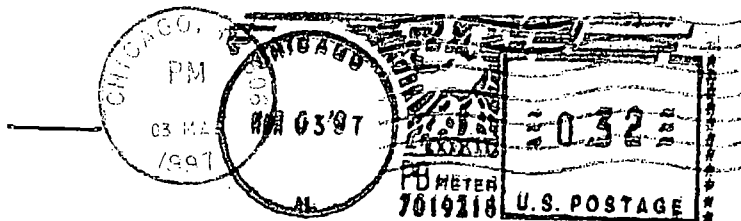
Please keep in touch. I'd
love to hear how everything
goes for you. Thank you for
all of your help + guidance, it
meant a lot to know I had
a friend in you while I was
at the DDC.

- Lauren

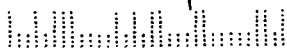
Lauren Supina
External Relations Manager



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Floor 30A
Chicago, IL 60606
Office 312/727-1619
Fax 312/727-6310



Maggie Williams
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 P.A. Ave
Washington, DC
20500



The President and Mrs. Clinton

cordially invite you to a

White House Holiday Tour

for
EXECUTIVE OFFICE of the PRESIDENT STAFF

on Sunday, December 15, 1996, at 5:15 p.m.

*Please present this invitation at the
Visitor Entrance on East Executive Avenue*

*Passholder Photo Identification Required
Passholders Must Accompany Guests
Each Person Requires an Invitation
Photos Permitted; Sorry, No Video Cameras*



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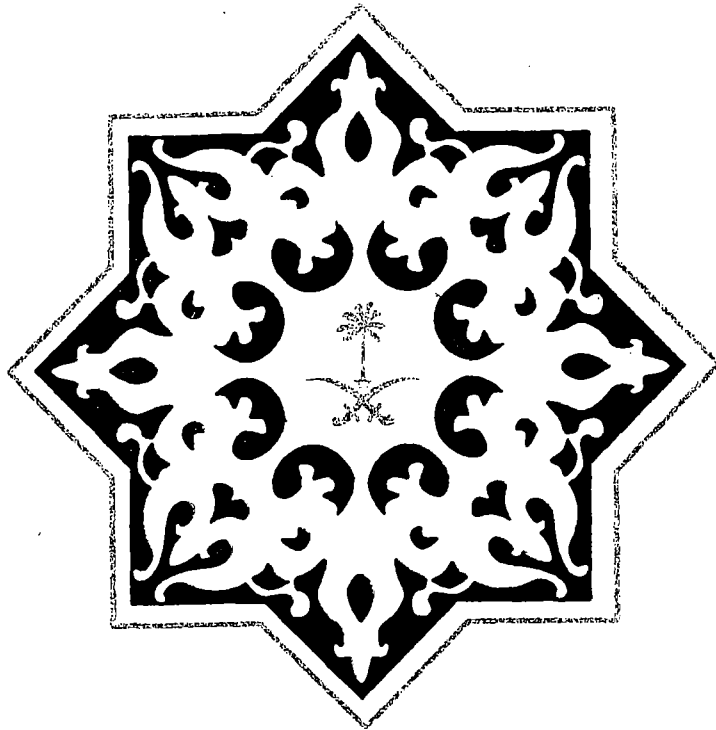
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*File
Personal
JFK
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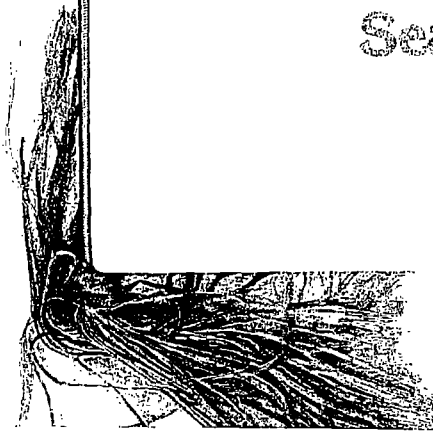
WILLIAMS, MARGARET A.

WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
FIRST LADY

WE 2FL/RH
CONTACT: RYAN, EVAN



Season's Greetings



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿ إِذْ قَالَتِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَا مَرْيَمُ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُبَشِّرُكِ بِكَلِمَةٍ مِنْهُ
اسْمُهُ الْمَسِيحُ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ
وَجِيهًا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ
وَمَنْ مَقَرَّبَ بَيْنَ ﴾

قرآن كريم سورة آل عمران

بندر بن سلطان بن عبد العزيز
سفير المملكة العربية السعودية

In the name of God,
Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

Behold, the angels said:
"O Mary, God giveth
thee glad tidings of a
Word from Him: his name
will be Christ Jesus, the
son of Mary, held in
honour in this world and
the Hereafter and of (the
company of) those nearest
to God;

Surat Al-Imran, Holy Quran

Bandar Bin Sultan Bin Abdulaziz
Ambassador of Saudi Arabia

Personal

19:19 12/17/96



ISS#2,431

MEMF, DC-20069

USE ZIP CODE



Ms. Margaret Williams
Assistant to the President and
Chief of Staff for the First Lady --
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia
601 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037



K OBSERVER

PAGE 5

JOE CONASON

Unlimited Access: Quick, Get Molière

For me, the crowning moment of Gay Pride Sunday came when Gary Aldrich, author of *Unlimited Access: An F.B.I. Agent Inside the Clinton White House* told the whole world that the source for his book's ludicrous tale about Presidential trysts at the Marriott Hotel was David Brock of *The American Spectator*—who happens to be openly gay. For a man as obsessively homophobic as Mr. Aldrich, it took courage to admit on national television that his informant was Mr. Brock.



According to both men, they did lunch together several times in recent months. Sounds kind of intimate, doesn't it? Or at least it would if they were doing the reporting. In any case, one can't help wondering exactly how the retired F.B.I. agent became acquainted with the *Spectator* writer. Regardless of the truth, these days anyone can say anything and get it broadcast somewhere. Some "confidential source" could mischievously suggest that this delightful pair realized how much they had in common—namely, a corrosive hatred of the Clintons—not over sandwiches, but during a tête-à-tête on the P Street Beach or over a nightcap at the fireplace saloon, where members of Washington's same-sex community make new friends.

Of course, no one could truly suspect that the bond between Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Brock was anything more than the mutual respect of character assassins. A colleague gutsy enough to bash Chelsea Clinton, as Mr. Aldrich does, was bound to win Mr. Brock's admiration. Besides, Mr. Aldrich has taken pains to make sure everyone knows he's no sissy. In his memoir, the uptight F.B.I. agent repeatedly avows his contempt for the horde of gays he imagined was inhabiting Bill Clinton's White House.

Yet the book contains certain rather unsettling passages, as when Mr. Aldrich mocks the "pear-shaped, bowling pin men" waddling in and out of the Oval Office, while proclaiming his own affinity for "athletic types, physically fit persons who took pride in body image and good health." A similar esthetic was quite evident among the exceptionally buff marchers in New York's Gay Pride parade, where the pear-shaped wisely made themselves scarce.

At another point, Mr. Aldrich fumes about gay Clintonites "flaunting rather than hiding" their sexual preference, a brand of bold self-expression that naturally affronted the sensibilities of a 30-year F.B.I. veteran who was more accustomed to the discretion of J. Edgar Hoover and Clyde Tolson. In such matters Mr. Aldrich is by training a Hoover Republican, although his televised acknowledgment of Mr. Brock's assistance might still qualify him for honorary membership in the courageous Log Cabin Republican club.

Unfortunately, Mr. Brock and Mr. Aldrich have had a little spat



BILL CLINTON

over who said what to whom. According to Mr. Brock, the Marriott fantasy was just a bit of fourth-hand gossip picked up and repeated in print by Mr. Aldrich without further confirmation. Queried about their quarrel on *This Week With David Brinkley*, Mr. Aldrich sounded hurt and confused. Let's hope they patch things up. Maybe the Bob Dole operatives behind this propaganda exercise can help.

Meanwhile, there's additional amusement in the circumstances under which Mr. Aldrich's book is achieving best-seller status. Until Mr. Brock poked an inglorious hole in *Unlimited Access*, its bad-boy version of life in the White House was being eagerly promoted by editors and producers who regurgitate any slur against the Clintons, no matter how absurd or poorly sourced. Mr. Aldrich's "revelations" have provided still another occasion for speculating and pontificating by people whose own personal behavior behooves them to shut up. Here, amid the leering, multiply divorced coterie that serves up the "news," is hypocrisy that demands the likes of a Twain or Molière.

But let's be specific. This affair's most comical figure by far is ensconced in the Washington offices of Regnery Publishing, the company churning out copies of *Unlimited Access* and publicity about "pornographic ornaments" on the White House Christmas tree. While memories tend to be short in the news business, somebody must recall Alfred Regnery's tumultuous tenure in the Reagan Justice Department. The high-minded Mr. Regnery, now president of the publishing house founded by his late father Henry, was appointed in 1983 to head the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. His most notable act in that post was the expenditure of \$734,000 on an analysis of the cartoons in *Playboy*, *Penhouse* and *Hustler* by a former songwriter for Captain Kangaroo, as part of an anti-pornography campaign by then Attorney General Edwin Meese. Around the same time, a Presidential commission on pornography was set up with a grant of \$125,000 from Mr. Regnery's budget.

As colorfully recounted in the book *United States of America vs. Sex*, by Philip Nobile and Eric Nadler, Mr. Regnery's crusade against strut was proceeding brilliantly until December 1985, when *Penhouse* published an unflattering profile of him. Ten years earlier, while Mr. Regnery was running for district attorney in Madison, Wisc., the police searched his home while investigating a rape complaint apparently fabricated by his wife as a publicity stunt. In the Regnery bedroom, the cops uncovered "a stash of hard-core magazines and catalogues for sex toys," and, according to the police report, "a book with numerous color photos of various sexual gratification [sic]," printed in German.

In May 1986, only weeks before Murray Waas published an article in *The New Republic* detailing these and other embarrassing facts, Mr. Regnery resigned. Eventually, he returned to the family firm—where, it is now clear, he has found other ways to get his kicks.

Question Time

Did *Unlimited Access* have an uncredited ghostwriter?

Someone gutsy enough to bash Chelsea Clinton, as Gary Aldrich does, was bound to win David Brock's admiration, at least initially.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7/10/96

Personal

~~PP~~ Magnus *try for*

2. President
16128
1. Ce HRC

Wed. 6-26-96

WHERE I STAND

Ridicule of Hillary unjustified

JUDGE NOT, lest ye be judged.

The power of those biblical words is oftentimes lost on us as we spend the better part of our days judging the frailties of others in a light far harsher than the one we use at home.

At no time has our pettiness become more evident than during this past week when we have joined some media nitwits in ridiculing the first lady of the United States for "talking" to Eleanor Roosevelt and Mahatma Ghandi. The facts, of course, about what actually happened have little or nothing to do

with the story - which has managed to keep the front pages and nightly news staffs busy and able to avoid the more serious news of the day.

What has managed to keep tongues wagging and mouths flapping has been the media's inability to focus on the substance of the event - or nonevent - rather than the form it took by being reported in an upcoming book by Bob Woodward.

Hillary Rodham Clinton has, at the very least, been a challenge to many men and a great deal of American women who are having



BRIAN GREENSPUN

difficulty accepting the fact - rather than just the concept - of a successful mother and career woman. She has made herself a very easy target because she has been unafraid to venture forth again and again into this man's world.

Of course, Hillary Clinton, like anyone else who has achieved a measure of success, has given her

detractors some grist for their mill. That makes her human but it shouldn't make her a punching bag for everyone with a political ax to grind or an insecurity complex to feed.

So what did Hillary do that is so damning? Did she conduct a seance, which is acceptable behavior in some parts of the world but out of bounds for first and other ladies in America? No.

Did Hillary conjure up some evil spirits through voodoo or other black magic that isn't becoming for a person living in the White House? The answer still is no.

What Hillary did is no different

SEE WHERE, 2A

UNABOMBER SUSPECT THEODORE KACZYNSKI PLEADS NOT GUILTY PAGE 9E

■ Where

CONTINUED FROM 1A

from what I and most people I know have done from time to time. That's right, we are all guilty of doing what Hillary Clinton did, we just don't recognize it through all the political diatribe and piling on that is going on.

How many times have we been in a situation in which we ask ourselves, "What would my father, or mother, or priest or mentor say about this particular situation?" And how many times have we come up with an answer based on something we learned from them or surmised that they might have told us if they could?

The only difference between what most Americans do and what Hillary Clinton did was that she picked two of the 20th century's most brilliant examples of humility, intelligence, power and compassion to play the "what if" game. And she did it in a newer, more modern way that is catching on in board rooms and classrooms around the world.

It is clear to me that this country is still in the mood to pick away at our leadership and their families until one day we wake up and there are no sane, decent, intelligent people left in the game upon whom we can pick. That's when we will stop judging others and start judging ourselves.

Rather than ridicule a woman like Hillary Clinton, we would be wiser to hold her up

- with her flaws and frailties - as an example to the females in our lives of how they can have it both ways.

It is about raising exceptional families and having successful careers. And if you don't believe me, ask Eleanor Roosevelt. She'll be the first to tell you that it is so.



BRIAN GREENSPUN is editor of the Las Vegas SUN.

Evan - Welcome Back!

I met with the intern supervisors while you were gone. Thought you might be interested in the enclosed.

Thanks -
Nudge

File
Interns

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intern Supervisors
FROM: Madge Henning
RE: Summer Intern Evaluation Summaries
DATE: November 19, 1996

Enclosed please find a summary of the evaluations received from your summer interns. I thought it might be helpful for you to have a synopsis of both their positive and negative comments. For the most part, comments included are the recurring themes from multiple evaluations.

I have also included a copy of the questionnaire that the interns were asked to fill out. If you have any suggestions on how to improve the questionnaire for future use please let me know.

Some offices with only one or two interns were too small to evaluate. Sometimes their comments were included with the larger offices under which they fell. At the bottom of the page, you will see noted how many interns returned evaluations from your office.

You will also find a page of **General Notes** including comments which apply to all offices and the intern experience in general. Please share these comments with other staff members in your office. There are some suggestions which, with very little effort on our part, would substantially improve the intern experience. For many interns, working at the White House is their first and perhaps only exposure to public service. We should continue to try to do everything possible to make it a positive and rewarding one.

Please give careful thought and discussion to how many interns your department needs during the Spring Session (beginning 1/15). As always, I will try to accommodate your needs. However, we historically have a smaller number of applicants in the Fall and Spring. Any interns who are here now and would like to continue in January must stop by the Intern Office and fill out the necessary paperwork.

I would appreciate any suggestions which you might have concerning how the Intern Program can be improved both to provide a rewarding experience for the interns and to meet the needs of the individual offices in which they work.

Thanks for your help.

GENERAL NOTES

- Please allow the interns to go on tours, and particularly, to attend the speaker series. When you are e-mailed about a speaker, please urge your interns to attend. They do not always know when the speakers are scheduled or if a schedule change has occurred. If it is not possible to allow all interns from one office to attend the speaker series, please work out a rotation rather than allowing no one to go. The opportunity to attend the tours and speaker series is a major part of the interns' educational experience.
- Many interns are attending classes concurrently with their internships and therefore, will expect the offices to which they are assigned to accommodate their class schedules. They should not be made to feel guilty for leaving for scheduled classes. On the other hand, interns should show up promptly for their scheduled work times. Please let the Intern Office know if an intern is not showing up as scheduled.
- Interns should not be singled out for preferential treatment which will lead to frustration and dissatisfaction among other interns. Special events and opportunities should be shared among as many interns as possible.
- Some interns felt that others seem to have been selected for the program because of "connections." Although this is not true, please do everything possible to avoid an appearance of special treatment.
- Having "senior" interns supervise new interns is a practice that should be avoided. It is fine to have them help train new interns, but please be aware that most interns have not had supervisory experience in prior jobs. Intern supervision is a job that should be done by a staff member.
- Some offices have an **Intern Manual** which proves to be very useful to incoming interns. If your office does not already have one, creating one is an excellent project for an enterprising intern. Please provide the Intern Office with a copy. The more I know about what interns are doing in particular offices, the better job I can do in trying to place interns appropriately.

SUGGESTIONS:

- If there is a lull in activity, give interns a half day off to sightsee (applies to summer only).
- Assign a long term project which can be worked on when things are slow in the office.
- Encourage interns to go work on the comment line if they have a little free time.

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

General Comments:

Supervisors got high praise for their support of interns. Interns report that their supervisors created a fun, exciting and challenging working environment with clearly defined tasks and a great deal of independence to take the initiative on projects. The Intern Book was mentioned as being extremely helpful.

Positive Feedback:

The best thing about my internship was. . . (answers to the question):

"The warmth of the staff who were always been extremely patient with me and always made me feel at ease. They have been absolutely wonderful to work for."

" . . . meeting and working with all kinds of people.

" . . . meeting the First Lady"

" . . meeting the President"

" . . . I gained great insight about what the First Lady does."

Suggestions for points of improvement:

- One intern suggests that interns might be given a long term project for the times the office is not very busy.
- Tasks in general could have been more clearly defined.
- "There seems to be a basic conflict between the "intern experience" and the supervisor's knowledge that we are transitory."
- One intern felt that there could have been more of an attempt by the staff to "educate, include, support and utilize her." In order to avoid errors and embarrassment she would have appreciated having had someone sit down for a few hours one day and explain things to her-- "Nothing was taught to me directly; I learned through observation."
- Feedback is always appreciated. At least one intern expressed concerns about not knowing whether the supervisor's expectations had been fulfilled.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL WHITE HOUSE INTERNS

FROM: MADGE HENNING 
DIRECTOR, WHITE HOUSE INTERN PROGRAM

SUBJECT: PROGRAM EVALUATION

DATE: November 12, 1996

I hope that all of you have found your Fall internship at the White House fulfilling and exciting. I have received much positive feedback from your supervisors.

As a service to us and to future interns, I would appreciate it if you could all take some time in the next week to fill out this questionnaire and evaluation form.

These forms will be reviewed by me and the information given will be used to evaluate the program. It is critical to the continued success of the program that you be candid in your assessments, and that you do complete the survey prior to your departure.

Thanks for your feedback!

PERSONAL:

1. Name (optional)
 2. Department
 3. # of hours worked per week
 4. Have you ever worked in Washington, D.C. before?
If yes, where?
 5. If you are an undergraduate, have you applied to your school for academic credit for the work you have done this term or are you on an off campus program from your school?
- 5a) If you answered yes to Question 5, please list your school below:

WORK:

1. On a scale of 1-5, with one representing the worst and five representing the best, please rate your overall experience in the White House.

1	2	3	4	5
Poor		Good		Excellent

2. What type of work did you do in your office? Did you undertake any interesting or unusual projects? If so, what?

3. Did you feel as if the work that you did utilized your skills effectively? Why or why not?

4. Please comment on White House Staff interaction with you and the other interns in your office? Was there frequent or very little contact with staff members? Too much or too little supervision? Were your tasks clearly defined?

5. What new skills, if any, did your experience in the White House teach you? Was the staff helpful in learning these skills?

SPEAKER SERIES AND TOURS:

1. Using the 1-5 scale, please evaluate the speaker series.

1	2	3	4	5
Poor		Good		Excellent

2. Which speakers did you enjoy the most?

3. Please provide suggestions for improving the speaker series.

4. Did you attend any of the tours that the intern office planned ? If so which ones and how would you rate them?

5. What kinds of events would be beneficial to the intern program in the future?

OVERALL ASSESSMENT:

1. What were the best things about your internship?

2. What would you have changed about your internship?

3. Other comments and suggestions:

*File
Personal*

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 20, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN ANNOUNCING DOMESTIC POLICY CABINET STAFF

Room 450
Old Executive Office Building

12:32 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: I thought the era of big government was over, and then I saw all of these people here. (Laughter.)

Let me say as we move into my second term, we have the obligation to continue the progress we have made and to build on it to prepare America for the 21st century with a government that is smaller but works hard not to abandon people, but instead, to give them the tools they need to make the most of their own lives and to build strong families and strong communities and a strong America.

Today I want to announce the members of my domestic policy team who will make this happen. Today, the Labor Department is more critical than ever, as we work to make job training available to all who need it, and to make sure that employee rights are secure and our workplaces are safe.

I am very sorry to lose the services of my old friend, Secretary Reich, who has truly made this a department of the American work force. But I am proud to nominate as Secretary of Labor one of my closest advisors, a talented leader, Alexis Herman, who got her start as a social worker for Catholic Charities on the Mississippi Delta. I first met her in the 1970s, when she was Director of the Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor, pioneering efforts to give women training and economic opportunity.

She has been a successful businesswoman and a leader in efforts to bring minorities into the economic mainstream. And for the past four years, as Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison, she has been my eyes and ears, working to connect the American people, business and labor, individuals and communities with their government.

I said throughout the campaign that we have to help parents succeed at home and at work, and give working people the training they need to succeed in the new economy. For years now, I have been trying to prevail upon the Congress to consolidate training programs and pass the G.I. Bill for America's workers. All these things we must do in the next four years. As Secretary of Labor, Alexis Herman will be a true national leader in this mission on behalf of working families.

Let me also say that I considered a number of superbly qualified people for this position. I'd like to mention two in particular and thank them for their willingness to be considered -- first, to Congressman Esteban Torres and second the Director of the Corporation for National Service Harris Wofford, who has done a wonderful job in heading AmeriCorps, which has not now enabled 70,000 young people to serve in their communities all across America and which will play a vital role in the next four years.

MORE

Over the last four years, Henry Cisneros led a revolution of ideas at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He and his team have spent every day questioning old approaches and searching for new answers. He is my friend, my advisor, someone who has poured his heart into making the American Dream of owning a home a reality for all people. Today a smaller and smarter HUD brings more hope and greater opportunities to American communities than ever before, not only in housing, but in developing economic opportunities in ways that had not before even been imagined. I think it is not too much to say that he is clearly the finest HUD Secretary who has ever held the position. I will miss him greatly and will continue to rely upon him for his advice and counsel.

I believe that the best person in this country who is today suited to lead HUD into the 21st century is Andrew Cuomo. He has lived and breathed housing and economic development for more than a decade, first at the grass roots as a community housing developer, and then as our Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development. (A baby cries.) Relax, this is a pro-family administration. (Laughter.)

He is a passionate believer in doing what's right, and he is a determined leader who gets it done. His test is never soft sentiments, but hard results.

The empowerment zones effort he has led so well is a perfect example of the new HUD. Instead of big solutions imposed by Washington, it creates a partnership between government, business, and private citizens to help communities lift themselves up. This is Andrew Cuomo's vision, and it is why I expect him to be a very strong voice for America's cities and a great HUD Secretary.

The Department of Energy has many missions, ranging from producing nuclear fuels and managing nuclear wastes to widening the frontiers of science at our national laboratories, to promoting energy efficiently and environmental technology. Hazel O'Leary has made huge strides with that Department and has done this while bringing unprecedented openness to the agency. I mention obviously the reports that the Energy Department has done on radiation experiments and the groundbreaking work that the Energy Department did to lead us to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

To manage this diverse and sprawling operation, a Secretary of Energy must be an experienced leader and manager who understands the demands of a large government agency, who will demand peak performance from government contractors, who knows why we must reinvent government and how to do it.

As Secretary of Transportation, Federico Pena has proven himself a talented leader of a large and complex government agency. He found ways to encourage new technologies, promote safety, protect the environment. I am happy to announce today that I will nominate him to be our new Secretary of Energy. He will continue to streamline and reinvent the Energy Department. He will build on its unprecedented commitment to openness. He will oversee the urgent cleanup of our nuclear stockpiles and he will work with the energy industry to create economic opportunity by using energy in a way that does not hurt our environment.

I am very happy that he has agreed to remain in the Cabinet in this new and ever-changing role, and very grateful for the service he rendered at the Department of Transportation.

To replace him, I am proud to nominate the Federal Highway Administrator, Rodney Slater. First, as the Chair of the State Highway Commission in our home state, and then as Federal

Highway Administrator, Rodney Slater has managed large programs with skill and high standards. He has rebuilt and expanded our nation's highways and linked isolated communities to jobs and opportunities. He has built bridges both of steel and of goodwill to bring people closer together.

When the North Ridge earthquake struck California with such deadly force, Rodney led our effort to rebuild vital highways in record time. He is the right person to help us meet the many transportation needs and challenges we face as we enter the 21st century. He has been my friend and advisor for many years. Along with his own family, I have watched with pride as he has built his own road to success.

I can say that he was recommended by more people from more places in more ways for this job than any person for any position I have ever seen. (Laughter.) And in spite of that -- (laughter) -- I am confident that he will be a superb and successful Secretary of Transportation.

Over the past four years, first with Erskine Bowles' leadership and then Phil Lader's, we have worked hard to revitalize and broaden the mission and increase the impact of the Small Business Administration. SBA has doubled the number of loans to small businesses, tripled the loans to women-owned businesses, even as its staff has been cut by 25 percent. Phil Lader told me several months ago that he wanted to return to private life after the election. However, I have asked him to serve in another senior role in my administration, and he will be considering this over the holidays. I hope he and his family agree to accept my offer. I can only stand so many of these people leaving. (Laughter.)

To replace Phil Lader, I will nominate Aida Alvarez. She has been an award-winning journalist and investment banker. For the past three and a half years she has been the Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, responsible for the safety and soundness of \$1.4 trillion in housing finance institutions. She combines business savvy with a dedication to public service. I have known her for many years and have been very proud to have her as a part of this administration. I am also proud that this is the first time a person born in Puerto Rico has been appointed to a President's Cabinet.

To complete our economic team, I will nominate Janet Yellen to be Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors. Since it was created by President Truman 50 years ago, the CEA has provided objective and rigorous economic advice to the President. Under Laura Tyson and then Joe Stiglitz, the CEA has been unflinchingly honest, and our economic policy has had hard work -- hard-won credibility.

As we work together to balance the budget in a way that reflects our values and will continue to grow our economy, the CEA's role will be more important than ever. Janet Yellen will provide the leadership and experience to get the job done. She is currently a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Directors. She had been a professor of economics at the University of California Berkeley and at Harvard, where she taught, among others, the Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Larry Summers -- (laughter) -- who said that his grade was sufficiently high for her to be recommended for the job. (Laughter.) She is an esteemed writer and thinker who will serve our country well.

The Domestic Policy Council coordinates the work of our domestic policy agendas -- agencies. It finds innovative ways to use our most enduring values to meet our newest challenges. Today, I am proud to appoint Bruce Reed as Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy and Director of the Domestic Policy Council, replacing Carol Rasco about whom I will say more in a moment.

Bruce is an original thinker, someone who long ago rejected the easy answers from any part of the political spectrum, and no one has a greater impact on the thinking of the administration or the President. He combines a unique practical knowledge with a real powerful concern for the welfare of ordinary Americans.

He has been at my side from the day I announced my candidacy for President in 1991. He was an architect of welfare reform. He has been a driving force behind our efforts to shrink government, expand educational opportunity and fight crime.

For the past year, as Assistant to the President for Policy Planning, he has worked to hone our goals for the next four years, and now he will have a chance to make that agenda happen. He is the intellectual core of the vital center. Under his leadership, the Domestic Policy Council will be a place where dynamic ideas are turned into actions that will make a difference in the lives of our people. He is a person of the highest integrity, a good friend, and I am proud that he will be by my side as we complete the work of preparing our country for the next century.

Finally, I have prevailed upon my friend of longstanding, Mack McLarty, to stay on for a second term as Counsel to the President, remaining as a member of the National Economic Council. In addition, Mack will take on new responsibilities as Special Envoy to the President and the Secretary of State for Latin America. With this new role, I expect him to deepen and broaden his portfolio as he helps to coordinate and strengthen our policies towards Latin America. He is well suited to carry out this important role because of his business experience and his broad understanding of the new global economy.

This prospective was clear when he served as one of the principal architects of our economic strategy and played a key role in passing our deficit reduction plan in 1993. Throughout this administration he has been central to our efforts to build our relationships with our neighbors in our hemisphere. His leadership was instrumental in passing NAFTA and he led our efforts, along with Vice President Gore, to host the Summit of the Americas in Miami and the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

The 1994 summit was an historic meeting and will require significant follow-up as we move forward to the second Summit of the Americas in Santiago. He will head the United States delegation to the signing of the Guatemala Peace Accords later this month, and this new assignment for Mack should underscore the importance that we in this administration and I personally place upon Latin America as we move forward.

The other members of my domestic policy team are here with us today. Attorney General Reno has led our crusade to put police on our streets and take guns off our streets. Donna Shalala has worked tirelessly and well to give our people quality health care, to move millions from welfare to work, to care for our children and their future. Dick Riley has succeeded in reforming the student loan program and lowering its costs and making it more available to millions of people. He has challenged our schools to reach even higher standards. We have expanded educational opportunity, enhanced reform, and we will do much, much more of this in the next four years.

As I said in the campaign this year, education must now be our highest priority, and I am pleased that Secretary Riley will continue to lead our efforts.

Earlier this week, I announced that one of my oldest and closest advisors, Domestic Policy Advisor Carol Rasco, will join the

Education Department as Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Director of the America Reads Challenge. The importance of this initiative to me should be underscored by my asking someone this close to me to act on my behalf.

If you will remember in the campaign, I talked a lot about the importance of mobilizing one million volunteer tutors all across America to work with parents and teachers, to make sure that by the year 2000 every 8-year-old in this country can read independently. If every 3rd-grader can read independently, when 40 percent of them are not reading at grade level today, it will dramatically alter the future of America's landscape for the better.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown has been a strong and effective voice for our veterans. He will continue that they have the health care and the services they deserve. Federal Emergency Management Administrator James Lee Witt has transformed that agency into a model for disaster assistance and helped communities all across our country to rebuild. In community after community, from the southeast to the middle west to the west, he has made the term "federal bureaucrat" a positive, not a negative appellation.

General Barry McCaffrey will stay on as the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. We need his vigorous leadership, and he is in the process of doing something that Presidents for more than 30 years have wanted to do, but never succeeded in doing -- actually developing a coordinated, disciplined, long-term approach to dealing with the drug problems, and reducing drug abuse in America, particularly among our youth.

Secretary Babbitt has been a wise steward for our precious natural resources and has helped us to solve some of the thorniest challenges facing America in this regard. He sent me a letter right after the election saying that in one way or another we have protected over 20 million acres of America's precious land in the last four years, a legacy of conservation equaled only in the two Roosevelt's administrations, and I thank him for that.

Secretary Glickman has worked to keep our food the safest and most plentiful in the world, as we have overhauled our food safety standards for the first time in decades and decades. And I thank him also for finding ways to promote agriculture and protect the environment.

As EPA Administrator, Carol Browner has cut red tape and curbed pollution. She has brought common sense back to the task of protecting our environment, enlisted more allies and will lead the way in the next four years to making sure we do close those hundreds of toxic waste dumps that keep our children from growing up next to parks, not poison.

All these leaders have done a remarkable job. I am delighted they have agreed to stay in their positions. And now I'd like to ask the new appointees to come up and make some statements, beginning with the next Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman.

MS. HERMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. As you have noted, we first met when I served at the Labor Department as Director of the Women's Bureau, where we began a conversation about how to meet the challenges facing working people. That conversation has lasted off and on over the last 15 years.

I join you today in thanking Secretary Bob Reich. As you know, no one has better articulated the broad challenges facing the American work force or fought harder against obstacles that workers face than Secretary Reich. It will be an honor to build on all that he has accomplished.

I eagerly, though prayerfully, accept the President's nomination to be Secretary of Labor. From my early days to open up nontraditional jobs for workers in the shipyards in Pascagoula, Mississippi, and building on the strong work ethic that my family instilled in me in Mobile, Alabama, I have always worked hard to find practical solutions to the issues and challenges that American workers face. I understand work, and I understand the workers.

I want you to know that I have continued to believe that we must have a growing, innovative and entrepreneurial economy if the living standards of working men and women are to rise, especially in this era of global and technological change. Workers must be prepared for their jobs, rewarded for their work, secure in their retirement and able to freely organize.

The success of every American who works hard and plays by the rules is central to the American Dream. I look forward to working with you, Mr. President, the Vice President, the Congress, our friends in the trade union movement and the business community -- indeed, all who have a stake in the American workplace to make sure that we continue to create a strong and secure future for all of America's working families. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

MR. CUOMO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President, for the truly great honor you have given me with this nomination. And thank you, Mr. Vice President, for your support and your guidance over these past four years. Also, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Secretary Henry Cisneros, who has been to me a friend and he has been a mentor, but more, as you heard from the President, he has no doubt been the greatest HUD Secretary in the history of the Department. And, Mr. Secretary, we are all going to miss you very, very much.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank my wife, Kerry and my two girls, Kara and Mariah. That was Kara who was crying before, Mr. President. (Laughter.) I hope that's not an omen. (Laughter.)

Under the leadership of President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore we have witnessed the strongest commitment to our nation's cities in a generation. The President and the Vice President know that for our cities to thrive, we must empower people with both the opportunity and the responsibility to create stronger, safer, more liveable communities. It has been a privilege for me to serve with the dedicated public servants at the Department of Housing and Urban development under the leadership of Secretary Cisneros, and to be part of this administration's truly innovative efforts working with mayors and local partners and the Congress to create jobs, increase homeownership, and rebuild public housing this country.

And let me assure you, Mr. President, that we at HUD stand ready to go with you as you lead this country in the last great transition of this millennium to the promise of a stronger and sweeter tomorrow. We at HUD share your vision for a new era of opportunity and your commitment to create a future in which no one is left behind, a future in which the bright sun of opportunity will reach those who have lived too long in the shadows.

I congratulate all of the people who have been selected today to serve in your administration. I look forward to being part of the team. And once again, Mr. President, let me express my deep, deep appreciation to you for giving me this opportunity. Thank you. (Applause.)

SECRETARY PENA: Thank you very much, Mr. President. I think perhaps the first thing I will be doing is taking down the for sale sign that is in front of our home. (Laughter.) And we were

ready to offer a great price. (Laughter.) My two girls and Eleanor are clapping right now that we're not going to have to sell the house. Seriously.

Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, I have been proud to serve you and my country as Transportation Secretary and to serve in an administration dedicated to safety and global competitiveness for American transportation.

I am proud of our record at Transportation. We built up our nation's investment in our infrastructure to new levels with better roads and transit systems, airports and new technology. We overhauled and upgraded Federal Aviation Administration's safety regulations. And we worked to revitalize America's airlines by opening more markets than ever before around the world.

I leave my current position knowing that my successor, Rodney Slater, will build and expand on the progress that he helped to achieve. Rodney, congratulations.

The Department of Transportation is a smaller, but more effective organization now, and I hope to bring that same kind of efficiency to the Department of Energy. I am very honored that the President has asked me to take on a new challenge. I will be following a very tough act.

Secretary O'Leary ushered in a new era at the Department of Energy. She pulled back the shroud of secrecy and made the government take responsibility for its actions. Through her bold and courageous actions she earned the public trust. She promoted innovation and research and acted to protect the environment, while making energy safe and reliable and cost effective. She fostered an economic partnership and helped to create more jobs. And on her watch we achieved a comprehensive test ban treaty on nuclear weapons. She was an energetic Secretary of Energy, and I just hope that my shoes can not only fill her heels, but also move as quickly and effectively forward.

I will miss my colleagues at Transportation. But if I am fortunate enough to be confirmed, I hope to see all the wonderful people at Energy very soon.

Again, Mr. President, thank you very much for your confidence, your trust, and this honor. And most of all to my partners, my wife and two children, God bless you and thank you very much. (Applause.)

MR. SLATER: Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, thank you for providing me this rare opportunity to serve the American people as a member of your Cabinet. I am once deeply moved and again honored and privileged and humbled by being asked to join such a distinguished team. Congratulations to all my colleagues as well.

President Clinton's leadership has resulted in record-level transportation infrastructure investment over the last four years because this is a President who understands that as you cut the deficit, you must also invest in America's future. He knows that a safe and efficient transportation system represents a strategic investment in our strong and growing economy.

Our transportation network is the envy of the world, and it makes us the most mobile society in the world. I pledge if the Senate so honors me with confirmation to continue to work together with the Congress and with our partners all across this great land to meet the transportation challenges of the 21st century.

I have been privileged to know our President for a long time -- long enough to know that he understands that transportation

is about more than concrete, asphalt and steel. It's about people: how they get to work, how they visit friends, how they travel the far reaches of our great land to see America the beautiful. It is about how they pursue happiness.

I commit to you, the American people, whether you live in rural or suburban or urban America, to work every day in every way to improve your access to opportunity. And I am also very, very pleased to follow a most distinguished individual who served as Secretary of Transportation and continues to do so until he assumes the responsibility of Energy Secretary. And I commit myself to continue to hold forth the importance of safety as the top priority of our Department, and also to work to continue the reinvention effort of the Department of Transportation to ensure that in the future it is truly a visionary and vigilant Department for the 21st century.

I would also like to say to my family, Cassandra and our lovely daughter, Bridgette Josette, and to our parents in Arkansas and to George Haley and other many friends -- Ernie and others -- that it is a very special thing to have an opportunity like this, but more special to have friends like all of you gathered this day on this very special occasion. Thank you. (Applause.)

MS. ALVAREZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I am deeply honored by the confidence that you have placed in me as your nominee to head up the Small Business Administration. I am also excited to be stepping into one of the most meaningful and challenging jobs in the government.

Small business is the heart and soul of the American economy. It has always been and it will always be. Small companies are suppliers, employers, manufacturers and retailers on every main street in America. As Alexis Herman said when she talked about the entrepreneurial spirit, small business is also the incubator of America's entrepreneurial spirit -- a spirit that is the envy of the world. The can-do approach of America's small business community is alive and well and it is providing on a daily basis new opportunities for men, women and minority business owners -- Americans with ideas and a willingness to put those ideas to the test in the marketplace. As lender, educator and counselor, the SBA continues to play an enormous role in America's small business success story.

Mr. President, you have shown an extraordinary commitment to small business and the SBA. Following Erskine Bowles and Phil Lader will be a challenge. They have raised the bar as SBA Administrators to new heights.

I would also like to thank Vice President Gore for his confidence in me. And thanks most especially to Secretary Cisneros. As we know, his exceptional leadership at HUD has been a hallmark of your administration. For Henry Cisneros, I have the utmost respect and admiration.

(Speaks in Spanish.)

Finally, I want to thank my father Hector, my mother Aurelia, my husband Ray Baxter, my daughter Aurora -- both of whom are here, Brooke for allowing me to wholeheartedly accept the challenge that you have offered. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

MR. REED: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm the luckiest man in America to have spent the last 11 years working for you and for the Vice President. I knew from the moment that I met each of you that you both would end up in the White House some day, and thank you very much for letting me come along.

Over the last four years, you've shown that when we put politics aside and work together, we can solve the toughest problems that come our way. Our agenda for the next four years is just as ambitious -- preparing students for a new century with world-class standards and diplomas that means something, moving a million people from welfare to work, finishing the job of putting 100,000 new police officers on the street, and challenging all Americans to take responsibility for their communities and their country by adopting the ethic of service as a daily part of their lives.

On all of these issues, I hope your domestic policy team can serve as a source of new ideas based on old values, and a force for bold action in a new era. With the strong Cabinet that you've put together, I'm confident that we can keep making progress, because no President has ever known more, cared more or done more about domestic policy than you have.

I want to thank my friend, Carol Rasco, and all my colleagues in the administration who have worked so hard on the President's agenda. And, in particular, I'd like to thank my wife, Bonnie LePard, who has been part of the Clinton-Gore team from the very beginning; and our two young children, Julia and Nelson, who are my own proudest domestic accomplishments of this administration. (Laughter.)

Mr. President, as you've heard this morning between us, Rodney, Andrew and I have been blessed with five children in the last four years. And, while I can't promise that we'll be able to maintain that pace in the second term, our kids will make sure that we never lose sight of what matters most. Thank you. (Applause.)

MS. YELLEN: Thank you very much, Mr. President. I'm extremely honored to be nominated as Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors. If I'm confirmed it will be a great privilege to serve you and the American people as your administration crafts policies to promote prosperity into the next century.

I'm very fortunate to be joining your administration at a time when the economy is in extraordinarily good health, with strong job creation and low inflation. Your administration has contributed to these successes by bringing the federal budget deficit down substantially. I relish the opportunity to work with you and your economic team to build on these successes going forward.

Nineteen ninety-six is the 50th anniversary of the Employment Act which created the Council of Economic Advisors. In both Democratic and Republican administrations, the CEA has served as a credible and tenacious voice for policies that facilitate the workings of the market and emphasized the importance of incentives, efficiency and long-term growth.

As Chair of the Council, I hope that I can do at least half as well as my two distinguished predecessors. The current chair, Joe Stiglitz, has contributed to the solution of a wide range of economic problems from budget issues to pension simplification, to regulatory reform. His predecessor, Laura Tyson, is famous for her ability to translate complicated economic principles into sound economic policy. Both our brilliant and creative thinkers. I look forward to carrying on the proud tradition they and others before them have built.

Finally, Mr. President, I can say it's a special honor for an economist to serve in your administration since you made economic policy and strengthening our nation's economy such a top priority. You have assembled a superb team, and if I am confirmed I will be very proud to serve on that team. Thank you, Mr. President. (Applause.)

MR. MCLARTY: Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, muchas gracias, abrogado, buenas tardes. (Laughter.) You didn't think I could or work do that. (Laughter.) And I certainly did so with considerable trepidation after Aida's wonderful comments, and with Secretary Cisneros, Secretary Pena, General McCaffrey, Ambassador Babbitt, and others.

Thank you for your comments. I look forward to serving in your second term as Counselor to the President and in my new role as Special Envoy to the Americas. I look forward to participating in the National Economic Council, working with Gene Sperling and Chief of Staff Erskine Bowles and others, and building on the record that we have built to date in terms of reducing the deficit in the right way and really seeing the strongest economic recovery that we have probably seen in 30 years.

That solid economic growth has really been powered by exports. And as Secretary Reich and others have spoken about so eloquently, it is a reflection of the efficiency of our companies and the productivity of the working men and women of this country.

Exports have been a key factor in that solid economic growth, and Latin America and the Caribbean are a natural market and natural partners in that regard. That is why you, Mr. President, and the Vice President convened the Summit of the Americas in 1994, and I was proud to participate in that historic meeting. Exports to the region now are over \$100 billion, and by the year 2010 they are anticipated to exceed our combined exports to the European Union and Japan. And as Secretary-designate Pena and I were speaking earlier, Venezuela has now replaced Saudi Arabia as our number one supplier of oil.

But the summit agenda is much broader than just economic integration. It is about supporting the democratization that has taken place in the region; that has been a remarkable transformation in the past 10 years. It is also about supporting and developing sustainable development not only in terms of environmental stewardship, but also in terms of health and education.

Mr. President, thank you for this opportunity. I look forward to working to develop a true partnership in the Americas, a partnership based on mutual respect and trust and dignity.

I want to thank my wonderful wife, Donna, who has traveled to the regions a number of times both with me and on her own; and our two sons, Mark and Franklin -- Mark who has both studied and worked there for several years prior to his current endeavors. I look forward to continuing my role as Counselor and serving as Special Envoy to the Americas. Thank you. (Applause.)

MS. RASCO: Forty-three years ago this fall, I skipped a couple of blocks to elementary school in De Witt, Arkansas. I entered Miss Kelly's 1st-grade classroom where my friends and myself were very eager to learn to read grownup books. Well, I was very fortunate because I had had loving parents who provided me with all those experiences you need in the preschool years, I'd had good health care and I was in a community that cared. But there were a number of children that joined my best friends and myself in that class who dropped out along the way because they didn't have all those factors in their favor.

A little over 21 years ago, I entered a 6th-grade classroom for the first time as a certified teacher, and I had children that could not read the grownup books I learned to read in the 1st and 2nd grade. And their faces and their names have haunted me since.

And so with thanks to those parents who gave me those experiences in the early years, and with thanks to my children, Hamp and Mary Margaret, who have taught me so much, and thanks to Governor and now President Clinton for the support he has shown me, I now pledge all my energies toward wiping away those haunting faces that are before me constantly. And I pledge my energies so that all of us might help every child realize their full potential. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Who is first? I'll take a couple of questions. It's almost Christmas. (Laughter.)

Q Mr. President, as you move forward into your new term, questions continue to be asked about the first four years, especially in the area of campaign fundraising. Last February at the request of a friend of yours in Little Rock and the Democratic National Committee, an arms dealer from China was invited to a private event with you inside your residence -- four months later, this man's company was implicated in U.S. gun-smuggling. What do you remember about your contact with this man at this meeting? Does it concern you that he was perhaps not adequately screened in order to gain access to the White House? And do you feel in any respect that in situations like this you were taken advantage of?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, first of all, I'm disappointed that it happened. It was clearly inappropriate. And I think what is obviously called for and what I have instructed to be done is to establish some sort of better screening provisions that are tighter to minimize this. Thousands of people come in and out of the larger White House office complex all the time, but we have to develop some way of screening them. I am disappointed. It was inappropriate. We must have a better screening system -- we will have.

I remember literally nothing about it. I'm not sure that the gentleman ever said anything at this coffee. I asked my staff to let me see the records of it when this story broke, and there were disparate people from different walks of life from all over the country there, and normally what would happen in one of those conversations is I would talk for five or ten minutes and then we would either go around the table and let people say whatever they wanted to say. And as I said there were all different kinds of people from all different walks of life always. I'm not sure that -- I have no recollection of meeting him. I'm not sure he ever said anything. And I can tell you for sure nothing inappropriate came from it in terms of any governmental action on my part.

But we have to do a better job of screening people who come in and out of here.

Helen, go ahead.

Q Mr. President, do you have a sense of deja vu all over again -- four years of Whitewater, now new investigations --

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q -- on the Hill, Justice Department?

THE PRESIDENT: No.

Q What does this bode for the next administration and how do you cope?

THE PRESIDENT: I show up for work every day. The American people ought to feel good about me. They spent \$30 million or something and there has been not a single solitary shred of evidence of any wrongdoing on my part. I feel good about it.

I think it's unfortunate for democracy, and I think, as I said, this special counsel thing ought to be reviewed in light of what Archibald Cox and others have said, because the costs outweigh the benefits.

But on the other issue, any questions that are raised about contributions ought to be answered and any records that are needed ought to be provided. That's not different than what happened in Senator Dole's campaign when one of his officials was charged with money laundering and had to plead guilty and pay the biggest fine in FEC history. That didn't reflect on everybody else in the campaign. Those things happen. So if any -- if there's any question about what happened, the evidence, the information should be provided and we ought to determine whether anyone did anything wrong.

Q Well, how are you coping?

THE PRESIDENT: That's not a -- how am I coping? (Laughter.) It's not a problem. If you haven't done anything wrong and a problem comes up, you fix it and you go on. I cope by thinking about the 11 million jobs we created and the millions more we have to create. I think about the millions of people that have a better deal going to college and the millions of more that will have. I cope by thinking about what the American people hired me to do and the question they ask me when I see them.

Q Mr. President, your spokesman said earlier today that you've been very displeased with these events of the last couple days. I wonder if you could characterize your displeasure? And also, four years ago when you appointed your first Cabinet, you said very much up front that you wanted a Cabinet that looked like America. It took some juggling and you weren't as public about it this time, but it looks like you've assembled that. Did you feel like you were under any special pressure from special interest groups?

THE PRESIDENT: No, the pressure was pressure I put on myself. I believe that one of my jobs at this moment in history is to demonstrate by the team I put together that no group of people should be excluded from service to our country and that all people are capable of serving. So I have striven to achieve both excellence and diversity. The same thing is true about the federal judges I've appointed. It's the most diverse federal bench of appointees in history. It also has the highest rating from the American Bar Association since the Bar started rating judges.

So I'm very proud of the first Cabinet that I appointed. I am very proud of this Cabinet. I am proud that they are diverse, but I would not have appointed a single one of them because of their gender or their racial or ethnic background had I not thought that they could succeed. And if you look at the comparative record in department after department after department of the people who served in the first four years and compare the results they achieved, the work they did, I think that the evidence will indicate that.

And it goes back to something you asked me. You know, what we do, we all show up for work every day and we create a team and work like crazy for the American people, we have goals, we have objectives, we hold ourselves to timetables, and we keep score about what we're doing for other people. And if that is your focus, which is what people hire us to do, that's what you worry about and that's what you do. So I feel good about it.

Now, this is --

Q -- feel pressure --

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Well, my feelings are that, in the areas where we had more direct control -- our campaign and the legal defense fund -- as far as I know, the proper decisions were made because the proper scrutiny was applied. The Democratic Party officials have already admitted that they did not apply the proper review, and I am very displeased about it because 99 percent-plus of all the contributors did not do anything wrong and over 98 percent of the money appears to perfectly in order, and the other 1 percent got all the publicity and, thereby, disserving the Democrats around the country, the people who gave, and everything else. That is wrong.

And all they have to do is to institute a simple review system. Now, from time to time, mistakes may be made. If you have over a million contributors as both parties do now, that may happen from time to time -- but common sense and strict review are the order of the day.

I feel the same way about this. I realize that Secret Service and others are reluctant to be too burdensome with all the thousands and tens of thousands of people that come in the White House complex every year, but I'm confident that if they put their minds to it they can come up with a better screening procedure so that things like this don't happen.

It's not a press conference. We've been here a long time. We'll have another press conference early next year. Merry Christmas. I'll see you early next year. (Applause.)

END

1:21 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 20, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
BEFORE READING "TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"
AT CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The East Room

1:47 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Give them a hand. Weren't they great? (Applause.) Hello.

THE CHILDREN: Hello. Hi, Bill Clinton.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Antonio. Welcome to the White House. We're very glad to have you here. Every year, the First Lady and I love to meet with some children about this time and read "The Night Before Christmas" story, because Christmas is really a time for children, isn't it?

THE CHILDREN: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: And a time when we give gifts to each other and to our children to say how important you are. And it's a very special time for us. You know, Hillary wrote a book about children and families, and just today she gave a great gift -- she gave the money that came in from the book to children's hospitals all across the country, and to other things for children.

And one of the things that we hope will come out of this is that not only all of you here, but all the children all over our country will feel very special; and as Christmas celebrates the birth of baby Jesus, that all the little children in our country will feel that they are very, very special.

So I want you to listen carefully to this story. A lot of you know this story, don't you?

THE CHILDREN: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: Do you?

MRS. CLINTON: You can chime in.

THE PRESIDENT: So you can chime in. If you know -- if you know any of the lines when I read it, in this wonderful book -- see the pictures, can you see it -- you say the lines, too. Okay? Okay, here we go. "The Visit of St. Nicholas."

(THE PRESIDENT READS "TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS")

END

1:55 P.M. EST

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 19, 1996

PRESIDENT CLINTON NAMES KATHLEEN STEVENS DOUGHERTY AND RUTH E. ROITENBERG TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The President announced today his intent to appoint Kathleen Stevens Dougherty and Ruth E. Roitenberg to the Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Kathleen Stevens Dougherty of Wayzata, Minnesota, currently serves on the Board of Milkweed Editions, a non-profit literary press. She has volunteered for many different arts-related organizations in Minnesota, including the Women's Association of the Minnesota Symphony Orchestra, the Guthrie Theater and the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts. Additionally, she has served on the Board of the Minnesota Opera. Ms. Dougherty earned her B.A. from the College of St. Catherine and is currently studying jewelry design at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

Ruth E. Roitenberg of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is active in community activities and currently works at the Kaleidoscope Theater, which is part of the Boys and Girls Club of Minneapolis. She has also served on the Board of Directors of Planned Parenthood of Minnesota and served as Vice Chair and a member of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Center for Art Education.

The Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is charged with advising and consulting with the Board of Trustees for the Center. The Committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding existing and prospective cultural activities to be featured at the Center. In addition, the members of the Committee assist in the Center's fundraising and act as liaisons to performance groups and performing arts centers throughout the nation.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

Embargoed For Release
Until 10:06 A.M. EST
Saturday, December 21, 1996

RADIO ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE NATION

The Roosevelt Room

THE PRESIDENT: In just a few days we celebrate the miracle of Christmas -- the gift of light and hope that has lasted for nearly 2000 years. I'd like to talk about how we can share that gift by shining the light of literacy on millions of precious children and families.

Literacy is about reading, but it's about much more, too. It's about opportunity, giving people the tools to make the most of their God-given potential. It's about preparing people for the 21st century, when a fully literate work force will be crucial to our strength as a nation. Without literacy the history books and job manuals are closed, the Internet is turned off, and the promise of America is much harder to reach.

To achieve our full potential as a nation we must make sure everyone can read -- adults as well as children. I'm proud that we're increasing the assistance we give to states for adult education and literacy by more than 50 percent, the largest increase in more than 30 years. This will help hundreds of thousands of adults to rise to the obligations of family and community, and to make the most of their own lives.

When it comes to children, the first teachers must always be their parents. Hillary and I still talk about the books we read to Chelsea when we were so tired we could hardly stay awake. I urge all of America's parents, make sure there are books beneath your Christmas tree. Share the joy of reading as a family.

Of course, parents can't do it alone. Our country has outstanding teachers and educators on the front lines of the literacy crusade, but all the rest of us must work with them to make sure that every child and every adult can read.

This summer in Wyandotte, Michigan, I announced a national literacy campaign called "America Reads," that begins with a clear national goal: Every American child should be able to read on his or her own by the third grade. I proposed to meet that goal by using 30,000 reading specialists and volunteer coordinators to mobilize a million volunteer reading tutors all across America.

This week I announced that my Domestic Policy Advisor, Carol Rasco, will move to the Education Department with Secretary Riley to head this effort, to make absolutely sure we have the highest level attention to get the job done.

We know that individualized tutoring works. Here in the Nation's Capital there are many remarkable tutoring programs, such as the St. Anne's Infant Home; Growing Together, which helps public school children to double their rate of learning; and the Academy of Hope which teaches adults to read.

MORE

Yesterday some of these students joined me for my annual reading of "Twas The Night Before Christmas," and they're here with me now. If more Americans could see their joy in reading and learning we'd have our one million volunteers overnight.

Today we're taking the next major step in our America Reads campaign -- to build our army of reading tutors on college campuses all across America. This fall, at my request, Congress created over 200,000 new work-study jobs on America's college campuses. Work-study helps young people to work their way through college, often by serving their school. I want a large portion of work-study to be devoted to community service, and especially to teaching our children to read.

Today I'm happy to announce that 20 of our nation's leading college presidents, from San Francisco to Texas to Southern Illinois, are unleashing the energy and enthusiasm of their students to help every eight-year-old learn to read. As members of a new America Reads College Presidents Steering Community, they will each dedicate half of their new work-study slots to students who work as reading tutors. Right away this should give us thousands of new tutors, a down payment toward our goal of enlisting 100,000 work-study students to help America read.

The Steering Committee members will also recruit at least five more college presidents to join the effort. To help them I am making an important change in the work-study program. If a student works as a reading tutor, colleges will no longer be required to pay one-quarter of that student's work-study costs. With today's actions by these college presidents, and with the steps we are taking to help them, college students can now work their way through school by teaching our children to read. That is how we will take more responsibility, create more opportunity, and build a stronger, more united community for all Americans.

These students will create a whole new culture of service, working alongside our AmeriCorps volunteers who will be doing the same, inspiring hundreds of thousands of Americans to tutor not just children, but adult learners as well.

There is simply no better way to serve your country and your community than by helping children and adults to read. And there is no better time to start than Christmas, the season of enlightenment. By reading to your own children, by giving your time so that others might learn to read, you can light a spark that keeps the spirit of Christmas burning every day of the year.

Thanks for listening.

END

Personal

Dr. W. Dale Parker, D. Sc.

COUNSELOR

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FAX: 1-202-456-6244 to:

The Honorable Maggie Williams, Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Hillary Rodham Clinton

Being somewhat of a student of history, I thought you may like
to read my observations of Presidents, over my fifty years of
experience.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dale", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dale Parker
December 14, 1996

6 pages to follow

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF PRESIDENT'S OF MY GENERATION

by Dale Parker

ROOSEVELT: Many people looked on him in a godly way. He was credited with bringing us out of the 'Great Depression'. He had a magnetic personality that came through over radio and Theater 'Movietone' News. I attended his fourth inauguration, on a cold and rainy day. It was held on the back Portico of the White House and his face was as white as a sheet. His desire for a monument, was to have him sitting at a desk. He did not want to be remembered in a wheel chair. It is difficult to understand why the present Committee for this monument is even debating something different. Yalta proved to have been a disaster but he was the badly needed leader at the time. One of his well known lines was, "There is nothing to fear but fear itself". I wasn't old enough to vote. I rate him as a 10.

TRUMAN: He, Bess and his daughter Margaret lived in an apartment when he was Vice President. He kept a low profile and was never well informed by Roosevelt. A friend, was his neighbor at that time and I was told that he and Bess, when they got into a fight, would throw dishes and yell at each other. Such arguments were kept to their private quarters when he became President, according to one servant that I spoke with. When Columnist Drew Pearson criticized his daughter, after she sang in a concert, he called him an S.O.B. and that made headlines. He had to know that Roosevelt was very ill and had been aware that he would become President, though history doesn't seem to follow that line. I objected to his policy in Korea and thought Truman was wrong not to follow McArthur's advice. McArthur was most disrespectful to President Truman. When Truman met him, I believe in Guam, McArthur was late and refused to board Truman's plane. He made Truman come to him. McArthur didn't hesitate to speak of their differences in personal conversations. Truman had guts and was as publicly outspoken as any President of my generation. His decision to drop the Atomic Bomb saved the lives of an estimated half million soldiers. He did what he thought best regardless of anyone's opinion. He didn't believe in Polls. I met his boat when he, Bess and Margaret docked in Dahlgren, Virginia. I lived on a Military Base and couldn't vote but would have voted for Truman. I rate him as a 10.

EISENHOWER: He was a sick man and both he and his wife treated the servants in the White House terrible. They were snobs and had little feeling for people in general. His ego was one of the highest of any President with the exception of Lyndon Johnson and this ego affected many of his judgments. He admitted, at a Summit meeting in Europe, that he had indeed sent the U2 Spy Plane over Russia. The Russian dictator refused to attend when he did. He refused to enter the White House, as is the custom, when he drove to the White House to get Truman for his inauguration. I met him in Wilmington, Delaware. I voted for him. I rate him a minus 1.

KENNEDY: He was also a sick man and was in great pain during his administration. If not assassinated, he may have died in office. His decision, to make his brother Bobby Attorney General, was so unpopular that Congress passed a law to prevent Presidents from appointing close relatives to high positions in Government. Bobby was somewhat unstable and a very emotional individual. He and an aide, passed by Hoffa's office late one night and Bobby turned his car around and said, "If Hoffa can work this late, so can I", and he returned to his office. President Kennedy was a brilliant man and an excellent speaker. I never met him but did know one of his pastors and his wife's personal secretary. He had Marilyn Monroe brought from Hollywood to the 'Kitty Hawk' Aircraft Carrier, via helicopter late one evening when the 'Kitty Hawk' was docked off San Diego. She was dressed as a male sailor. I thought his forming the Peace Corps was a very good decision. His greatest achievement, to me, was his decision to have the USA go to and return from the moon. His womanizing didn't equal Lyndon Johnson's, who was much more discrete. From the information that I have obtained, Oswald did not kill him; the CIA and Mafia did. His Dad Joe, worked with the Mafia when he ran whiskey from the Bahamas and he told them his son Joe would be President one day and gave them the impression that his son would look on them favorably. Joe was killed in WW2 and his brother associated with Mafia figures but Bobby was too stupid to figure out he couldn't win. Before his death, the Mafia had a \$50,000 contract on Bobby. I voted for Nixon. I rate him as a 6.

JOHNSON: I was alone with him and escorted him to the Control Room at the Houston Space Center. He took the longest walking stride I've ever seen. When we reached the elevator, to go to the Control Room, I suggested we wait until the Secret Service caught up with us. They were way behind. He made enemies by signing the 1964 'Civil Right's' Bill. He treated his staff rough and made them work many hours overtime without pay or a thank you. He wanted everyone to love him, which was one of his down-falls. Another down-fall was his appeasement of the Kennedy family. It wasn't his true nature to talk softly as he did when he became President. He was really a John Wayne type and I think he would have been a good President had he been his self. He wrongly escalated the Vietnam War and disregarded the public's desire to get out. His wife obtained the rights to all transportation to the Arlington Cemetary and made a bundle of money because you couldn't enter the Cemetary without riding one of her buses; Permits were issued to taxi drivers, carrying disabled people, at the Information Office. I voted for him. I rate him a 2 and that is generous.

NIXON: A great President closeted by his two aides. He was a man with a big heart. I met him in Wilmington, Delaware and was an advisor to him through his most loyal and charming secretary, Rose Mary Woods. We corresponded and met there and at his office, on the Square in front of the White House, after he left office. I still send her a Birthday and Christmas card.

She was born on December 26 and my wife, Boots, was born on Christmas Day. Rose Mary was the epitome of loyalty. She liked my book, "Gutless America" and said she would see that it was in the Nixon Library, as Carter did later. One week, I received two letters, one from Rose Mary and one from Nixon; neither were signed. I called her and she couldn't believe it. She asked that I send her a copy and I did. I asked her to get Nixon's signature on a letter rather than one done by machine. She did! She and Nixon would go over to the Blair House and check things out before a party. Nixon took an interest in everything. He provided more welfare programs than any other President of my generation but he is rarely ever given such credit. I did my best to get him to burn those tapes but he was stubborn and didn't want to distort history. He was ill advised by his trusted aides many times. He was proud of his family. He ended the Vietnam War. I voted for Nixon. I rate him a 10.

FORD: I met Ford in Las Vegas. I had just been with Joe Louis and he had the largest hand I had ever shook. When shaking hands with Ford, his hand wasn't that large but they were big and he shook hands like a fish. He seemed nice enough but I didn't think he was Presidential material. I can't think of a thing that he did and that was probably his greatest contribution to the Nation. I voted for Carter. I rate him as a 3.

CARTER: I met all the Carters in Plains, Georgia and enjoyed a nice relationship with the Williams family, who were the only people in Plains with whom the Carters socialized. Boots and I spent a lot of time in Plains. We were with the Williams the last New Years eve, before the Carters went to Washington and Jackie had dinner and spent New Year's Eve with Amy Carter. George Williams met us in Washington 2 days before the inauguration so we could show him Washington and meet a few Congressmen and Senators. We also attended several parties, including Florida's Governor Rueben Askew's party at the University Club and a party with U.S. Senator and friend Lawton Chiles at the Florida House. His wife Jan came the next day on Air Force 1. We still correspond, to this day. George's Mother and Dad rode the 'Peanut train' to Washington. They said it was a tiresome trip. Boots and I, along with George and Jan Williams had dinner at the Blair House, where he, his wife and daughter Amy stayed the night before the inauguration. We were followed, by the Secret Service, to our hotel at 2am, when we left the Blair House that morning. We were invited to watch the Parade in the Solor Room, built in front of the White House for that occasion but Boots declined, saying, "I'd rather watch it on television." She also declined an offer to dance with President Carter at the 'Ball' that night, saying, "I wouldn't walk through that crowd for anyone." We were over at the White House, before attending the 'Ball' and Jan was upset that the Carters had brought in a maid to get Amy dressed, from a Georgia prison. Rosalyn had told Jan to get Amy dressed.

After the Ball, Jan and George returned to our suite at the President Hotel, near the White House. I had to get her back to the White House and remembered Jimmy saying he wasn't allowing anyone to use limos from the White House. I called over to the White House and spoke to the (I forget his title) and told him to send a Limo to pick up Jan and he did - at 1:30am. We were also at the White House the next day. I took many pictures in the Blair House and White House, with the promise that I would never make them public. I never did of course and they are in the Archives at the Virginia Tech University with my papers, books, etc. Jimmy is an introvert and a detailed man. It was difficult for him to delegate responsibility. He did more for women, especially in the military, than any other President. He has continued to be a world wide Statesman since he left office. He should have received the Nobel Peace Prize at least twice. Roselyn had asked Boots to vote for Jimmy in May and Boots said she wouldn't but we both did. I first met Jimmy at the Florida Democratic Convention, along with his escort, Bob Strauss, that May. I rate him a 7.

REAGAN: He is a very nice human being and what you see is what you get. He was the greatest personality to hit the White House and a top salesman. I met him in California before he ran for Governor and several times since. When he first ran for that high office, he came to Orlando, Florida. Tommy Thompson, his Campaign Manager there, went up to meet them at the top of the stairs, to open the door of the plane and I greeted them on the ground at the bottom of the steps. Ronnie recognized me and I put my arms around his shoulders as we walked from the plane. Only the media and Secret Service were present. Boots and I were on the Democratic Executive Committee in Florida and when I appeared with the Reagans on the 6 O'clock news, that evening, The Committee gave us a rough time and I told them, "I'll meet any friend from any Party I like and you can go to hell!" He wore excellent and fashionable and expensive clothes. Only two other men impressed me with clothes and they were Walt Disney and the Duke of Windsor. In office, he spent too much money, with Congressional approval. They were anxious to do any thing he asked. He spent more time in his Capitol office than any President I know. He was instrumental in ending the Cold War and getting the 'Iron Curtain' or the East German wall torn down. Boots and I were near the hotel when he was shot. I called Shirley Moore, Mike Deaver's secretary and told her we wouldn't get over to the White House but she wanted us to come anyway. The next day, we took some things over to the White House, with the intention of leaving immediately for home and ended up staying in the White House all day. In 1980 and 1981, we spent about three months in the White House. I voted for Reagan. I rate Ronnie a 9+.

BUSH: George Bush was a man of many talents. He had some of the most unusual friends and associates that few ever knew. He did more as Vice President than he did as President, though Reagan and the Media never knew about it and I'm not relating

the stories here. He did not want to win a second term and I learned this well before the election. Why the Media couldn't figure this out is beyond me. I voted for Bush when he first ran and then voted for Bill Clinton. I rate Bush a 5.

CLINTON: The smartest couple to occupy the White House and the most beautiful First Lady ever. I worked with George Stephanopoulos and his secretary Amanada Crumley, on the Campaign, while in Arkansas and was a 'Confidential Advisor' to the President, through George. I also worked with some people at the Democratic National Committee, of which I am a member. I think it took the President and First Lady two years to overcome the harshness and meanness of the Washington Circle. From January 1995, when George asked me to FAX every idea and suggestion I had; that they need it badly. I did and the President followed most of them. That letter is in the Archives too along with others and my Congressional Newsletters. I am told that everything I wrote, including my weekly 'Congressional Newsletters' to Congressmen and Senators (8 copies were FAXed to people in the White House) were read with a 'fine tooth comb' by those in the White House. Both Bill and Hillary have done what they could that was in the best interest of this Nation. Because the 'Health Plan' wasn't accepted by Congress, no one gave Hillary even a thanks for all the work put into her effort. Bill lowered the deficit, increased employment, eliminated people from welfare and got them to work, stopped the slaughter in Bosnia, just to mention a few of their accomplishments. I enjoyed Maggie Williams, Chief of Staff to the First Lady and talked to a number of people there for the four year term. Just before George Stepanopoulos left the White House in December 1996, he wrote me a very nice letter thanking me for all the things I had done to help the Administration. That letter is also in the Archives and I kept copies. Having been associated with politics for fifty years, it is unusual to received such a letter from any politician. The Media and Congress lost popularity by jumping on the President and First Lady for such an extended period. I was to go to the White House in October 1996 but declined since they were so busy. I voted for him again in 1996. I rate him a 10.

NOTE: Vice President Nelson Rockefeller requested 12 copies of my book, "Gutless America". I sent them and received a phone call from former President Eisenhower's Secretary; then Rockefeller's Secretary, Ann Whitman. She asked why I didn't send a bill with the books. I told her, "I'd never send the Vice President a bill for anything!" She thanked me and told me she was sending me something. the following week, I received a 'Vice Presidential Tie Clasp' with his name inscribed on the back. Ronnie sent me a 'Presidential Tie Clasp' with his name on the front; a first and Bush's White House Chief of Operations sent me a set of 'Presidential Cuff Links' to go with Ronnie's 'Tie Clasp'. She is now Bush's Secretary in Houston, Texas.

She also sent me her card which I keep in the case with the cuff links. I did get a set of 'Presidential Cuff Links' from the Clinton White House and a 'Presidential Tie Clasp' from the DNC. I gave these to a long time friend, a great man whose family has done so much for Boots and me and one of the most influential men I've ever know, to pass on from generation to generation. Maybe I'll get another set from the second term Administration. If I do, I'll keep those for the same reason. I learned a lot from the servants there, over a long period of time but have never disclosed anything told me in confidence and never will. I appreciate the trust they had in me and that trust will be kept forever!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Parker". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. W. Dale Parker, D.Sc.
December 14, 1996

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The Honorable Maggie Williams,
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady
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Washington, D.C. 20550

Personal: DO NOT OPEN IN MAIL ROOM

