

FOIA MARKER

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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Policy Development

Series/Staff Member: Eric Biel

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 10601

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Letters/General [Fast Track] [2]

Stack:

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Row:

100

Section:

1

Shelf:

5

Position:

3

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



Eric R. Biel
10/15/97 02:59:06 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jason Berman/WHO/EOP, Victoria Radd/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Fast track support letters

10/17-18 Day
Klein
Dale L. (out)
Radd O.
→ Dale?

see sep

Kari Dohn has faxed me two letters of support received at Commerce that may be worth distributing more broadly at the appropriate time--your call on when and to whom. The first is a 10/2 letter to Barshefsky and Daley from the chairs of the various industry sector and functional advisory committees (ISACs and IFACs) supporting fast track in concept but raising some questions about what they term "sectoral parity." Because this is not an unabashed endorsement of fast track, presumably we would just want to distribute internally to alert various folks. The second, however, is a very good and strong endorsement of fast track from state trade officials. It includes some good representative quotes from directors of trade from Cal., Ill., NC, Ariz., etc. At a minimum, we should find a way to get these around if any Admin officials end up traveling to those states on fast track in coming weeks. Let me know how you want to proceed on disseminating that one.



Northern California Export Council

442 Post Street, Suite 800 • San Francisco, CA 94102 • Tel (415)433-9084 • Fax (415)421-1697
Email: ncaldec@ix.netcom.com



September 30, 1997

Kari Dohn
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington D.C. 20230

Dear Kari,

I was happy to meet with you last week, and to review the Fast Track initiatives.

Following is the completed survey of State Trade Directors. It is certainly a ringing endorsement of Fast Track from a group of trade professionals. I hope it will be useful.

Nathanael Herman will be kept advised of further information on this topic.

Sincerely,

Jerry Levine, Chair, Northern California Export Council
Vice Chair, National DEC Steering Committee

cc: Dan McLaughlin, DAS



Northern California Export Council

442 Post Street, Suite 800 ♦ San Francisco, CA 94102 ♦ Tel (415)433-9084 ♦ Fax (415)421-1697
Email: NCALDEC@ix.netcom.com



September 29, 1997

STATE TRADE OFFICERS STRONGLY ENDORSE FAST TRACK AUTHORIZATION

Overwhelming support for Fast Track Authorization (FTA) was revealed in a just-completed survey of international trade professionals in the 50 states, Puerto Rico and Washington DC. These respondents are experts on the potential impact of FTA on jobs, economic opportunity and exports in their own states.

Twenty of the fifty two state contacts have replied - a 38% response rate. Of these, nineteen agree with all three of the survey statements:

"FTA will lead to enhanced exports, economic activity, and jobs in my state."

"Beneficiaries will include many small & medium enterprises."

"NAFTA will, over the long term, have a positive effect in my state."

Only one respondent did not express an opinion. The response rate shows the importance attached to this issue by state trade officers.

Some representative quotes (with permission):

"Fast track will preserve US leadership in international trade, and will position the US competitively in areas of the world such as Latin America that are already building free trade associations internally. By reducing overseas barriers, US companies of all sizes, and across a broad range of industries, will benefit." Sean Randolph, Director of Trade, California

* * *

"Any agreement that lowers or eliminates barriers is healthy for trade in the long term. Historically, protectionism has only served to hinder its own host country. FTA is positive as it will promote free commerce."

Margaret MacLean, Managing Director-International, Illinois

* * *

"Our Governor is fully supportive of providing the President with Fast Track authority." Mac Epps, Director-International Trade Division, Department of Commerce, North Carolina

* * *

"Opening of Mercosur to New Mexico (via Fast Track) with consequent increase in export trade, job creation, retention and expansion." Roberto Castillo, Trade Division Director, New Mexico

* * *

"NAFTA has had a profound positive impact, despite devaluation. With our level of expertise in mining technology, we see tremendous potential in Chile. Exporting has been the key driver of our phenomenal economic growth - anything which facilitates our ability to export will be of great benefit to the companies." Dorothy Bigg, Director-International Trade & Investment, Arizona Department of Commerce

* * *

"We will lose (& have lost) many jobs in a few sectors (most noticeably in the apparel industry), but are picking up new jobs in other export oriented sectors. The net result is positive, but we have to help those whose jobs are lost. The adjustment continues to be a painful one." Kevin Langston, Director, International Trade Division, Department of Industry, Trade & Tourism, Georgia

* * *

"FTA and resulting trade agreements will result in increased export opportunities and greater access to markets for US and specifically (our state) firms." State and respondent confidentiality requested

* * *

"It will enable us to compete for new markets in Latin America." Morgan Smith, Director, Colorado International Trade Office.

* * *

"The outcome of the 'fast track' vote is of more than academic interest to Connecticut. Should free trade be expanded, especially in this hemisphere, Connecticut manufacturers in a broad swath of industries - from electronic components to building materials to industrial machinery - stand to benefit greatly." Dawn Rodriguez, Director, International Division, Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut

* * *

The survey was conducted from September 15 to September 29 by the Northern California Export Council, Jerry Levine, Chairman.



Northern California Export Council

442 Post Street, Suite 800 • San Francisco, CA 94102 • Tel (415)433-9084 • Fax (415)421-1697
Email: NCALDEC@ix.netcom.com



FAST TRACK AUTHORIZATION SURVEY RESULTS

Dear Trade Officer,

Congress will be voting on Fast Track Authorization (FTA) in a matter of weeks. Fast Track is essential for any future negotiations, including extensions of the Uruguay Round in services, & agriculture, or treaties with SE Asia, etc. The professional views of state trade officers can influence the course of events, and need to be heard. Please answer the following and fax back to the Northern California District Export Council at (415) 421-1697. We will report the findings back to you, and to Congressional decision makers.

	<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>	<u>NO OPINION</u>
FTA will lead to enhanced exports, economic activity, and jobs <u>in my state</u>	19	0	1
Beneficiaries will include many small & medium enterprises	19	0	1
NAFTA will, over the long term, have a positive effect in <u>my state</u> .	19	0	1

Please briefly express, in your own words, your view of the probable impact of FTA on your state:

☐ You may quote me.

☐ No, my responses may be used only in total counts and without attribution.

Name Title

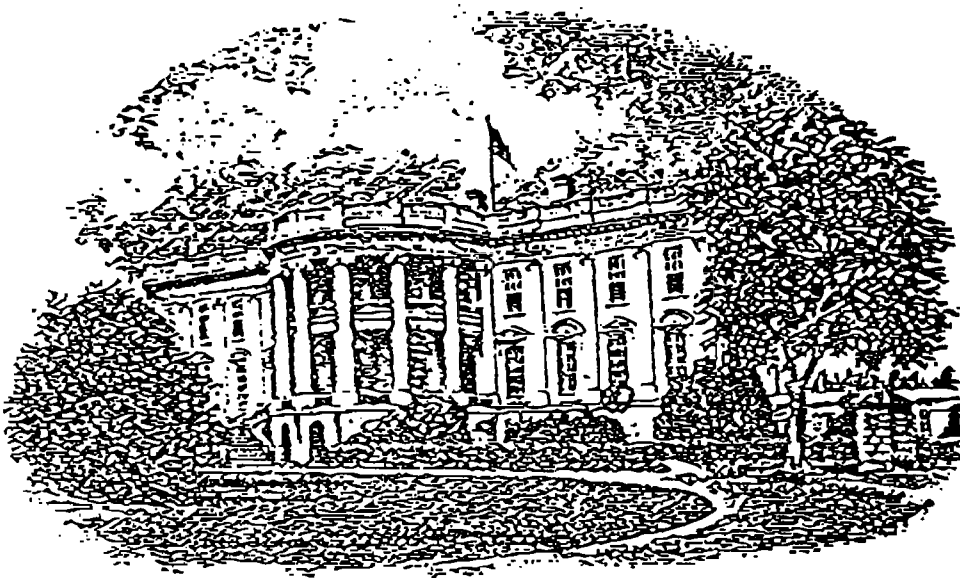
Address

Phone Fax EMail

Thank you,

Jerry Levine, Chairman, Northern California District Export Council

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Bief

No. of pages (including cover): 2 Date: 11/12

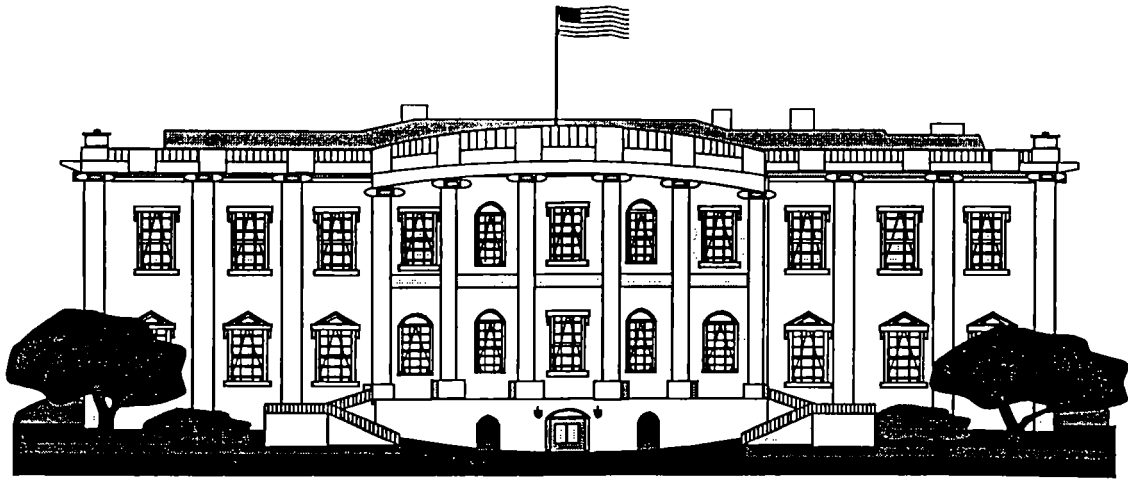
Phone: 65370 Fax: 62223

Also -
comment
to W&E

Comments: Before ya leave

Is this o.k.? I have to
clean it up, but is it
the right idea?

Also, Thanks for all your help over the last
couple of months. Thx Anna



The White House

National Economic Council

To: Anna Cushing

Phone: 65517 Fax: 65426

From: Eric Biel

Phone: (202) 456-⁵³⁷⁰6630 Fax: (202) 456-2223

Pages including cover sheet: 2

Comments: Edits to f.t. letter

EB



slr/draft/f.t.final.aec
 Fast-track vote delayed response
 11/12/97
 lang. Bob Kyle, NEC

Thank you for your letter regarding fast-track legislation.
 (Pro: I appreciate your support.)

As you know, the congressional leadership and my Administration decided ~~not to proceed with executive fast-track legislation this year.~~ I believe that fast-track authority is crucial to enhancing America's ability to bring down trade barriers, giving American companies the opportunity to open new markets, and ensuring U.S. leadership in the world. Fast-track authority remains a priority for my Administration, and we will continue to work hard to secure it.

(Con: Although we do not agree on this issue,) I appreciate knowing your views. And again, thanks for writing.

~~some short experience~~ ~~Don't think so for now at least~~

The removal of

~~Unfortunately, in context to the strong bipartisan support for fast track in the Senate, we were not able to obtain sufficient~~

building on the strong bipartisan vote in the Senate last week.

11/04/97 19:33 FAX

NATL ECONOMIC COUNCIL

001

*** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO	0376	
CONNECTION TEL		65426
SUBADDRESS		
CONNECTION ID	PLM	
ST. TIME	11/04 19:31	
USAGE T	01'06	
PGS. SENT	3	
RESULT	OK	

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10/15

Exc,

Pls. review upcoming & see
comments on 'Kicked-back'
responses. The incoming are
quite old, so give me a
call and we'll discuss the
best way to move these ---

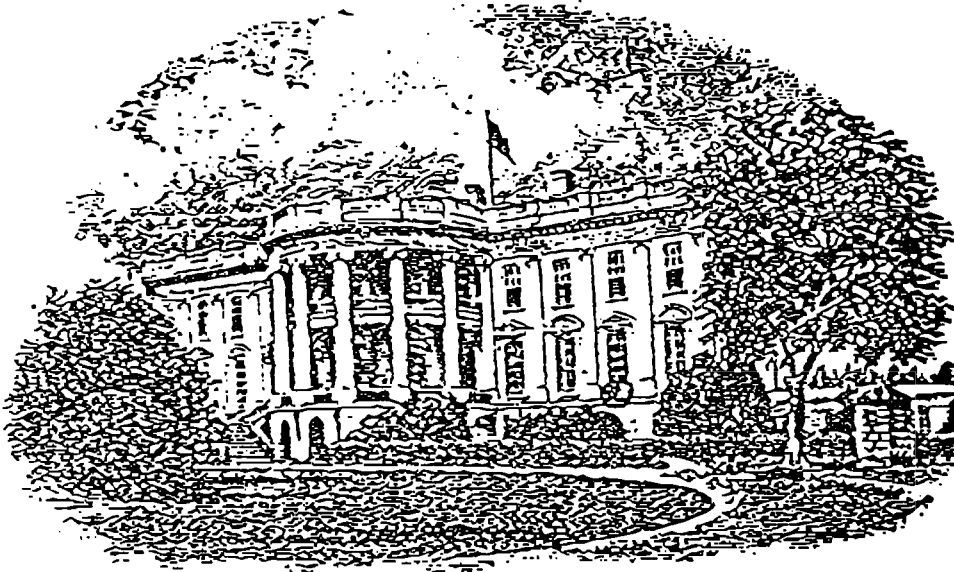
Thanks for your help.

Anne

65517

all hat
5:30 PM

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



To: *Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters*

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

From: *Eric Beal*

No. of pages (including cover): *3*

Date:

11/4

Phone:

65517

FAX:

65426

Comments:

Review / clear

Minor edits -

call of question.

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/f.track.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 30 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3723162

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Woynab Wondwossen, 93
 Anna Cushing, 93
 DWB/TDS, 94
 Vicki Radd, office of COS

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:
 The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
 Post Office Box 927
 Rancho Mirage, California 92270

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:
 BCsig
 working w/ e.biel

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the renewal of fast track negotiating authority. I greatly appreciate your ^{vitality} strong support of our efforts to secure congressional passage of this important legislation by the end of the year.

I have shared your letter with members of Congress. I also found your recent op-ed piece in USA TODAY to be a particularly compelling argument in support of fast track authority and the benefits of expanded U.S. trade. Indeed, your voice will play a critical role in helping us to achieve this important goal. ~~Once again, thanks for writing.~~

okay if not too formal -
 but it might end
 with more "emphasis"
 without this ^{last} sentence

ERIC

Otherwise right ~~to~~
 approved.

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/carter.ft.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 30 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3723293

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Woyneab Wondwossen, 93
 Anna Cushing, 93
 DWB/TDS, 94
 Vick Radd, office of COS

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
 The Carter Center
 One Copenhill Avenue, N.E.
 Atlanta, Georgia 30307

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

BCsig
 contact Eric Biel, Policy Advisor to P.'s
 special counsel of f.t. NEC/NSC

Dear Jimmy:

Thank you for your letter supporting my Administration's trade initiatives and your strong endorsement of the renewal of fast track negotiating authority. I greatly appreciate your outspoken support of our efforts to secure congressional passage of fast track legislation this year. Indeed, your backing is critical to our efforts. Your letter has been shared with members of Congress to emphasize the importance of this issue to U.S. leadership.

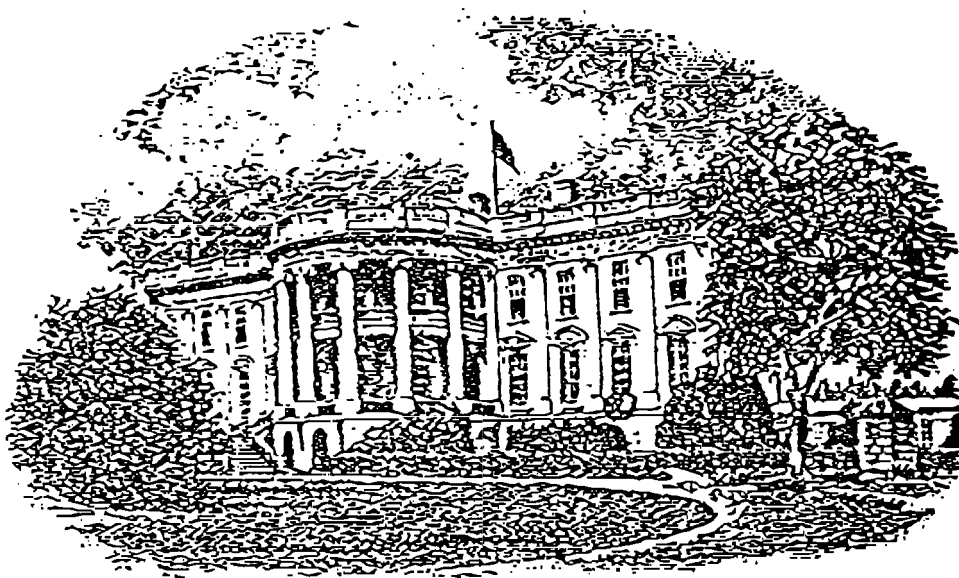
in the world. Many thanks for all of your help.
~~Once again, thanks for writing.~~

maintaining

*Lock for -
 minor edits.*

SB

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Bial

No. of pages (including cover): 35 Date: 10/30 10/31

Phone: 65370 Fax: 62223

Comments:

This is my first crack at it --

See if you can work up
this + give me a call

The. Anne

Call Anna
here
2/15

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/f.track.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 30 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3723162

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Woyneab Wondwossen, 93
Anna Cushing, 93
DWB/TDS, 94
Vicki Radd, office of COSCORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:
BCsig
working w/ e.biel

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the renewal of fast-track negotiating authority. I greatly appreciate your strong support of our efforts to secure congressional passage of this important legislation by the end of the year.

I have shared your letter with members of Congress. I also found your recent op-ed piece in USA TODAY to be a particularly compelling argument in support of fast-track authority and the benefits of expanded U.S. trade. Indeed, your voice will play a critical role in helping us to achieve this important goal. Once again, thanks for writing.

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/carter.ft.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 30 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3723293

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Woyneab Wondwossen, 93
Anna Cushing, 93
DWB/TDS, 94
Vick Radd, office of COS

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The Honorable Jimmy Carter
The Carter Center
One Copenhill Avenue, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

BCsig
contact Eric Biel, Policy Advisor to P.'s
special counsel of f.t. NEC/NSC

Dear Jimmy:

Thank you for your letter supporting my Administration's trade initiatives and your strong endorsement of the renewal of fast-track negotiating authority. I greatly appreciate your outspoken support of our efforts to secure congressional passage of fast-track legislation this year. Indeed, your backing is critical to our efforts. Your letter has been shared with members of Congress to emphasize the importance of this issue to U.S. leadership. Once again, thanks for writing.

OCT 21 1997

THE
CARTER CENTER

October 14, 1997

To President Bill Clinton

I support the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997, and urge Congress to approve it so that your Administration can begin to negotiate a Free Trade Area of the Americas, new sectoral agreements, and outstanding issues in the World Trade Organization like procurement and services.

As our country becomes more dependent on world trade, each request for renewing fast-track trade negotiating authority has generated a heated debate between those who are confident that we can compete in the world and those who fear increasing competition. You have spoken eloquently for a confident America, and I commend you for your unwavering support for freer trade.

We both know that freer trade benefits our nation as a whole, but we also know that not every group benefits. For our nation to sustain a freer trade policy, we need to find ways to address the legitimate concerns of working people. Important steps already have been taken in this regard with transitional adjustment assistance, dislocated worker training, the earned-income tax credit, one-stop career centers, and the North American Development Bank. All of these reflect your commitment to working people and to those of us who care about the environment. I encourage you to continue working with the trade unions and environmental groups to find additional ways to show that their interests will not be neglected in future trade talks.

Your trip to South America will show Americans how important the region is to our country. I hope that soon after you return, Congress will approve the trade bill and permit you to implement the promise of the Summit of the Americas in Miami.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

OCT 21 1997



GERALD R. FORD

97 OCT 20 PM 1:27

October 10, 1997

Dear Mr. President:

I write to give my strong endorsement for Congressional approval of Fast Track authority. I was the first President to have this negotiating authority and every President since me has used Fast Track to open markets for American products. Congressional passage of Fast Track is deeply in our national interest.

The United States, more than any other nation, will benefit from new market opening trade agreements. We are the most competitive nation on earth and the leading export power. As you know, trade represents over thirty percent of our nation's GDP and over one-third of our job growth. Yet there is a fundamental imbalance in the economic relationship between the United States and many of our key trading partners. Our market is open to their products, yet their markets are closed to ours. Fast Track will enable you and future Presidents to level the playing field for U.S. exports.

It is vital for the Congress to understand Fast Track is also essential for a successful U.S. foreign policy, for American influence is not divisible. America's leadership cannot press countries to stop the flow of narcotics or weapons of mass destruction without engaging with these nations on economic issues. Yet without Fast Track, the United States cannot lead on trade issues. As the only military and economic superpower, the United States must lead the world toward peace and prosperity. Without Fast Track, our hands will be tied.

U.S. trade policy has enjoyed bipartisan support for more than 60 years -- as it should. In this tradition, Congress should expeditiously approve Fast Track on a bipartisan basis.

Sincerely,

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Eric R. Biel
10/30/97 10:57:43 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Anna E. Cushing/WHO/EOP
cc:
Subject: Letters to former Presidents

Left a message for Vicki to see if she needed to be in the loop on reviewing these letters, and also to find out if something does need to go to George Bush as well as to Ford and Carter.

A few thoughts on content of the letters:

In addition to general thanks to Ford and Carter for their letters endorsing renewal of fast track negotiating authority, and emphasizing that their support is critical for effort to secure congressional passage this year, we should mention specifically that their letters have been shared with Members of Congress to demonstrate the importance of this issue for U.S. leadership, fact that this is a bipartisan issue, etc.

For Ford, State Dept. has asked that the POTUS letter specifically express appreciation for his recent op-ed piece in USA TODAY in support of fast track--adding something like "I found it to be a particularly compelling statement in support of fast track and the benefits of expanded U.S. trade." (Nothing particularly brilliant in the above, of course--just a few thoughts.)

10/29/97 WED 17:59 FAX 202 647 5936 EB/IPC

002

For Bush and Carter:

Thank you very much for your letter endorsing renewal of Fast Track negotiating authority. Your support is critical for our efforts to secure Congressional passage of this authority. We have shared your letter with the Congress and will continue to work for quick approval of this important legislation.

For Ford, add.

I also appreciate the op-ed you wrote in USA-TODAY. I found it a compelling statement in support of expanded trade.

Will go to SEC Sec
Call Anna Cushing
FKC here
X65517
Check on George Bush
HRC or govt
Sept
Don't Vicki Radd
need to review?

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TRADE POLICY AND PROGRAMS

ROOM 3831A
Washington, DC
(202) 647-2532
Fax: (202) 647-1537
FAX TRANSMISSION

Date: Oct 29, 1997

To: Grie Biel Fax: 456-2223 Phone: _____

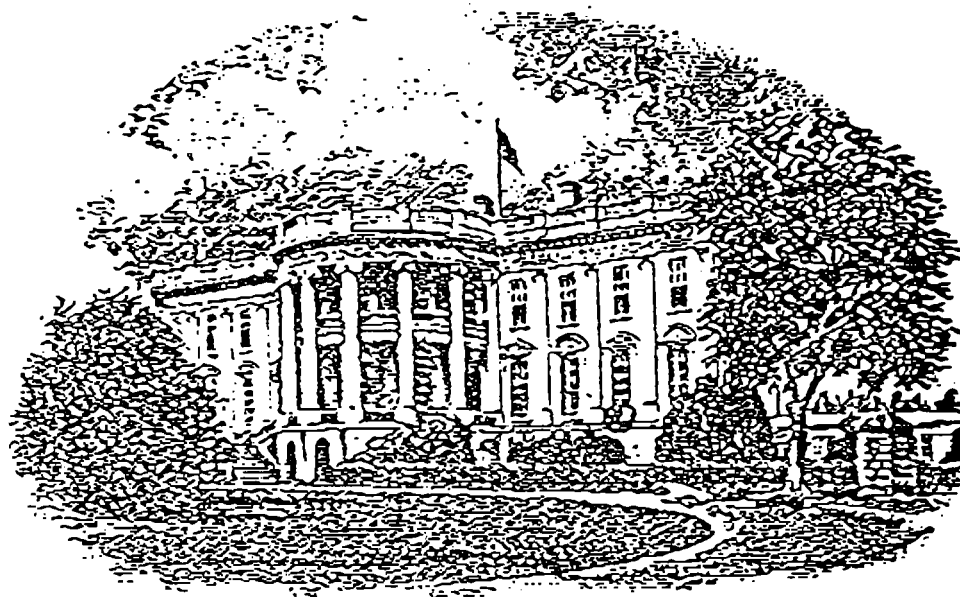
Pages including cover sheet: 2

From: David Marchick

Subject: See Attached

Comments: _____

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Brief

No. of pages (including cover): 3 Date: 10/30

Phone: 65370 Fax: 62223

Comments: As you can see they remain rather formal
on policy issue related letters.
(These letters are similar to others). On F.T.
I imagine the Potus will hand-write an
line, but I can't say for sure.
I'll ensure that the salutations are appropriate etc
you can e-mail me what you have now or
look. First - here are a

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 12, 1995

~~The Honorable Jimmy Carter~~
~~The Carter Center~~
~~One Copenhill~~
~~Atlanta, Georgia 30307~~

Dear Jimmy:

Thank you for writing to me regarding our efforts to limit teenagers' access to tobacco products. I know how committed you are to this important goal, and I appreciate your support.

As you know, I have authorized the Food and Drug Administration to propose rules both to limit minors' access to tobacco and to restrict the promotion and advertising that enhances the appeal of tobacco products among them.

These are common-sense steps that will help to deter teenagers from the tobacco products that they now find accessible and all too attractive. And the proposals do not constitute a ban on smoking or a threat to the First Amendment.

As always, I look forward to your thoughtful insights and involvement.

Sincerely,

~~Bill~~

Thanks for your
letter and the great USA Today
article—

950913

COPY
from BIRM

September 10, 1997

~~The Honorable Gerald R. Ford~~
~~The American Enterprise Institute~~
~~1150 17th Street, N.W.~~
~~Washington, D.C. 20036~~

~~Dear President Ford~~ *Ford*

Thank you for your thoughtful comments to Walter Mondale and Nancy Kassebaum Baker in support of campaign finance reform. For too long, this issue has been mired in partisanship and half-measures. While there are different views on how to fix the campaign finance system, I am pleased that you and Presidents Carter and Bush are speaking out on this important issue.

This year, we have an opportunity to come together across party lines to create and pass reform legislation that cleans up our campaign finance system. Now is the time for members of the Senate to stand up and be counted, and I will do everything I can to see to it that 1997 is the year we achieve meaningful campaign finance reform.

Again, I greatly appreciate your leadership in backing campaign finance reform, and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely, *[Signature]*

BC/LIJ/RSM/JAD/bws-efr
(8.ford.gr)

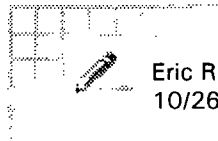
(Corres. #3633536)

cc: *Jim Dorskind/TDS, 94*
cc: Woyneab Wondwossen, 93 OEOB

Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to NH through Todd Stern

CLEAR THRU TODD STERN

PRESIDENT TO SIGN



Eric R. Biel
10/26/97 12:27:37 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Anna E. Cushing/WHO/EOP

cc:

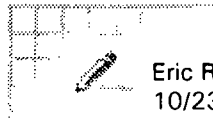
Subject: Fast track letters

Call her 10/27 am

Still waiting for word back from Vicki Radd and from Dave Marchick at State Dept. on responses to Ford and Carter. And happy to touch base on best way to respond to the 10/7 letter from Ken Roth of Human Rights Watch.

Also--did the additional information I e-mailed resolve what you needed a week or so ago on the "kicked back" responses? We should talk in the next couple of days--things have moved along enough that there will be a need to update how we respond (can't just keep saying that will keep views/concerns in mind as legislation proceeds...)

Lastly, you had also faxed to me a letter from a Max Glenn in Texas complaining about some alleged IRS misconduct. I assume that was sent by mistake--can I toss it? Thanks, EB



Eric R. Biel
10/23/97 03:49:39 PM

Record Type: Record

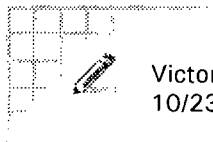
To: Anna E. Cushing/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Responding to Ford and Carter

FYI--the guidance from Vicki on this. Hope that works okay. EB

----- Forwarded by Eric R. Biel/WHO/EOP on 10/23/97 03:57 PM -----



Victoria Radd
10/23/97 12:33:48 PM

Record Type: Record

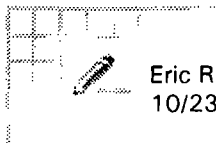
To: Eric R. Biel/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Responding to Ford and Carter 

David can start drafting responsive letters, but I want to hold off sending until a definitive decision on whether we will have any of them meet with Clinton. That should be this week. Thanks for the follow-up.

V.



Eric R. Biel
10/23/97 11:01:49 AM

Record Type: Record

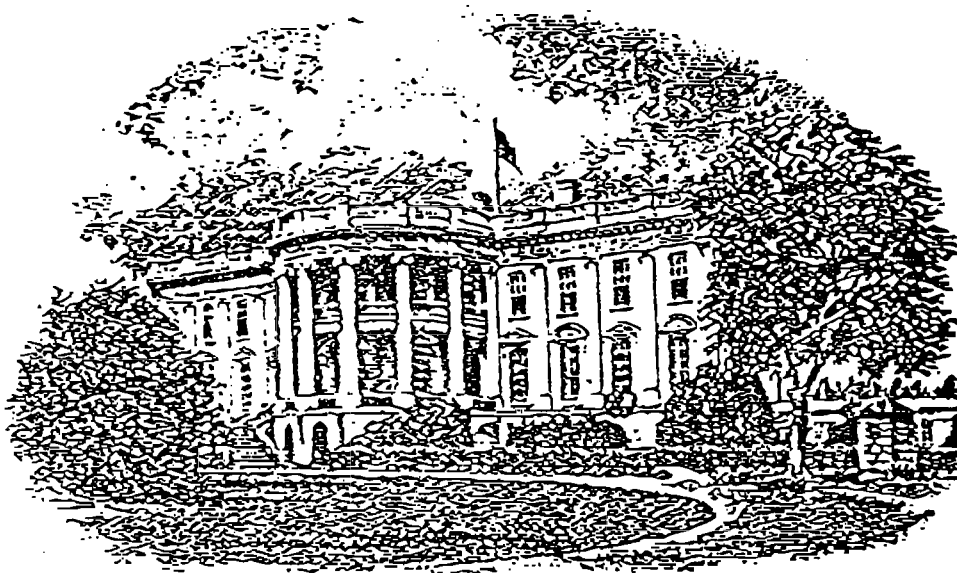
To: Victoria Radd/WHO/EOP, LEAVY_D @ A1 @ CD @ LNGTWY

cc: Anna E. Cushing/WHO/EOP

Subject: Responding to Ford and Carter

Anna called me this morning about POTUS letters responding to Pres. Ford and Carter on fast track. Dave Marchick at State is willing to draft something up for our review (having been involved in the contacts with both); please advise on best way to proceed, given that they obviously deserve much more than a generic thank-you response.

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Biel

No. of pages (including cover): 3 Date: 10/23

Phone: 6-5370 FAX: 6-2223

Comments: Eric

Here are the Carter and Ford
letters we need to draft a Presidential
response for --

Thanks for your help --

to whom
the
time
comes
Help w/ appropriate clearance at NEA
(Kyle?) will be much appreciate, too.
Thanks, Anne

OCT 21 1997



GERALD R. FORD

'97 OCT 20 PM 1:27

October 10, 1997

Dear Mr. President:

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Sincerely,

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

OCT 21 1997

THE
CARTER CENTER

October 14, 1997

To President Bill Clinton

I support the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997, and urge Congress to approve it so that your Administration can begin to negotiate a Free Trade Area of the Americas, new sectoral agreements, and outstanding issues in the World Trade Organization like procurement and services.

As our country becomes more dependent on world trade, each request for renewing fast-track trade negotiating authority has generated a heated debate between those who are confident that we can compete in the world and those who fear increasing competition. You have spoken eloquently for a confident America, and I commend you for your unwavering support for freer trade.

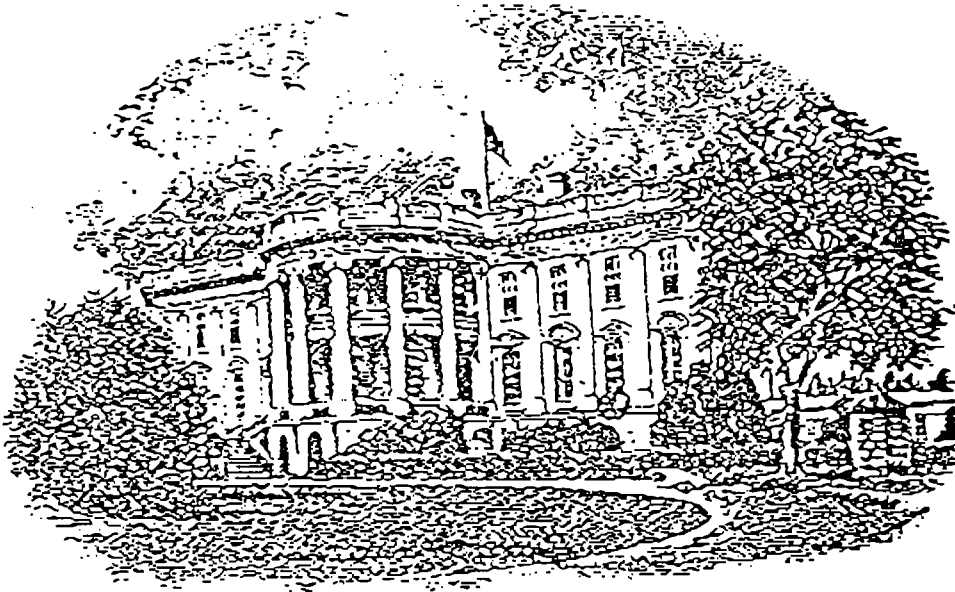
We both know that freer trade benefits our nation as a whole, but we also know that not every group benefits. For our nation to sustain a freer trade policy, we need to find ways to address the legitimate concerns of working people. Important steps already have been taken in this regard with transitional adjustment assistance, dislocated worker training, the earned-income tax credit, one-stop career centers, and the North American Development Bank. All of these reflect your commitment to working people and to those of us who care about the environment. I encourage you to continue working with the trade unions and environmental groups to find additional ways to show that their interests will not be neglected in future trade talks.

Your trip to South America will show Americans how important the region is to our country. I hope that soon after you return, Congress will approve the trade bill and permit you to implement the promise of the Summit of the Americas in Miami.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Brief
No. of pages (including cover): 4 Date: 10/27 10/28 10/29
Phone: 6 5370 Fax: 6 2223

Comments: Could you review this draft?
Response to con Natta / F. track
Thy
AC

Give me a call.

Call has
11:15 PM
broader
file

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/ftr.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 29 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3727889

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Anna Cushing, 93

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Mr. Robert E. Wages
President
Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers
International Union, AFL-CIO
Post Office Box 281200
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-8200

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

needs NEC/NAFTA clearance; Eric Biel f.t.
policy advisor clearance

Dear Robert:

Thank you for your letter regarding NAFTA and fast-track authority.

In July, my Administration released the Study on the Operation and Effect of NAFTA. The report provided solid evidence that NAFTA has had a positive effect on the United States economy and employment rate. From 1993 to 1996, jobs supported by United States goods exported through NAFTA increased by 311,000, to 2.3 million, and the expansion of United States export industries has resulted in higher-wage job opportunities for American workers.

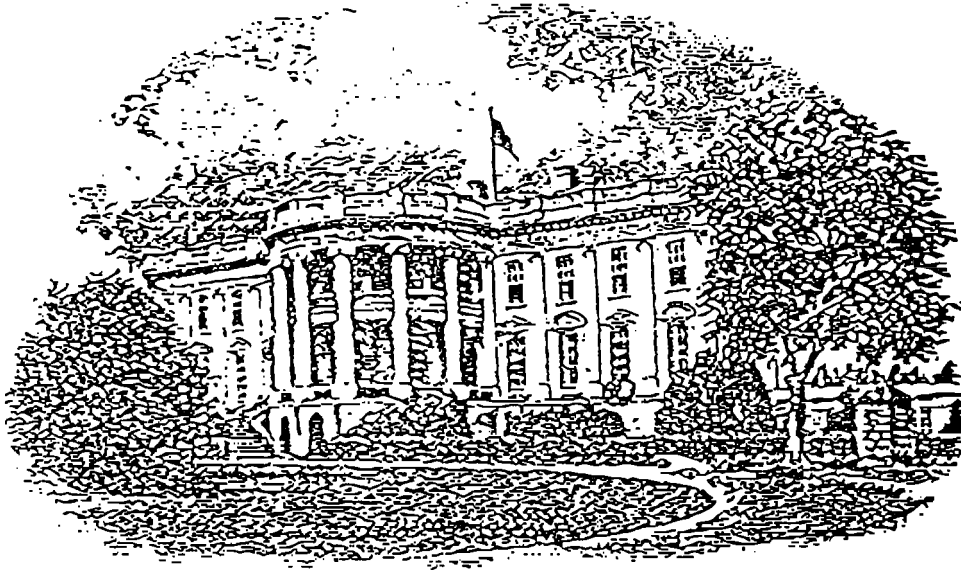
Although NAFTA has benefitted our economy and created many good, high-paying jobs, I remain mindful of individuals who have been displaced. That is why we worked hard with Congress to pass specific worker retraining, unemployment benefits, and adjustment assistance to help American workers who lost their jobs because of trade with Mexico and Canada.

Regarding your concerns about fast-track legislation, both the House and Senate bills improve on past fast-track legislation in enabling us to

address the types of foreign government labor and environmental practices that have the greatest impact on American workers and American firms. These bills give us the chance to break down foreign trade barriers and advance worker rights and environmental protection at the same time. Opposing fast-track, by contrast, would do nothing to advance our ability to address these concerns with other governments. It simply would ensure that our labor and environmental concerns are ignored in the years ahead -- even as we are denied the chance to pursue new export opportunities that translate directly into good jobs for American workers. Also, on October 2, I announced both legislative and executive actions to further improve the safety of imported food products, building on my Administration's long-term commitment to strengthen the U.S. food safety system.

I hope this addresses your concerns. And again, thanks for writing.

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Bief

No. of pages (including cover): 4 Date: 10/27

Phone: 65370 Fax: 62223

Comments: Could you review this draft?
Response to con Xasta / F. track
Thy
Ac

Give me a call.



OCAW

OIL, CHEMICAL & ATOMIC WORKERS INTL. UNION, AFL-CIO

239772

ROBERT E. WAGES
PRESIDENT

R. J. CHRISTIE
SECRETARY-TREASURER

L. CALVIN MINNIE
VICE PRESIDENT

JAMES K. PHILLIPS, JR.
VICE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
255 UNION BLVD.
LAKEWOOD, CO
80228
303-987-2220

MAN.
P.O. BOX 2812(N)
LAKEWOOD, CO
80228-8200

FAX NUMBERS:
PRES.: 303-987-1067
SEC.-TR.: 303-987-3370
LEGAL: 303-987-3368

October 21, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers International Union (OCAW) and other working Americans, to voice our strong opposition to the proposed fast track legislation. Our union represents approximately 90,000 members employed nationwide in the oil refining industry, chemical plants, pharmaceutical production plants, wet/dry corn milling industries, and the nuclear industry.

When you examine the "true numbers" of NAFTA versus the "political numbers" and the impact this agreement has had on American jobs and exports, I would think that as the leader of the American people, you would certainly not want to support or initiate any new NAFTA-type agreements that would be even more devastating to the workers of America. Since NAFTA took effect in 1994, the Economic Policy Institute has counted a loss of 420,000 U.S. jobs, and the U.S. Department of Labor has certified workers from more than 700 companies in 48 states for special assistance for NAFTA-related job losses. A fast track to NAFTA-II will make it easier for companies to move production to low-wage countries, eliminating more jobs here, and putting downward pressure on U.S. wages. It would open our borders to more potentially dangerous food imports, and increase the likelihood of illegal drugs coming into the U.S.

Under the proposed fast track legislation, your ability to negotiate strong and enforceable worker rights and environmental standards is even more restrictive than previous fast track authority. If the proposed legislation is adopted into law, it will be a step backwards for working families at a time when we should be more progressive on these important issues. In addition, your proposal would effectively bar most labor and environmental protections from being part of a trade agreement considered under the fast track authority. The fast track trade bill will only render a bad situation worse by adding more countries where U.S. firms can send jobs and where more dangerous imports can cross our borders.

The fast track proposal is detrimental to the economic well-being of America's working families. Now is the time to respond to the growing concerns of the American people by halting the rush to fast track authority. OCAW strongly opposes this legislation and will work vigorously against its passage.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Wages
President

OCT 22 1997

DRAFT OF HC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/ftr.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 27 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3727889

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Anna Cushing, 93

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Mr. Robert E. Wages
President
Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers
International Union, AFL-CIO
Post Office Box 281200
Lakewood, Colorado 80228-8200

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

needs NEC/NAFTA clearance; Eric Biel f.t.
policy advisor clearance

Dear Robert:

Thank you for your letter regarding ~~NAFTA~~ ^{the} and fast-track authority ^{legis. authority} ^{pending} ^{200 pers.}

I appreciate the concerns that led you to write. However, NAFTA has had a positive effect on the United States economy and employment rate. From 1993 to 1996, jobs supported by ~~United States goods exported through~~ ^{US exports to C.M.} NAFTA increased by ~~311,000~~ ^{over 300,000}, to 2.3 million, and the expansion of United States export industries has resulted in higher-wage job opportunities for American workers. ~~From January 1994 through September 1996, net United States employment increased by eight million jobs, offsetting all~~

~~job displacement in the United States that was caused by trade expansion.~~

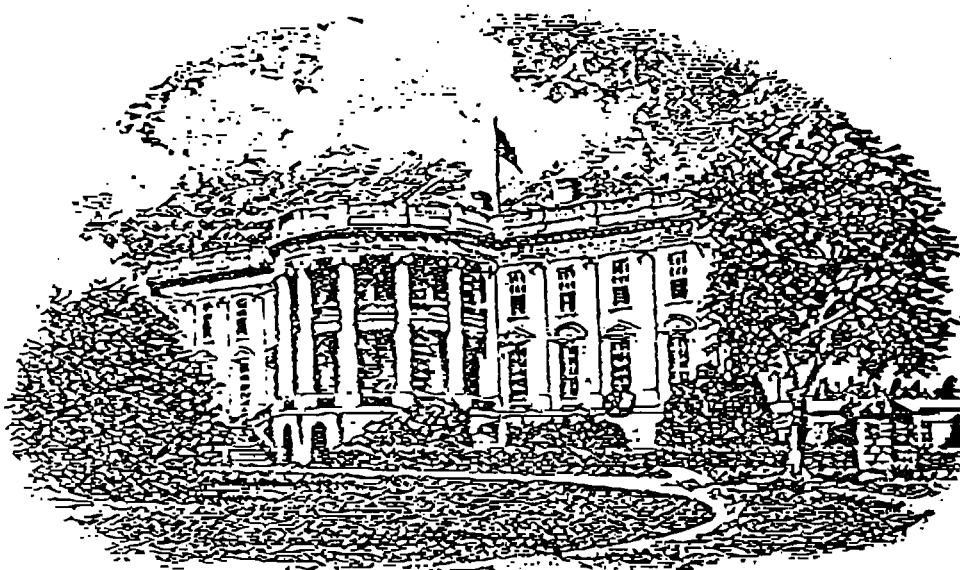
Although NAFTA has benefited ^{good high paying} our economy and created many jobs, I remain mindful of individuals who have been displaced. That is why we worked ^{not shared in the benefits of trade} hard with Congress to pass specific worker retraining, unemployment ^{are willing} benefits, and adjustment assistance to help American workers who lost their jobs because of trade with Mexico and Canada. ~~Let me also assure you that as we continue to implement NAFTA, there will be no compromise in cross-border safety standards and operations.~~

Regarding your concerns about fast-track legislation, both the House and

Senate bills ^{actually} improve on past fast-track legislation in enabling us to address the types of foreign government labor and environmental practices that have the greatest impact on American workers and American firms. These bills give us the chance to break down foreign trade barriers and advance worker rights and environmental protection at the same time. Opposing fast-track, by contrast, would do nothing to advance our ability to address these concerns with other governments. It simply would ensure that our labor and environmental concerns are ignored in the years ahead -- even as we are denied the chance to pursue new export opportunities that translate directly into good jobs for American workers.

^{No}
I hope this addresses your concerns. And again, thanks for writing.

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: C. Brief

No. of pages (including cover): 2 Date: 10/28

Phone: 65370 Fax: 62223

Comments: Draft response to supportive gov.'s
16A didn't give me any new
lang. - I'll run this by them
after you take a look
Thy. PL FILE

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/fthull.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Oct 28 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3728445

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Woyneab Wondwossen, 93
Anna Cushing, 93
IGA to file

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

The Honorable Jane Dee Hull
Governor of Arizona
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIALINSTR:

Pending IGA clearance
Pending Eric Biel NEC/NSC clearance.

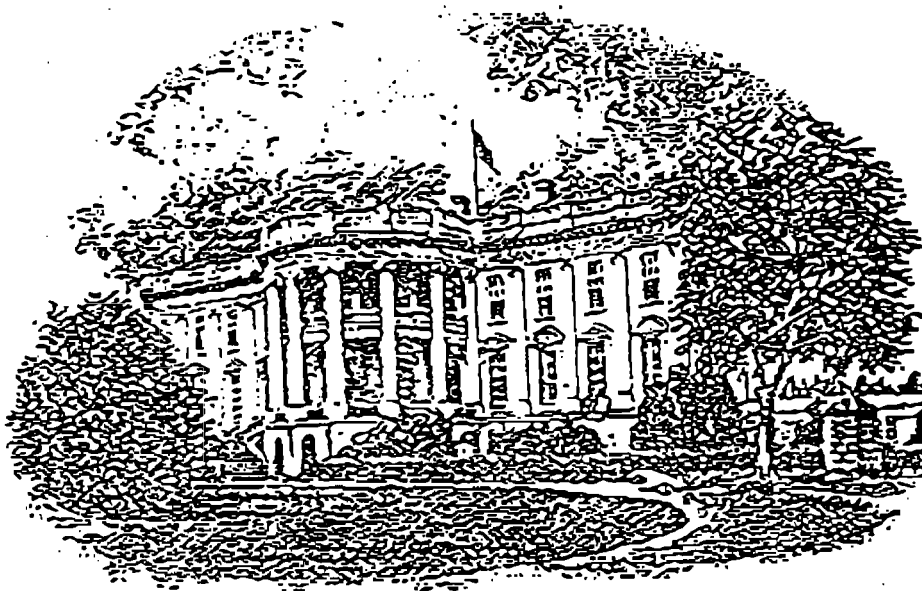
Dear Jane:

Thank you for your letter supporting the renewal of fast-track authority.

I agree that fast-track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and let other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

As a governor, you know first-hand how important trade is to the future of our economy. As I continue to work to secure passage of this important legislation, I appreciate your support. Again, thanks for writing.

The White House
Office of Presidential Letters and Messages



Facsimile from Anna Cushing -- Office of Presidential Letters

Phone: 202-456-5517

Fax: 202-456-5426

To: Eric Biel

No. of pages (including cover): 7 Date: 10/24

Phone: 6-5370 Fax: 62223

Comments: What to do? This is a very
long incoming. This review & give me a
call.

Darks

A7

Oct-27-97 17:49

238404

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

1522 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
Telephone: 202 371-6592
Facsimile: 202 371-0124
E-mail: hrwny@hrw.org
Website: <http://www.hrw.org>



October 7, 1997

The Honorable President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Human Rights Watch believes the United States must consistently take the opportunity presented by trade negotiations to reinforce respect for core labor rights, including freedom of association, the prohibition of forced labor, and the elimination of employment discrimination. For this reason, we urge both the Clinton administration and the U.S. Congress to ensure that fast track trade negotiating authority not be predicated upon the limitation or exclusion of core labor rights guarantees in the agreements to be negotiated.

Although we would welcome the development of more effective labor rights enforcement mechanisms within multilateral bodies such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Labor Office (ILO), such entities are no substitute for a strong bilateral labor rights policy on the part of the United States. Without bilateral impetus, the effective enforcement of international labor rights standards, such as those contained in core ILO conventions, will remain elusive, since no entity currently exists with the mandate and authority to compel compliance with these standards. In turn, the failure to establish workable bilateral mechanisms for the enforcement of core labor rights standards establishes an economic incentive for violating labor rights.

Human Rights Watch has documented just such an economic incentive for breaching labor rights in Mexico's export-processing factories known as *maquiladoras*. There, we have confirmed the widespread use of mandatory, employment-related pregnancy testing as a means to eliminate pregnant women from the work force, and we have documented occasions in which women who became pregnant shortly after being hired were fired or harassed. These actions violated Mexican law and international anti-discrimination standards. When questioned on our findings, U.S.-based multinational corporations informed Human Rights Watch that they practiced this discrimination to remain competitive, since hiring pregnant women would entail paying maternity benefits. With the hope of remedying this problem, we have submitted a labor rights

OCT 9 1997

Kenneth Roth
Executive Director
Susan Ormiston
Associate Director
Michelle Alexander
Development Director
Cynthia Brown
Program Director
Barbara Guglielmo
Finance & Administration
Director
Leticia Leitch
Public Affairs Director
Susan Weiss
Communications Director

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General Counsel
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Mara Wiley

violation petition under a mechanism established by the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation (NAALC), commonly referred to as the labor rights side agreement to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

By restricting trade negotiations to issues "directly related to trade," the proposed "Export Expansion and Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act of 1997" (the Act) would harm the cause of labor rights by eliminating any bilateral role for the United States in promoting labor rights through trade agreements. Although substantive arguments have been made that violations of internationally recognized labor rights directly affect trade by artificially suppressing costs, the Act's section on worker rights rejects the connection. Rather, the Act calls for all U.S. efforts to promote labor rights to be channeled through the WTO and ILO, which, for multiple reasons, have not proven effective at enforcing labor rights standards.

The Senate Finance Committee's legislation to extend fast track, approved on October 1, fails to include any language linking labor rights protection to trade negotiations. Instead, it offers a section on general international economic policy objectives that recognizes the importance of promoting respect for labor rights. This section would not, however, require the United States to take actions in the context of trade negotiations to promote these objectives.

The protection of internationally recognized labor rights must be a central component of any trade regime. In principle, it would be wrong to eliminate labor rights from trade agreements, since a trade regime that permits the violation of labor rights encourages the "lowest common denominator" in labor rights practices. Indeed, if corporations know they can avoid being held accountable for labor rights violations in a country with a lax or non-existent labor rights enforcement record, they may situate themselves in such a country in order to avoid increased costs perceived to be associated with protecting core labor rights. Absent authority to ensure that governments enforce international labor standards, for instance, companies may seek to take advantage of the artificially low wages and poor working conditions that may result if unions are not able to organize freely.

Given the potential for companies to seek advantage through labor rights violations, it would also be wrong to eliminate labor rights protections from trade agreements on the grounds that labor rights are not "directly related to trade." The violation of internationally recognized labor rights may have an important impact on trade through the artificial suppression of costs; the link between trade and labor rights protections was recognized in the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, which defines the denial of internationally recognized labor rights as an unfair trade practice.

The multilateral methods of labor rights promotion proposed in the Act are inadequate. The Act states, for instance, that the United States would promote "as a principle of the World Trade Organization, that the denial of internationally recognized worker rights should not be a means for a country or its industries to gain competitive advantage in international trade." Although the Act thereby recognizes the importance of labor rights to fair trade, it fails to provide any way for this principle to be applied. We note that during the WTO's December 1996 ministerial discussions in Singapore, the WTO rejected involvement in labor rights issues,

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reaffirming its belief that the ILO is the "competent body to set and deal with these standards." In fact, the WTO expressly cautioned that labor rights protections should not jeopardize the comparative advantage of low-wage countries—a position that is antithetical to the very concept of rights. Other WTO-based proposals in the Act would likely suffer similar obstacles in becoming effective methods of promoting labor rights.

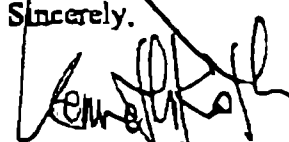
The Act also proposes that the United States seek to create within the ILO "a mechanism for the systematic examination of, reporting on, and accountability for the extent to which member governments promote and enforce core labor standards." A mechanism currently exists within the ILO for examining certain labor rights violations, such as freedom of association, and a discussion is already underway for broadening the mechanism to include other core worker rights. Although the ILO has been successful at developing international labor standards, it lacks authority to enforce those standards. Any United States effort designed to strengthen the ILO's enforcement capabilities would be welcome, but should not come at the expense of bilateral initiatives to enforce labor rights standards.

The Senate Finance Committee's October 1 legislation would create a general economic policy objective related to the ILO that is even weaker than the proposal in the Act. The Senate version of the legislation would have the United States seek only to have the ILO examine and report on the extent to which members promote and enforce core labor rights. There would be no accountability component to this proposed policy objective.

The need for effective enforcement of core labor rights follows from the international nature of these standards, from their basis in widely ratified treaties. It would be wrong to dismiss arguments for the inclusion of core labor rights in trade treaties on the grounds that such provisions somehow represented the imposition of American or Western values, since these rights are internationally recognized. Similarly, no country should be permitted to argue that it is entitled to determine its own competitive advantage as a matter of sovereignty if that advantage stems from the violation of internationally recognized rights, since it is not within the province of any government to violate such labor rights.

The effective enforcement of core labor rights requires the commitment of all countries, through both bilateral and multilateral actions. For this reason, Human Rights Watch urges the Clinton administration and the U.S. Congress to adopt measures that expressly link U.S. trade to the promotion and protection of core labor rights and to include within those measures effective mechanisms for achieving that goal. By adopting fast track authority that precludes such measures, the United States would be taking an inappropriate step backward in the crucial area of labor rights.

Sincerely,



Kenneth Roth
Executive Director

October 10, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR *Eric Biel*
FROM: JOHN FICKLIN *JF*
SUBJECT: Outstanding Action Items

According to our records, the attached listing of outstanding action items are still pending with you. Please review this list and indicate each item's current status, so that our system can be updated, and all inactive files closed.

Please respond by COB 24 October.

I appreciate your assistance.

Attachment
Tab A Outstanding Action Items Summary Listing

BK → EB
ask Malcolm Lee
Revised 1/29/98

RECORD ID LAST ACTION DATE	FROM SUBJECT KEYWORDS	TO	DOC. DATE STATUS DUE DATE	NOTES
9703149	LEE	BERGER	JUL 29	
SEP 09	REPLY TO SEN DORGAN & SNOWE WHO OPPOSE FAST TRACK		S	
	BUDGET INTL TRADE	CO	05/19/97	

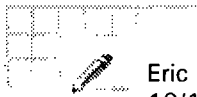
DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines,
September 11, 2006

By DB NARA, Date 3/12/19
2017-0401-F

~~SECRET~~

REASON: 1.5 A THROUGH G AS APPLICABLE
DECLASSIFY ON: OCTOBER 10, 2007

~~DECLASSIFIED~~
~~E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 (b)~~
~~White House Guidelines, September 11, 2006~~
~~By _____ NARA, Date _____~~



Eric R. Biel
10/15/97 06:11:02 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Anna E. Cushing/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Suggestions for letters

Per our discussion, below are suggestions for responding to the letters you sent me.

1. Leshner and Kleckner: To respond to their concerns about linkage to labor and environment, you could add the following:

As you are aware, over the past several weeks my Administration has worked closely with the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees to develop legislation that will attract broad, bipartisan support. I believe that you will find that the legislation reported out of both Committees addresses your concerns and merits the strong support of the business community, including both manufacturers and agricultural firms.

2. For Andrew Barnes (labor official): Not sure exactly how to respond, since he'll be opposed no matter what, but you could say:

Over the past several weeks, we have worked with Members of Congress to craft legislation that protects our ability to address labor and environmental concerns on a number of fronts. The legislation also ensures that the United States will not lower our world-class protections of workers and the environment, and will instead work to foster stronger standards on the part of our trading partners.

3. For Steven Anderson (frozen food institute): forward this one to USTR for Sean Darragh there to address the specific country origin marking issues raised.

4. For Don Fisher of the GAP: best we can say at this point is something along the following lines (which would follow general language noting efforts on fast track--which could track #1 above):\ I also appreciate hearing from you on the inclusion of other trade items in a fast track package. We have been working closely with the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, and both Committees have also marked up legislation addressing the tariff treatment of products originating in Caribbean Basin Initiative countries. I am certain that your interests and concerns will be kept closely in mind as the legislation proceeds to consideration by the full House and Senate in the weeks ahead.

Hope that's helpful. EB

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 3, 1997

The Honorable Richard L. Leshner
President
Chamber of Commerce of the
United States of America
1615 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20062-2000

Dear Richard:

Thank you for your letter supporting fast-track authority for the President. I appreciate your support and your thoughtful comments.

Executive fast-track negotiating authority is crucial to building upon the progress my Administration has already achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President since 1974 has had fast-track authority. Opening markets to our world-class goods and services will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, without this authority. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, rather than retreating from it and letting other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Again, thanks for writing.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signatures and initials in circles]

10/12

Anna

This is so obviously canned language. They don't disagree w/ anything in #1 - they have different concerns.

[Handwritten signature]

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 3, 1997

Mr. Dean Kleckner
President
American Farm Bureau Federation
Suite 800
600 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Dean:

Thank you for your letter supporting fast-track authority for the President. I appreciate your support and your thoughtful comments.

Executive fast-track negotiating authority is crucial to building upon the progress my Administration has already achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President since 1974 has had fast-track authority. Opening markets to our world-class goods and services will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, without this authority. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, rather than retreating from it and letting other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Again, thanks for writing.

Sincerely,



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000
202/659-6000

228464



AMERICAN FARM
BUREAU FEDERATION
600 MARYLAND AVENUE, S.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20024
202/484-3600

July 23, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to urge you to work with the Congress to renew fast-track trade negotiating authority by the end of this session of Congress so you and your successor administrations can negotiate trade agreements that would create new opportunities for U.S. businesses and farmers in world markets.

As you know, the absence of fast track authority has already complicated U.S. negotiators' tasks and costs U.S. business and agriculture many opportunities in the western hemisphere and elsewhere. Because U.S. negotiators cannot effectively negotiate without fast-track, our competitors have already begun negotiating trade preferences for each other while U.S. interests are left out. Regaining our credibility at the trade negotiating table is necessary if the United States hopes to avoid further erosion of its competitive position in world markets. Beyond simply attempting to "level the playing field", U.S. negotiators should actively seek to restore and expand U.S. competitive advantages whenever possible.

At the same time, we remain opposed to linkage of that authority to the pursuit of labor, environmental or other non-trade or social agenda issues. Continuing insistence on this linkage is a major reason why we have lost so much ground already. Ill-considered trade sanctions for various non-trade purposes have also cost our nation substantial trade opportunities in recent years. Expanding the list of available justifications for such sanctions through linkage to trade negotiations could effectively cancel whatever benefits those negotiations might yield. And last but not least, few if any of our major trading partners support incorporation of such linkages in any trade agreements they might reach with the United States.

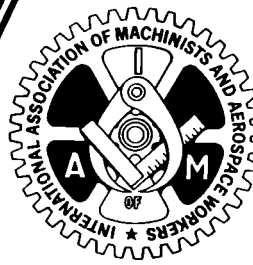
We appreciate the emphasis your administration has placed on international trade. We stand ready to work with you in the months ahead to regain the momentum we all know will serve America well in the 21st century global economy.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Leshner
President
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Dean Kleckner
President
American Farm Bureau Federation

**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



237744
8880 Cal Center Drive
Suite 180
Sacramento, CA 95826
916/856-1570 ■ FAX 916/856-1579

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL VICE PRESIDENT

September 26, 1997

Subj: Fast Track Trade Battle

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

This letter is to voice my objection to the Clinton Administration's introduction of the Fast Track Legislation to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement to Chile and South America.

I am not objecting to the negotiations of trades agreements to other countries as long as issues of jobs, security, labor law and environmental standards, and human rights are dealt with, in open negotiations with accountability to the American people.

Again, Mr. President, we are not interested in lowering our economic expectation or our standards to our neighboring countries.

I will be interested in hearing your position on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Andrew Barnes

Andrew Barnes
Grand Lodge Representative

AB:dcs

cc: Buffenbarger
Pearson
Feinstein
Boxer
Miller
Tasha



I don't know where to start on this one - I need a very short response.
OCT - 6 1997 Thx.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 3, 1997

Mr. Steven C. Anderson
President and
Chief Executive Officer
American Frozen Food Institute
Suite 1000
2000 Corporate Ridge
McLean, Virginia 22102

Dear Steven:

Thanks for your letter regarding fast-track authority for the President. I appreciate your support and your thoughtful comments.

Executive fast-track negotiating authority is crucial to building upon the progress my Administration has already achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President since 1974 has had fast-track authority. Opening markets to our world-class goods and services will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, without this authority. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, rather than retreating from it and letting other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Again, thanks for writing.

Sincerely,

for
Charles
to respond
on behalf
of POTUS

10/12

Anna

Anna
said straight
to USIA
response

This isn't very responsive.
Are we not commenting on
his "front panel" country
of origin" concerns?

Dr



234478

American Frozen Food Institute • 2000 Corporate Ridge, Suite 1000 • McLean, Virginia 22102

Telephone (703) 821-0770 • Fax (703) 821-1350 • E-Mail AFFI@POP.DN.NET

September 8, 1997

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the members of the American Frozen Food Institute (AFFI), I am writing to urge your continued efforts to secure fast-track negotiating authority that is consistent with the goals of free and fair trade. Also, AFFI urges you to oppose measures hostile to these goals, such as a front panel country of origin marking requirement for frozen produce packages with imported content, which history indicates may become intertwined improperly with the fast-track debate.

On December 29, 1993, the United States Customs Service issued an interim final rule mandating front panel country of origin marking in direct response to promises made to members of Congress in exchange for their votes earlier that year in favor of legislation to implement the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). In 1994, AFFI filed suit to block the rule in the Court of International Trade. The Court agreed with AFFI and declared the rule "null and void."

Also, an AFFI-opposed attempt to insert an amendment to require front panel country of origin marking into the implementing legislation of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was averted in 1994. Reportedly, the amendment was to be offered at that time in an effort to win support for the legislation.

While strongly supportive of the goals of fast-track negotiating authority, AFFI will vehemently oppose any similar attempt to advance a front panel country of origin marking proposal through one of the "vote trades" or extraneous amendments which may be contemplated by some in a misguided effort to facilitate passage of fast-track legislation.

As you may know, AFFI is the national trade association representing manufacturers and processors of frozen food products, as well as their marketers and suppliers. AFFI's 550 member companies account for more than 90 percent of the total annual production of frozen food in the United States, valued at approximately \$60 billion.



SEP 11 1997

A supporter of free and fair trade, AFFI opposes a U.S. Customs Service proposal currently under consideration to change the location of country of origin marking on frozen produce packages with imported content by requiring that the marking appear on the front panel. AFFI also opposes legislation introduced in the House of Representatives, H.R. 2332, which would institute this change through legislative means.

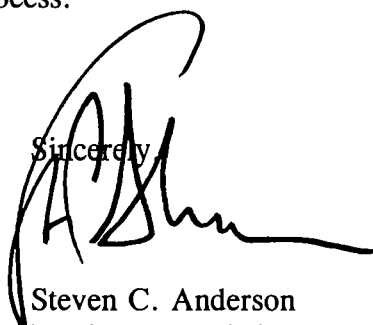
As a well-recognized non-tariff trade barrier, the front panel country of origin marking proposal flies in the face of free and fair trade. The Uruguay Round of GATT prohibits use of country of origin marking requirements as non-tariff barriers to trade. In addition, our North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners have objected to the Customs proposal on the ground it violates Annex 311 of NAFTA, which describes proper marking guidelines.

Implementation of the requirement could open the door to international retaliation which could harm U.S. agriculture, as well as U.S. businesses, employees and the economy. Specific to the frozen food industry, the tremendous growth in exports of frozen produce enjoyed by the U.S. industry could come to a halt. **Frozen vegetable exports from the U.S. nearly doubled between 1990 and 1996 -- from 469.2 million pounds to 933.5 million pounds.** Especially during the pursuit of legislation intended to empower the President of the United States to seek agreements to facilitate trade, a measure that could jeopardize this success would be unwise.

Non-tariff barriers are an albatross around the neck of free trade. As such, the front panel marking proposal is inconsistent with fast-track negotiating authority. AFFI shares your belief that it is virtually impossible to negotiate credibly with our trading partners without this authority. AFFI has written to Members of Congress urging them to provide it, without undermining free and fair trade in the process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Anderson', with a large, sweeping flourish above it.

Steven C. Anderson
President and Chief Executive Officer

SCA/jeh

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 3, 1997

Mr. Donald G. Fisher
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer
The GAP, Inc.
One Harrison Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Don:

Thanks for your letter regarding fast-track authority for the President. I appreciate your support.

I agree that executive fast-track negotiating authority is crucial to building upon the progress my Administration has already achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, rather than retreating from it and letting other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Again, thanks for writing.

Sincerely,

*Not Responsive -
Kicked - back*

DONALD G. FISHER
FOUNDER
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

September 11, 1997

GAP
234899

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

RE: Support for Broad-based Fast Track Authority

GAP, INC.
ONE HARRISON
SAN FRANCISCO
CA 94103
TELEPHONE
415 427 2755
FAX
415 427 7022

Dear Mr. President:

Gap, Inc. supports your request for renewed authority to negotiate tough, fair trade agreements on a "fast track." We recognize that your ability to fight for and protect U.S. interests in the new global economy is contingent upon Congress extending to you the enabling tool that every President since 1974 has been given.

The American public cannot expect your Administration to strike positive deals for the country without giving trade officials the fundamentals with which to do so. Fast track is not a special authority, it is a measure of good faith that will allow your Administration to enter negotiations on critical sectoral agreements, regional accords and trade rule reforms.

As an American company with retail stores, distribution centers and operations facilities throughout the 50 states, we can testify directly to the importance of trade expansion. Our ability to offer quality, value and choice to our customers will clearly be affected by the extent to which foreign trade barriers are lowered and new markets opened. The continued growth of our workforce - currently more than 46,000 strong - depends on progress in gaining reciprocal treatment for U.S. exports. Further, the pocketbook purchasing power of ordinary American families increases when our nation sells more goods and services overseas and attracts more investment here at home. Fast track is key to securing each of these gains.

It is our hope that Congress acts swiftly to approve extension of fast track authority. We also strongly support inclusion of other trade items in the package - specifically, provisions extending NAFTA-parity tariff treatment to countries in the Caribbean and expanding trade with sub-Saharan African nations.

By creating new economic opportunities through increased trade, we can raise the living standards of individuals in this country and around the world. Leadership can make a difference. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Don Fisher

9/12/97



Eric R. Biel
09/24/97 03:20:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: R. Scott Michaud/WHO/EOP
cc: Malcolm R. Lee/OPD/EOP
Subject: Fast track letters

Per our discussion, attached are the letters that I drafted and Bob Kyle and Malcolm Lee both reviewed. Bob is happy to leave in your hands concerning any additional circulation deemed necessary via Staff Secretary, etc.

The set of letters consists of short and long versions of a response to fast track supporters; a more targeted response to an active supporter; a fairly long letter to fast track opponents; and a more targeted response to fast track opponents/critics on the Hill. Hopefully, this will cover the universe pretty well. The core of each letter is virtually identical--basic case for fast track, etc.

Let me know if any questions/problems with the attached, or if anything more is needed. Sorry



about the delay. letshort.doc

SHORT LETTER TO FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for fast track.

Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly 13 million new jobs, brought unemployment below 5 percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open markets to our world-class goods and services. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and let other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

LONG LETTER TO FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for fast track.

Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly 13 million new jobs, brought unemployment below 5 percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. The United States today is the world's leading exporter and the largest producer of key manufacturing goods such as automobiles and semiconductors. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to open markets in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization in key areas such as agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, as well through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open markets and export our world-class products and services to all corners of the globe.

We must shape the global economy to our own advantage. If we instead choose to retreat from it, other nations will set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us. We need to seize new opportunities in growing markets, not cede them to our competitors. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

TARGETED LETTER TO ACTIVE FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I greatly appreciate your efforts on behalf of the fast track and your support for our aggressive trade policy over the past several years.

As you know, expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly 13 million new jobs, brought unemployment below 5 percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to protect our interests in those sectors where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in others. You understand well the importance of working to shape the global economy to our own advantage. We cannot instead retreat from it and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

I look forward to working with you in support of fast track renewal, and as always I welcome your thoughts and perspectives.

With best wishes,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

GENERAL LETTER TO FAST TRACK CRITICS/OPPONENTS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter describing your concerns about the renewal of fast track authority.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly 13 million new jobs, brought unemployment below 5 percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

I believe strongly that fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open foreign markets and sell our world-class goods and services. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it. We cannot afford to let other nations set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

At the same time, I understand your concerns. Let me assure you that I am committed to see that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade. Toward that end, I will continue to work to see that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections. I also will continue to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade, including through increased training and educational opportunities. My Administration has doubled the funding previously provided, helping an additional 300,000 workers per year get training and job search assistance. I am proud of these initiatives, and am committed to doing even more.

I appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

MORE FOCUSED LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS/SKEPTICS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter outlining your concerns with respect to the renewal of fast track authority. As always, I appreciate hearing from you.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly 13 million new jobs, brought unemployment below 5 percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. While I appreciate and understand your concern about our still-substantial merchandise trade deficit, I am encouraged by the significant increases in American exports during 1996 and even more rapid export growth during the first half of 1997, especially in many of our high-wage manufacturing industries.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to address such barriers both in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization on agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, and through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it. We cannot afford to let other nations set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

At the same time, I understand your concerns. Let me assure you of my commitment to work with you to ensure that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade. Toward that end, I will insist that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections. I will also continue working to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade, including through increased retraining and educational opportunities. This Administration has doubled the funding previously provided, helping an additional 300,000 workers per year get training and job search assistance. I am proud of these initiatives, and I am committed to doing even more.

Finally, I am committed to work closely with you in the weeks ahead in crafting a legislative package addressing the uses of fast track authority in future trade negotiations. We will consult closely with the Congress at every step of the process to ensure that fast track strikes a proper balance between Executive and Legislative Branch authority and prerogatives and guarantees that Members of Congress are actively involved before, during, and after any trade negotiations

As always, thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[name and address]

September 18, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB KYLE

FROM: Eric Biel

SUBJECT: Fast Track Letters

B.K. - if you get a few minutes, can we discuss & get these out of the way?

Attached is the set of five fast track letters that I drafted last week. White House Correspondence is eager to get these finalized as soon as possible.

ERIC

The set consists of three letters to supporters of fast track: short and long versions, and a third targeted to more active/involved supporters (e.g., business leaders). There are two letters -- both fairly long and detailed -- to opponents, the first a general one and the second targeted to Congressional critics.

I don't know if this is the best way to organize this project, and recognize that we still will have to be prepared to respond to specific letters, but figured that this provides a good start and hopefully keeps us from having to get involved every time a new letter arrives. Let's discuss at your convenience.

to Mark
color note re revised
pages to red
5 letters
etc

Attachments

Eric -

BK → ERS

Looks good w/ minor changes. I also think someone more senior in POTUS correspondence should review fast track letters.

CORE
initialed

Michael
head of
office with
decided

ERS

SHORT LETTER TO FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for fast track.

Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly ~~thirteen~~ million new jobs, brought unemployment below ~~five percent~~ and inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than ~~one-third~~ of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open markets to our world-class goods and services. We must shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and let other nations set the trading rules of the next century. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

Accurate?
1st time I've
seen.
In the book
"Peace
Advantage"

5%

Core

13

LONG LETTER TO FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for fast track.

Some changes as 1st letter. Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly thirteen million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. The United States today is the world's leading exporter and the largest producer of key manufacturing goods such as automobiles and semiconductors. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to open markets in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization in key areas such as agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, as well through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open markets and export our world-class products and services to all corners of the globe.

We must shape the global economy to our own advantage. If we instead choose to retreat from it, other nations will set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us. We need to seize new opportunities in growing markets, not cede them to our competitors. Our companies and workers deserve nothing less.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

TARGETED LETTER TO ACTIVE FAST TRACK SUPPORTERS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I greatly appreciate your efforts on behalf of the fast track and your support for our aggressive trade policy over the past several years.

As you know, expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly thirteen million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to protect our interests in those sectors where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in others. You understand well the importance of working to shape the global economy to our own advantage. We cannot instead retreat from it and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

I look forward to working with you in support of fast track renewal, and as always I welcome your thoughts and perspectives.

With best wishes,

Bill Clinton

[Name and address]

GENERAL LETTER TO FAST TRACK CRITICS/OPPONENTS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter describing your concerns about the renewal of fast track authority.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly thirteen million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. In a world where 96 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

I believe strongly that fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Every President has had fast track since 1974. Without it, we will not be able to open foreign markets and sell our world-class goods and services. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it. We cannot afford to let other nations set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

At the same time, I understand your concerns. Let me assure you that I am committed to see that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade. Toward that end, I will continue to work to see that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections. I also will continue to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade, including through increased training and educational opportunities. My Administration has ~~doubled funding for those workers who have not shared in these benefits,~~ helping an additional 300,000 workers per year get training and job search assistance. I am proud of these initiatives, and am committed to doing even more.

I appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

*doubling the
funding previously
provided.*

[Name and address]

MORE FOCUSED LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS/SKEPTICS

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter outlining your concerns with respect to the renewal of fast track authority. As always, I appreciate hearing from you.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created nearly thirteen million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one third of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased almost 50 percent. While I appreciate and understand your concern about our still-substantial merchandise trade deficit, I am encouraged by the significant increases in American exports during 1996 and even more rapid export growth during the first half of 1997, especially in many of our high-wage manufacturing industries.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to address such barriers both in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization on agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, and through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it. We cannot afford to let other nations set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

At the same time, I understand your concerns. Let me assure you of my commitment to work with you to ensure that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade. Toward that end, I will insist that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections. I will also continue working to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade, including through increased retraining and educational opportunities. This Administration has doubled funding for those workers who have not shared in the benefits of trade, helping an additional 300,000 workers per year get training and job search assistance. I am proud of these initiatives, and I would welcome the opportunity to work with you to do even more.

Finally, I am committed to work closely with you in the weeks ahead in crafting a legislative package addressing the uses of fast track authority in future trade negotiations. We will consult closely with the Congress at every step of the process to ensure that fast track strikes a proper balance between Executive and Legislative Branch authority and prerogatives and guarantees that Members of Congress are actively involved before, during, and after any trade negotiations

As always, thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns with me.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

[name and address]

am committed to doing even more.
let's not use This phrase.
(They may benefit as consumers, e.g.)
See previous letter.

Letshaf. Bo

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for the fast track legislation.

Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created twelve million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one quarter of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased more than 40 percent. In a world where over 95 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century. Without fast track, which every President has had since 1974, we will not be able to protect our interests in those sectors where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in others.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

[Name and address]

Letting Doc

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I welcome your comments and your support for ~~the~~ fast track legislation.

Expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created twelve million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. The United States today is the world's leading exporter and the largest producer of key manufacturing goods such as automobiles and semiconductors. Over the past four years, more than one quarter of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased more than 40 percent. In a world where over 95 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to address such barriers both in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization in key areas such as agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, as well through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. Without fast track, which every President has had since 1974, we will not be able to protect our interests in those sectors where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in others.

We must use our leverage to shape the global economy in which we must compete to our own advantage, not retreat from it, abdicate our leadership position, and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us. If we fail to seize new opportunities in growing world markets, our competitors most certainly will do so, to the disadvantage of our companies and workers.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

[Name and address]

Let's go, Doc

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter concerning the renewal of fast track authority. I greatly appreciate your efforts on behalf of the fast track and all of your support for our trade policy over the past several years.

As you know, expansion of international trade has been an important component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created twelve million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one quarter of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased more than 40 percent. In a world where over 95 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our world-class goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Without fast track, which every President has had since 1974, we will not be able to protect our interests in those sectors where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in others. You understand well the importance of using our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

I look forward to working with you in the coming weeks in support of fast track renewal, and welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

With best regards,

[Name and address]

Leftrops. Doc

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter outlining your concerns with respect to the renewal of fast track authority.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created twelve million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one quarter of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased more than 40 percent since I took office. In a world where over 95 percent of the consumers live beyond our borders, it is essential that we are able to export our goods and services in order to sustain our growth and create new, high-paying jobs at home.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. Without fast track, which every President has had since 1974, we will not be able to protect our interests in those key sectors -- such as agriculture and information technology industries -- where we already are the world leader, while increasing our international competitiveness in other sectors as well. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy in which we must compete to our own advantage, not retreat from it, abdicate our leadership position, and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

I am committed to ensure that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade, and toward that end I will continue to work to see that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections. I also will continue working to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade through increased retraining and educational opportunities.

I appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

[Name and address]

Letting Go

September , 1997

Dear :

Thank you for your letter outlining your concerns with respect to the renewal of fast track authority. I appreciate hearing from you.

Expansion of international trade has been a key component of our forward-looking economic strategy, which has created twelve million new jobs, brought unemployment below five percent and core inflation to a 30-year low, and produced sustained economic growth. Over the past four years, more than one quarter of our economic growth has come from trade, and our exports have increased more than 40 percent since I took office. While I appreciate and understand your concern about our still-substantial merchandise trade deficit, I am encouraged by the significant increases in American exports during 1996, and new data showing that exports grew even more rapidly during the first half of 1997, including to such key markets as Canada and Mexico.

Fast track negotiating authority is the tool needed to build upon the progress we already have achieved in reducing foreign trade barriers. It will enable us to address such barriers both in future negotiations in the World Trade Organization on agriculture, services, intellectual property, government procurement, and information technology, and through regional initiatives designed to increase substantially our access to the rapidly growing markets of Latin America and Asia. We must use our leverage to shape the global economy to our own advantage, not retreat from it and permit other nations to set the trading rules of the next century through preferential arrangements that exclude us and disadvantage our companies and workers.

At the same time, let me assure you of my commitment to work with you to ensure that all Americans share in the benefits of increased international trade. Toward that end, I will insist that our trading partners share our respect for worker rights and strong environmental protections, and will also continue working to strengthen the ability of American workers to benefit from expanded trade through increased retraining and educational opportunities.

Finally, I am committed to work closely with you and your colleagues in the weeks ahead in crafting a legislative package addressing the uses of fast track authority in future trade negotiations and ensuring substantial consultations with Congress at every step of the process. I believe that this will guarantee that fast track strikes a proper balance between Executive and Legislative Branch authority and prerogatives, and will ensure that Members of Congress are actively involved before, during, and after formal trade negotiations.

As always, thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns with me.

Sincerely,

[name and address]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF PRESIDENTIAL LETTERS AND MESSAGES

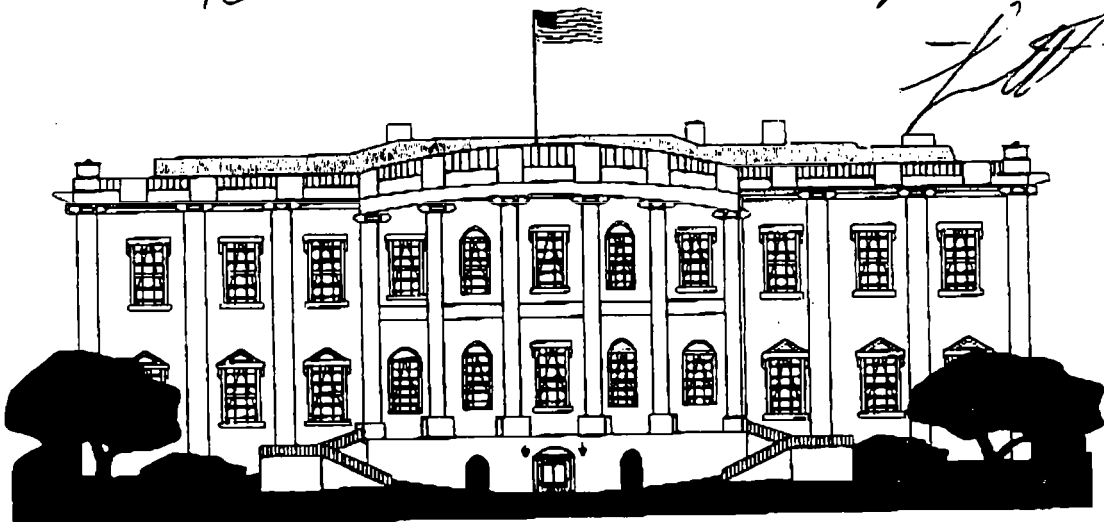
FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

From: R. Scott Michaud
Senior Editor
202-456-5494
(fax) 456-2993

To: Eric Riel
NEC

Date: 9/8/97 **Total Pages:** SIX

Comments: *Fast Track Language. Per Our Conversation...
The current form language + the four pending
letters. Thanks for the help.*



DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / aec /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/lesher.aec

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Aug 06 1997 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3630534

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: Anna Cushing, 93

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

The Honorable Richard L. Leshner
President
Chamber of Commerce of the
United States of America
1615 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20062-2000

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

cleared Lael Brainard NEC 8/6.
LAEL suggested Bob Kyle review.

Dear Richard ~~Lesher~~

I received the letter you wrote with Dean Kleckner regarding fast-track authority for the President.

I agree that we must ensure that our trade agreements benefit all working Americans. I also share your view that obtaining executive trade negotiation authority from Congress would enhance America's ability to continue to bring down trade barriers, give American companies and workers a chance to open new markets, provide global leadership on trade, and ensure that the United States remains the world's leading economic power. Be assured that I will continue to work with Congress to pass fast-track legislation.

I look forward to working with you to advance this important goal in the months ahead. Thanks again for writing.

Eric
Current
Language
for Reply.



(7)

8/27/97

Kenneth G. Bartels
38 Close Road
Greenwich, Connecticut 06831

August 7, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President:

I am very pleased to have read in the press that in September your Administration intends to propose that once again "fast-track" authority be given to the President to negotiate trade agreements with other nations, and that you intend to make this proposal a top legislative priority. Your decision to rise above the partisan on this issue and take a position which, if you are successful, will have very positive long-term benefits for the United States economy, is truly admirable. I wish you the very best of success.

On a personal note, Jane had a nice visit with Hillary at the White House earlier this year. Hillary has taken a real interest in Jane's comedy career. In light of the many things Hillary does for our country, Jane and I were both very pleased (and impressed!) that she has taken the time to help.

Jane and I wish you, Hillary and Chelsea a terrific and, if possible, rejuvenating summer. !!

Sincerely,



2307008

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC

70 PINE STREET

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10270

OFFICE OF
MAURICE R. GREENBERG
CHAIRMAN

July 31, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I thought you might be interested in the attached advertisement on Fast Track that we will begin running soon in major national publications.

We strongly support your decision to seek Fast Track authority. I hope our campaign will help the American public to understand better some of the issues involved and the importance of Fast Track to the United States.

Sincerely yours,

Hank

Attachment



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062-2000
202/659-6000

228464



AMERICAN FARM
BUREAU FEDERATION
600 MARYLAND AVENUE, S.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20024
202/484-3600

July 23, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to urge you to work with the Congress to renew fast-track trade negotiating authority by the end of this session of Congress so you and your successor administrations can negotiate trade agreements that would create new opportunities for U.S. businesses and farmers in world markets.

As you know, the absence of fast track authority has already complicated U.S. negotiators' tasks and costs U.S. business and agriculture many opportunities in the western hemisphere and elsewhere. Because U.S. negotiators cannot effectively negotiate without fast-track, our competitors have already begun negotiating trade preferences for each other while U.S. interests are left out. Regaining our credibility at the trade negotiating table is necessary if the United States hopes to avoid further erosion of its competitive position in world markets. Beyond simply attempting to "level the playing field", U.S. negotiators should actively seek to restore and expand U.S. competitive advantages whenever possible.

At the same time, we remain opposed to linkage of that authority to the pursuit of labor, environmental or other non-trade or social agenda issues. Continuing insistence on this linkage is a major reason why we have lost so much ground already. Ill-considered trade sanctions for various non-trade purposes have also cost our nation substantial trade opportunities in recent years. Expanding the list of available justifications for such sanctions through linkage to trade negotiations could effectively cancel whatever benefits those negotiations might yield. And last but not least, few if any of our major trading partners support incorporation of such linkages in any trade agreements they might reach with the United States.

We appreciate the emphasis your administration has placed on international trade. We stand ready to work with you in the months ahead to regain the momentum we all know will serve America well in the 21st century global economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Leshner".

Richard L. Leshner
President
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dean Kleckner".

Dean Kleckner
President
American Farm Bureau Federation



SECRETARIA PERMANENTE DEL CONGRESO HEMISFERICO
DE CAMARAS DE COMERCIO E INDUSTRIA LATINAS
PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE HEMISPHERIC CONGRESS
OF LATIN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

July 15, 1997

The Honorable
Bill Clinton President of the
United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Directors of the Hemispheric Congress of Latin Chambers of Commerce and Industry, it is our pleasure to write this letter to you. The XVIII Hemispheric Congress of Latin Chambers of Commerce and Industry was held in Miami, Florida, on April 23-26, with the attendance of over 30 Latin American Chambers of Commerce, the Hispanic Chambers of the United States, the Spain Chamber of Commerce and delegates of the European Union and Asia.

During this event the Plenary Session of the Permanent Secretariat of the Congress was held; their members, mainly Presidents of Latin Chambers of Commerce of Latin America, adopted the following agreements that we respectfully present to you.

FIRST: To request the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the United States to submit an Executive Resolution petitioning the United States Congress approval of the "Fast Track" to strengthen trade and commerce with Latin America, specially with the inclusion of the Republic of Chile within NAFTA treaty.

SECOND: To request the United States Congress immediate approval of President Clinton's petition to legislate with the basic and important trade and commerce issues in the American Continent, paving the path towards the establishment of a Free Trade of the Americas by the year 2005, as was initiated by the Honorable President, and approved by the 1994 Summit of the Americas.

These agreements will also be petitioned by the Latin American Chambers of Commerce through the Presidents of their respective nations, with an aim to achieve an Economic Integration of the Americas.

We appeal to you, Mr. President, since it is our duty as representatives of the private enterprise of Latin American countries, within the Free Trade and Commerce and the Democratic System to obtain the approval for the achievement of the "Fast Track" in the legislative process which determines the Laws of this country.

Respectfully,



To: Leal Brainerd, NEC and David Sandalow, CEQ
Fax #: 456-2223 and 456-2710
Re: Presidential Trip Memo
Date: September 8, 1997
Pages: 5, including this cover sheet.

FACSIMILE

URGENT!!!!

As promised. Sorry it took so long.

Aimée

From the desk of...

Aimée Christensen
Special Assistant For Hemispheric Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

(202) 586-4576
Fax: (202) 586-0148

DRAFT MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

CC: NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER SANDY BERGER
COUNSELOR MACK MCLARTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY JEFFREY DAVIDOW

FROM: FEDERICO PEÑA

RE: PRESIDENTIAL TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 1997

As you may be aware, last month I led the U.S. delegation to the inauguration of Hugo Banzer Suarez, the new President of Bolivia. During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet with President Menem of Argentina, Vice President Maciel of Brazil, and Foreign Minister Burreli of Venezuela. Based on those meetings and previous work by my staff, I have enclosed recommendations for your October visit to Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela. *Tentative items are in italics to be finalized.*

First, I would recommend that the primary energy message for your visit should be hemispheric energy cooperation, based on market integration, private investment, and sustainable development. As we move toward a Free Trade Area of the Americas, energy is critical to powering economic growth. The timing of the negotiations of the climate change treaty make this visit an opportunity to convey our priorities on joint and individual energy-related strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. Working together, we can each put in place the policies, regulations, and institutions to ensure the most efficient use of our energy resources that also protect the environment. U.S. energy firms are flourishing in Argentina and Venezuela, and are active even in Brazil without a clear regulatory framework in place. Each of the three stops provides opportunities to advance our mutual agendas through communication, high-level agreements, project signings and site visits.

Venezuela:

The visit is an opportunity to highlight their role as co-chair of our energy cooperation since the 1994 Summit of the Americas, in which their leadership has been critical to maintaining broad participation and concrete progress in opening markets, protecting the environment, and ensuring the energy security of the Americas. In addition, we can highlight their important role in U.S. energy security, as a supplier and investor, and their success in forming partnerships with U.S. energy companies to develop their petroleum sector.

Background:

Venezuela is a leading supplier of petroleum to the U.S. and has taken steps over the past two years to expand production capacity through a process of attracting foreign (predominately U.S.)

investment. The political, public perception, and environmental risks of these efforts inside Venezuela have been considerable and Venezuela prides itself on managing those risks intelligently. Venezuela is a leading participant in the U.S. downstream market, and continued investment in Venezuela contributes to U.S. energy security.

Venezuela's co-leadership with the United States, in the Hemispheric Energy collaboration has led to enhanced energy cooperation among the nations of the Hemisphere and has heightened interest in policies that support sustainable development. While Venezuela has been exceedingly successful in its petroleum sector, there are other areas in which we may work together to diversify the economic strength of this nation, including expanded cooperation for the advancement of renewable energy and energy efficiency uses in rural electrification and urban transportation.

We would like to encourage Venezuela to work cooperatively with the U.S. and other countries in the region to develop harmonized legal, fiscal and regulatory regimes which will promote the integration of regional energy markets, thereby promoting private investment in cross-border energy projects and energy trade; and advocate for signature at the Hemispheric Energy Ministers Meeting in January a Joint Declaration establishing principles for energy integration and endorsing a "Western Hemispheric Vision for Natural Gas" that will attract private capital for gas infrastructure projects and promote regional gas development and trade.

Deliverables

- We have proposed a Presidential event with industry participation where you and President Caldera may sign the Bilateral Investment Treaty which will help to safeguard U.S. investments in Venezuela, the great majority of which are in the energy sector. You may wish to take this opportunity to deliver an energy address focusing on energy cooperation in the Americas, energy security and sustainable development.
- You and President Caldera may also witness the signing by me and my counterpart, Minister Arrieta, of an expanded bilateral energy agreement, renewing our successful petroleum R&D cooperation, and initiating cooperation on broader energy themes, including designation of Caracas as a participant in our Clean Cities Program, information and data exchange, *cooperation on the environmental restoration of Lake Maracaibo* and projects in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- *Following on the celebration of the completion of the Venezuelan Climate Change Country Study (September 30, 1997), we will announce the initiation of collaboration on Venezuela's Climate Change Action Plan.*
- Finally, we are prepared to have you participate, with President Caldera, in a photo opportunity congratulating Venezuelan students about to begin a Fulbright energy study program in the United States, funded by U.S. energy companies.

Brazil:

The central message for Brazil would be a celebration of opportunities for collaboration on clean energy projects, with the goal to engage them on market-based technology cooperation to mitigate global climate change. Brazil has been a leader in promoting renewable energy opportunities in their energy sector, especially in rural areas, but there is still much to be done. First, we would encourage their continuing movement toward the privatization of the electricity sector to open project development to private firms who have the expertise in renewable energy, second, we would like to obtain a large reduction in Brazil's very high tariffs on renewable energy technologies, and third, we would like to ensure that Brazil's regulatory framework facilitate cross-border energy trade to promote the most efficiency in use of energy resources.

To formalize our efforts in these areas, we are in the process of negotiating a bilateral clean energy agreement to be signed during your visit, followed by the establishment of a formal annual bilateral consultative process. Our cooperation will encourage Brazil's continued privatization of the energy sector and the establishment of legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks which will promote the development of competitive energy markets, cross-border integration, and ensure investments in cleaner energy sources and technologies, including natural gas, energy efficiency, and wind and solar power. The Department, and our National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and USAID have worked to address the needs of the rural areas, where renewable energy technologies are most competitive. We are working with the World Bank on a project to ensure rural electrification for the some 60% of Brazil's populace who lives in areas where extension of the electric grid is too expensive for rural residents.

Deliverables

- We propose that you and President Cardoso witness the signature of our bilateral agreement on clean energy. The agreement is a partnership with the Agency for International Development and provides for policy and technology cooperation, including specific joint projects in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean coal and advanced power systems.
- We will also announce the initiation of annual bilateral energy consultations to increase the Department's and U.S. industry's presence in this strategically important country through the hosting of regular meetings with energy ministries to discuss joint projects, information exchanges, trade and investment opportunities, technical exchanges, research and development projects, and policy oriented issues. This may include the development of a U.S.-Brazil business advisory group to discuss obstacles and share that information with public sector decision-makers.
- The agreement will bring resources to promote market-based solutions to climate change, and provide a concrete hook for your conversation with President Cardozo on ensuring their commitment to addressing global climate change, especially through international win-win partnerships such as our collaboration, as well as that between our private sectors. While Brazil has been reluctant to move toward any agreement on addressing climate change, this agreement will provide concrete actions we can take jointly, on a win-win basis on this issue and you may also wish to encourage their support of maximum flexibility, such as through

international partnerships, in meeting our obligations and goals under the climate treaty.

- Finally, we are prepared to witness a private sector signing of a clean energy fuel cell project using Department of Energy-developed MC Power (Illinois-based) technology.

In addition to your schedule, there are two potential site visits for First Lady to renewable energy power systems in the Amazon region which would be ready for an inaugural ceremony. These two projects were installed as part of the Joint US/Brazilian Renewable Energy Rural Electrification Pilot Project, initiated following the Earth Summit in Rio in June 1992. The objective of these two installations is to significantly reduce the use of diesel fuel (for environmental and economic reasons) opening the market for renewable energy throughout the Amazon Basin.

- A solar photovoltaic system with back-up diesel mini-grid in the village of Campinas, about 150km west of Manaus off a tributary to the Solimoes (the Solimoes and the Rio Negro come together at Manaus to form the Amazon River). Departing from Manaus, this would be about a 3 hour boat ride each way.
- A wind turbine and solar photovoltaic system feeds power into a local diesel minigrid for the village of Joanes, which is on the island of Marajo across the river from Belem at the mouth of the Amazon. This system is more accessible, but not nearly as scenic a trip.

Argentina:

The visit is an opportunity to highlight the Argentinean leadership on privatization and attracting investment, especially in cleaner energy projects, such as natural gas, and innovative programs in renewable energy for rural electrification and our collaboration on waste management. Argentina is the only country of the three who appears to be open to international

- Presidents Clinton and Menem witness the signing by Secretary Peña and his counterpart, Secretary Mirkin, of a bilateral Statement of Intent on Joint Implementation/Activities Implemented Jointly, a mechanism under the climate change treaty. The Statement of Intent will promote U.S. industry investments in Argentine clean energy projects that reduce greenhouse gases.
- My counterpart, Energy Secretary Mirkin, and I will then preside over a U.S.-Argentina (perhaps Southern Cone regional) Business Roundtable, where our private sectors recommend governmental steps to promote clean energy opportunities in the vast southern cone market. We will announce our cooperation under the our bilateral energy agreement, including in energy efficiency, renewable energy technologies, environmental restoration, and rural electrification.
- *Following on the completion of Argentina's Climate Change Country Study, we can announce agreement to work jointly with Argentina to develop a national Climate Change Action Plan. Finally, we may witness a private sector signing of a clean energy fuel cell project agreement.*