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TEXT:

East Coast Edition for Thursday, September 25, 1997

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U.S. Front Page Stories

*** Fierce storm Nora lashes Mexico, heads for Ariz.

Lashing rains from Tropical Storm Nora threatened to flood northwestern Mexico and Arizona Thursday as the storm headed toward the southwestern United States. Nora touched land early Thursday halfway down the barren Baja peninsula in Mexico, weather services said. The 88-mile wide storm then scythed across into the Gulf of California, heading for Arizona at 25 mph. The Miami-based U.S. National Hurricane Center said Nora was downgraded from a hurricane to a tropical storm at 11 a.m. ET, though still packing winds of 70 mph. Story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124151-09e>

*** Albert makes plea bargain in assault case

Veteran sportscaster Marv Albert pleaded guilty to assault Thursday in exchange for the prosecution dropping the more serious charge of forcible sodomy, which could lead to life imprisonment. Albert, on trial for biting a woman in a hotel room in February, will be sentenced Oct. 24. The maximum penalty is 12 months in jail and a \$2,500 fine. Albert was alleged to have bitten the woman up to 20 times on the back. She alleged that he forced her to perform oral sex. Albert's lawyers had said she agreed to everything he did. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5125489-fc7>

*** Clinton remembers 1957 Little Rock race incident

President Clinton made a plea to Americans to reverse a trend toward resegregation as he marked the 40th anniversary of the day when nine black students integrated a Little Rock high school. "Far too many communities are all-white, all-black, all-Latino, all-Asian. ..."

Clinton said outside Central High School. It was on Sept. 25, 1957, when students now known as "the Little Rock Nine" desegregated the school under the presence of Army troops enforcing a court order. The incident was one of the ugliest in U.S. civil rights history. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123905-491>

*** IRS employees testify on abusive practices

Internal Revenue Service employees shielded by screens and voice distorters told a Senate committee Thursday that managers encouraged

questionable practices at the expense of taxpayers to improve statistics. The witnesses, identified only by number, told of a management culture that rewarded seizures of taxpayer assets and collections. The five current and one former employee, with eight to 35 years of IRS service, told of a hierarchical structure that was reluctant to admit mistakes and that valued numbers above all. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5125342-55d>

*** NASA's Goldin: Mir poses no 'unnecessary peril'

American astronaut David Wolf will spend the rest of this year aboard the Russian space station Mir because the mission poses no "unnecessary peril," NASA administrator Daniel Goldin said Thursday. Wolf was scheduled to blast off Thursday with the rest of the crew of space shuttle Atlantis at 10:34 p.m. ET, for a rendezvous with Mir. Wolf will change places on Mir with U.S. astronaut Michael Foale. Goldin said his decision to go ahead with the joint U.S.-Russian program was made after independent reviews of the station's safety. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124645-26a>

*** Pentagon defends probe into Gulf War illnesses

The Defense Department Thursday defended its investigation into the ills of Gulf War veterans, rejecting a recommendation that the Pentagon surrender control over the probe. Spokesman Ken Bacon said the Pentagon opposes "taking the investigation away from the Pentagon and giving it to a medical school or giving it to another government

organization." A draft report by the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses, to be sent soon to President Clinton, lashes Pentagon credibility in a probe of mysterious ailments. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124656-f53>

Crime and Catastrophe

*** Young man charged in New Jersey millionaire's murder

A youth allegedly involved in the stabbing death of a once-prominent Republican official has been charged with conspiracy and kidnapping, records revealed Thursday. The defendant, Tony Estevez, 18, appeared in Manhattan federal court Thursday afternoon for his alleged role in the murder of millionaire Nelson Gross, 65, former New Jersey Republican Party chairman. Estevez was arrested in New York Wednesday along with two 17-year-olds, but the charges against the others remained sealed because they are juveniles. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5125742-209>

*** Little Rock bomb alerts seen as false alarms

A bomb-sniffing dog Thursday found suspected devices outside two abortion clinics in Little Rock, Ark., where President Clinton was giving a speech on race relations several miles away. Wayne Jordan, a

spokesman for the Arkansas state police, said the dog alerted its handlers after sniffing around trucks outside the two clinics. But a bomb unit searched a Ryder truck outside one of the clinics and found no explosive device. Another unit was still searching a truck outside the second clinic. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123456-04a>

*** Dozen hurt in New York financial district fire

An early-morning fire in New York injured a dozen people and caused major damage to a 12-story apartment building a few blocks from Wall Street Thursday. Thirty-two fire engines and 121 firefighters responded to the blaze at 130 Water Street, a spokesman from the New York Fire Department said. The spokesman said that of the 12 people injured in the fire, four were firemen. None of the injuries was serious. The fire was yards from the offices of Goldman Sachs, Prudential Securities and other firms. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5118416-344>

The U.S. Political Scene

*** Compromise defense budget clears House

The House Thursday easily approved a \$247.7 billion budget for the Pentagon next year after compromising with the White House on new B-2

stealth bombers and the pullout of U.S. troops from Bosnia. The defense bill passed 356 to 65 and was sent to the Senate for expected final approval. It provides money for the 1998 fiscal year, which starts Oct. 1. The final defense bill will cut off funding for U.S. combat troops in Bosnia after June 30 unless the president certifies that a continued U.S. presence is necessary. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5125150-c97>

*** Rubin preaches free trade gospel in China

U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin preached the gospel of free trade and respect for human rights to Chinese students Thursday. Rubin, on a three-day visit to Beijing, told some 200 business students that free markets, a strong financial system, free flow of information and the absence of corruption were key to China's efforts to modernize its economy. Rubin's visit to Beijing is the latest high-level exchange designed to prepare for a U.S. summit between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and President Clinton next month. For the full story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5122603-98e>

*** Shalala urges bipartisan approach to tobacco policy

Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala urged Congress Thursday to cooperate with the White House in designing an effective national program to combat teen smoking. President Clinton last week rejected the settlement proposal negotiated last June by leading

tobacco companies and the 40 states suing them. He said he would soon invite Congressional leaders from both parties to begin work on tougher legislation. Clinton made clear he wanted a more aggressive national policy that will raise the price of a cigarette pack. Full story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124294-f64>

*** White House to unveil new food safety initiative

The White House will soon announce a tough new initiative to improve the safety of imported fruits and vegetables and tighten food inspections abroad. The initiative comes after 179 school children in Michigan contracted hepatitis last March after eating tainted strawberries imported from Mexico, and is timed to coincide with President Clinton's campaign to win "fast-track" authority from Congress to negotiate new trade agreements. It was not immediately clear when the White House would announce the new initiative. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5120236-ef8>

*** Lawmaker, telecoms suggest cable conspiracy

A Democratic member of the House Judiciary Committee suggested Wednesday that the Justice Department may want to look into a possible conspiracy between cable operators and programmers to keep telephone companies out of the subscription TV marketplace. Virginia Rep. Rick Boucher claimed cabling and their program suppliers are entering "anticompetitive contracts" specifically targeted at telephone companies. He made the statement at a committee hearing on

competition in the cable industry. National Cable Television

Association president Decker Anstrom rejected the charges. For the

full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5120125-d27>

The Courts

*** British nanny lawyers think evidence missing

Lawyers for a British nanny accused of murdering an infant in her care believe that evidence indicating the child had a previous injury is missing, the Boston Globe reported Thursday. Attorney Barry Scheck, who was part of O.J. Simpson's team of defense lawyers, said Wednesday that part of the young boy's brain and head tissue was missing, which could show that he died from an old injury. Louise Woodward, 19, of Chester, England, has pleaded not guilty to first degree murder in the death of 9-month-old Matthew Eappen. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5122633-afa>

U.S. Business and Financial News

*** FTC eyeing Intel

Intel, the world's biggest computer-chip maker, is under investigation by the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC said it is looking into the company's business practices. Intel, which has an 85 percent share of the global PC microprocessor market, is often accused by competitors of monopolistic practices. The government is already investigating Intel's planned \$400 million acquisition of Chips & Technologies. (USA Today)

*** Dow drops three straight

The latest signs of economic strength have taken the wind out of the stock market, driving blue chips lower for a third consecutive session. The Dow was down 59 points to 7848 on volume of 529 million shares. Decliners led advancers 16 to 13. The S&P 500 was down seven points to 938. The Nasdaq was off eight points to 1678. The 30-year bond was down 1 5/32 to yield 6.40 percent.

*** American HomePatient to restructure

American HomePatient, one of the nation's largest home oxygen providers, said it will lay off workers, close offices and post losses for the third quarter and the year to cope with upcoming Medicare cuts. The health care company cited cuts in the reimbursement rates the Medicare health program for the elderly pays for oxygen services. Analysts said other companies in the industry will likely follow suit. (USA Today)

*** Union Carbide CEO may forfeit pay

Union Carbide Corp. said its CEO will forfeit a year's base salary if the company doesn't meet its earnings goals in 1999 and 2000. The announcement came less than a week after the chemical maker warned its third-quarter profits would fall short of expectations. The company said it is setting a target of \$4 a share for each of the two years. If it doesn't make the grade, chairman William Joyce will relinquish his base salary, which in 1996 was \$737,000, and 16 other senior managers will lose 65 percent of their base salaries. (USA Today)

*** Citibank, First Union join on-line alliance

Citibank and First Union announced they have bought stakes in Integrion Financial Network, a bank consortium that is teaming with IBM to foster on-line banking and commerce. The banking giants join the 17 financial companies that have allied with IBM to develop industry-wide standards for commerce via the Internet. Integrion and IBM are battling rivals Microsoft Corp. and Intuit Inc. for control of the fledgling on-line banking business. (USA Today)

*** Israel shrugs off U.S. censure, defends settlement plan

Israel Thursday dismissed U.S. censure of its plan to build 300 more settler homes on the West Bank, denying that it would strike another blow to the tattered Middle East peace process. Stung by a swift rebuke from Washington, Israel's most crucial ally, the government said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's declaration of the plan Wednesday night had been a continuation of existing policy.

Settlement building goes to the heart of the crisis in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, frozen since Netanyahu gave the green light in March to a project in annexed East Jerusalem, captured by Israel in 1967. For the story,

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124910-c61>

Albright calls again for Israeli housing freeze, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124808-bc7>

*** Indonesia mobilizes over bush fires catastrophe

Indonesian President Suharto ordered government mobilization Thursday to fight forest fires spewing smog over much of Southeast Asia. "It's an international catastrophe, the magnitude is so big," the president of the World Wide Fund for Nature, Syed Babar Ali, said of the fires causing the region's worst-ever air pollution. A choking, health-threatening haze has covered neighboring Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei and has extended as far north as Thailand's Phuket tourist resort and north-east into the Philippines, raising region-wide alarm. Story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123742-3a3>

Smog-stricken Southeast Asia sees tourism decline, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5119885-acb>

Malaysian firefighters spray capital in smog fight, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5119410-610>

Philippines gov't says stay indoors to avoid smog, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5119485-3da>

*** Blair, Ahern laud N. Irish peace breakthrough

Britain and Ireland said Thursday a new agreement between feuding Northern Ireland parties offered the province concrete hopes for a lasting peace. "It is an historical agreement and an historical opportunity," Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern said in Dublin after rival groups finally agreed to full-scale peace talks. British Prime Minister Tony Blair said he was determined to secure an agreement on Northern Ireland's future by May. The powerful Ulster Unionist Party and Sinn Fein, political wing of IRA guerrillas, backed the deal. For story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124765-692>

*** British nurse's fate being discussed - lawyers

A British nurse facing possible beheading for murder in Saudi Arabia and the Australian brother of her alleged victim are negotiating over his rights, which include his entitlement to demand blood money in return for clemency, lawyers said Thursday. Lawyers for Frank Gilford said they were discussing all of his rights, which could involve a

payment if the nurse, Deborah Parry, is convicted. Under Saudi law, Gilford has the right to call for the death penalty by beheading or clemency if Parry is found guilty of murdering his sister Yvonne. For story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5118602-86c> Outback Australian faces life-or-death decision, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5118564-083>

*** American at U.N. in Geneva convicted of fraud

A senior American staff member of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has been convicted of embezzling at least \$500,000 from the development agency over a 10-year period, U.N. officials said Thursday. Gustavo Soler-Artakona, 55, a Cuban-born American, was given a suspended jail sentence of 18 months late Wednesday by a Geneva court, where he pleaded guilty to all 58 charges of fraud and forgery against the United Nations. It was believed to be the first time a U.N. official has been successfully prosecuted. Full story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123698-0f6>

The World Political Scene

*** Commonwealth threatens Nigeria sanctions

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said Thursday the Commonwealth

would impose sanctions on Nigeria unless the African state implemented long-promised democratic reforms. Cook, speaking to the United Nations, also made clear that a summit of Commonwealth leaders next month would continue Nigeria's suspension from the 53-nation body. His comments made clear that the Commonwealth -- which mainly groups former British colonies -- had finally run out of patience with what it sees as Nigeria's foot-dragging over democratic reforms.

For the story,

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123529-d9f>

*** Pakistan demurs India bid for U.N. Council

Pakistan Thursday questioned arch-rival India's candidature for a permanent seat at the U.N. Security Council, saying New Delhi had failed to implement U.N. resolutions in the disputed Kashmir region. Indian Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral said in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly Wednesday that New Delhi was prepared to accept a permanent seat in the planned expansion of the Security Council. Pakistan controls a third of Kashmir over which the two countries have fought two of the three wars since its 1947 independence from Britain. Story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121576-b43>

*** Turkey asks U.N. to bar Cyprus missile deployment

Turkey has called on Secretary-General Kofi Annan to prevent the planned deployment of S-300 missiles in Cyprus, calling them a direct

threat to the security of Turkish Cypriots and Turkey itself and warning they would take unspecified "corresponding measures." The Russian-made missiles, described by the Nicosia government as an air defense system, are scheduled to be installed in the south of the divided island some time in 1998. Reports said the missiles could easily penetrate the airspace of neighboring countries. For the full story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5122169-7af>

*** France's Chirac begins state visit to Russia

President Jacques Chirac arrived in Moscow Thursday for a three-day state visit aimed partly at boosting France's relatively weak economic ties with Russia. Chirac was given a formal reception by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin -- the first in a round of pomp and ceremony aimed at stressing special links between Paris and Moscow. Late Thursday Chirac is due to begin the first of two meetings in the Kremlin with President Boris Yeltsin. Yeltsin will decorate the French leader with Russia's highest honor, "For Services to the Country." Story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5119943-5df>

*** World court balances Danube dam ruling

The International Court of Justice, ruling on a long-standing dispute between Hungary and Slovakia, said Thursday that both countries had breached a 1977 treaty on harnessing the River Danube to generate electricity. In its first major environmental case, the United

Nations court said Hungary had been wrong to withdraw from the treaty and abandon work on the project. But it said Slovakia had also acted unlawfully by pressing ahead with the project on its own and unilaterally diverting the course of Europe's longest river. It said each country was obliged to pay compensation. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121616-1b6>

World Business and Financial News

*** Asia stocks end mixed; Hang Seng soars, Taipei sinks

Share prices closed broadly mixed on the major Asian-Pacific markets Thursday. Hong Kong's blue-chip Hang Seng Index soared 3 percent as investors picked up bargains following the bourse's recent sharp decline. Meanwhile, Japan's Nikkei average of 225 stocks fell for the first time in five sessions, with investors cashing in on recent gains. Elsewhere, the Stock Exchange of Thailand Index surged nearly 4 percent in heavy trading amid lingering hopes that the country's political situation will improve after parliament votes on a new constitution. But Taiwan's share prices plunged for the third straight session, as the market unloaded technology issues on worries about companies' future earnings. South Korean shares posted losses on rumors that Ssangyong Group is suffering financial problems. (WSJ)

*** U.S. declines, profit-taking lead losses across Europe

Share prices were mostly lower across Europe Thursday, as sympathy for the U.S. financial markets and profit-taking dominated trading.

Shares in London and Paris slid in line with the declines on the Dow Jones Industrial Average, while share prices lost ground on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange lost ground as U.S. durable goods data and a weaker dollar left the market directionless. Investors in Italy and Spain took profits following the gains of recent sessions. (USA Today)

*** IMF chief: Asia monitoring needed

The head of the International Monetary Fund suggests Asian nations should monitor and warn each other about political mistakes that could lead to regional economic crises. Recent downturns in Southeast Asian currencies and stock markets were a major focus of the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank. IMF chief Michel Camdessus closed the conference by rejecting suggestions that such crises can be avoided through more controls. (USA Today)

*** Japan to urge automakers to limit exports

Japan's trade minister will push automakers to limit exports to the United States amid increasing trade friction between the countries. A spokesman for the Ministry of International Trade and Industry says trade minister Mitsuo Horiuchi "will urge automakers to be prudent

about the amount they export." The call for restraint comes as Japanese automakers are trying to make up for a slump in sales at home by sending more cars overseas. (USA Today)

*** Payoff scandal probe expanded

Authorities have raided the offices of Nikko Securities Co. and the homes of its top executives, extending their investigation of a payoff scandal to all of Japan's Big Four brokerages. An official at the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office says Nikko's chairman, Takuya Iwasaki, and president, Kichiro Takao, are the latest executives to have their homes searched. The raids Thursday come a day after prosecutors arrested the former president of Yamaichi Securities Co., also on suspicion of illegally funneling profits to alleged racketeer Ryuichi Koike. (USA Today)

Sports

*** Astros can clinch NL Central Thursday

The division may be nicknamed "Comedy Central," but the Houston Astros could be the ones laughing all the way to the playoffs. Houston can clinch the National League Central title with a victory over the Chicago Cubs Thursday at the Astrodome. It would be the Astros' first division crown since winning the NL West in 1986, in

addition to securing Houston (81-77) a winning record. The Astros clinched at least a tie when the Pittsburgh Pirates lost to the New York Mets, 7-5, Wednesday. The Pirates, who trail Houston by 3 1/2 games, conclude the season with three games in Houston, a series that will be meaningless unless the Cubs win Thursday. If the Astros lose Thursday and are swept by the Pirates this weekend, a one-game playoff will take place Monday in Pittsburgh.

*** Steelers to commit at least \$50M to new stadium

The Pittsburgh Steelers announced a \$50 million commitment toward the construction of a new stadium Thursday and their intention to sign a 25-year lease. The Steelers, who have played their home games at Three Rivers Stadium since 1970, are pursuing a new stadium on the city's North Shore to financially compete in the league and the rest of the AFC Central Division, whose four other teams will all be in new facilities by the year 2000. The team will also pay for cost overruns for the stadium, provided it controls the design and construction of the project.

*** Report: WNBA to add Detroit, Washington, D.C. franchises

The WNBA reportedly will add expansion franchises in Detroit and Washington, D.C., bringing to 10 the number of teams in the year-old women's league. ESPN is reporting the announcement could come as early as Thursday, although the WNBA's Alice McGillion told SportsTicker that no news conferences are planned this week.

McGillion refused comment when asked whether Detroit and Washington, D.C. were under consideration as expansion sites. ESPN also is reporting that Nikki McCray, the most valuable player of the rival ABL who defected to the WNBA last week, will be assigned to the new Washington, D.C. entry.

*** Jazz to sign Ostertag to contract extension Thursday

The Utah Jazz have scheduled a press conference for Thursday when they will announce the signing of center Greg Ostertag to a contract extension. The Salt Lake Tribune reported Thursday it is a six-year deal worth about \$30 million for the 7-foot-2 Ostertag, who would have become a free agent after the 1997-98 season if he didn't sign before Oct. 1. Ostertag, 23, was the 28th overall pick in the 1995 draft and averaged 3.6 points and 3.1 rebounds over 57 games during his rookie campaign. He improved his numbers to 7.3 points, 7.3 rebounds and 1.97 blocks in 77 contests last season as the Jazz advanced to the NBA finals for the first time.

Science and Medicine

*** Diet changes can reduce cancer risk - experts

Cancer is preventable and eating less meat and more fruits and vegetables could reduce cases of the disease by up to 40 percent a

year, medical experts said Thursday. People should change to a more plant-based diet and meat, if eaten at all, should be limited to less than three ounces or one portion a day, said the World Cancer Research Fund's study, the most comprehensive on diet and cancer ever undertaken. Full text story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5123997-5e1>

Britain warns big meat eaters of cancer risk, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5118870-6b6>

*** Not a cure, but something to shorten flu's misery

A new drug can shorten flu victims' suffering by one day or up to three days if they inhale it soon enough, according to a study appearing in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. The experimental medicine zanamivir, manufactured by Glaxo Wellcome Plc. and tested on 262 adults with the flu, blocks a protein that the influenza virus needs to grow and replicate. Researchers found the medicine did not stop the illness, but reduced its duration. The drug did not affect the severity of the symptoms. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5107961-d75>

*** U.N. warns of risk to AIDS vaccine volunteers

The United Nations AIDS program expressed "serious safety concerns" Thursday for 50 doctors who have volunteered to test a vaccine using the HIV virus on themselves, adding that their sex partners were at potential risk. It said the vaccine, successfully tested on monkeys,

was potentially dangerous to humans: "Unlike other current candidate AIDS vaccines, there is no guarantee that it will not give (the volunteers) AIDS." But it called the doctors' decision "bold and courageous" as it highlighted the urgent need for developing new ways to prevent the spread of HIV, which causes 8,500 new infections daily. Story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124320-52d>

*** Smoking mice offer gene clue to emphysema

A single enzyme may hold the key to many cases of emphysema, researchers reported Thursday. The scientists at Washington University in St. Louis genetically engineered mice to lack the enzyme and then forced them to inhale cigarette smoke. They found the mice did not develop emphysema, which affects two million Americans and which is nearly always caused by smoking. Reporting in the journal Science, they said their finding could help them develop a new drug. Full story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5120325-a76>

Technology

*** Internet project links schools and parents

Dubbed the largest kindergarten-through-12th grade Internet project

ever, the American School Directory (ASD) said Thursday that it had put 106,000 schools on the World Wide Web. Sponsored by IBM, Apple and privately held Computers for Education, among others, Web sites at participating schools post art work by students, list events and offer catalogs of books, magazines and computers. A portion of purchases made through the sites is returned to the school, ASD said in a statement. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124658-bf4>

*** Microsoft on pace to overtake Netscape in 'browser wars'

Microsoft is on pace to overtake Netscape as the favored supplier among mid- and large-sized organizations of software used to browse the World Wide Web, according to Computerworld newspaper. Two years ago, Netscape virtually owned the Web browser category and Microsoft had just entered the market, with the release of Windows 95. Since then, those identifying Microsoft as their lead vendor for browsers has climbed steadily from 8.5 percent to 36.5 percent by July/August 1997. At the same time, Netscape's share has dropped from 76.5 percent to 54.8 percent. (PR Newswire) Full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121171-cf7>

*** Sprint, Intel join for faster Web access

Sprint Internet Passport strengthened its commitment to delivering the fastest, most reliable Internet access service Thursday, joining Intel in its market trial for Intel Quick Web technology. This new

technology significantly cuts waiting time to view graphically rich World Wide Web pages. Intel Quick Web technology uses several techniques to speed up the downloading of Internet graphic images and compressing them by removing unnecessary data bits. The compressed Web page is received significantly faster since there is less data to download. (PR Newswire) See full story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5122803-87d>

Human Interest

*** CIA cookbook: the spy who came in from the coleslaw

CIA people, famous for being tight-lipped, have spilled the beans in a spooky new cookbook. Giving fresh meaning to the term secret recipes, the spies and their spouses tout such goodies as sweet onion rings in beer batter, cole slaw souffle, "CIA cake" and cobra soup. Most of the more than 130 contributors go unnamed in the book, "Spies, Black Ties & Mango Pies," published by Community Communications. Unlike most cookbooks, this one twins recipes with their authors' tales of CIA family life abroad such as scrambling for a plane to flee Libya. See more at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121630-79e> Recipe for "CIA cake," see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121704-cb1>

*** Bishop gives elderly Spanish nuns marching orders

A bishop has officially closed a 19th century convent in central Spain despite the refusal of a group of elderly nuns to move out and the emotional pleas of the entire village. The Bishop of Sigüenza had ordered the five nuns -- whose average age is 67 -- to leave because he felt they were too old and too few to keep the convent open. He had warned them that they faced expulsion from their order if they did not obey. The nuns have lived in the convent in the village of Espinosa de Henares for 40 years. Full text story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5122672-549>

*** Dolls meet fiery end in Japanese ceremony

Children's dolls donated by about 600 people went up in flames at a temple in Japan Thursday during an annual ritual. Every year, hundreds of people bring their old dolls to Kiyomizu Kannon-do, a Buddhist temple in downtown Tokyo, to be burned in a ceremony that began as a fertility rite. These days, the faithful bring dolls they want to dispose of but feel too fond of to just throw away. The temple is dedicated to the god of child-rearing. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5121591-417>

*** Calif. woman shared house with mother's corpse

A 50-year-old woman concealed the death of her mother and kept her

corpse in a house they shared for several months while it decomposed, said Fairfield, Calif., police. Sgt. Brent Baird said officers discovered the corpse Tuesday after the woman's son asked police to check on her condition. Baird said the daughter reportedly told officers that her mother was sleeping and that she did not want to wake her. Police persuaded the daughter to let them inside to check on the mother, whose skeletal remains were found lying on a bed. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5124971-33a>

*** Rescue heroes get bittersweet reward

Rescue workers from Australia's Thredbo landslide tragedy received more than just thanks when they attended a government awards ceremony -- many fell ill from suspected food poisoning. The Sydney Morning Herald reported Thursday that New South Wales state health officials were investigating claims that dozens, and possibly hundreds, of the 1,600 people who attended last Sunday's buffet luncheon had fallen ill. Among those affected was Col O'Neill, the State Emergency Services (SES) deputy site manager at Thredbo the day that sole survivor Stuart Diver was pulled from the wreckage of the landslide that killed 18 people, including Diver's wife.

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===== ATTACHMENT 1

=====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDf V5.0-4 #6879)
id <01IO2F0LM0DC009B8Y@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for reich_b@a1.eop.gov; Thu,
25 Sep 1997 16:54:16 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from storm.eop.gov (storm.eop.gov)
by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDf V5.0-4 #6879) id <01IO2F0JCAMO00EONY@PMDf.EOP.GOV> for
reich_b@a1.eop.gov; Thu, 25 Sep 1997 16:54:13 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from sender3.lodo.infobeat.com ([208.146.68.35])
by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDf V5.1-7 #6879)
with ESMTP id <01IO2F09AHPK005YCH@STORM.EOP.GOV> for reich_b@a1.eop.gov; Thu,

25 Sep 1997 16:54:05 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from sender3.lodo.in.merc.com (news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com)
by sender3.lodo.in.merc.com

(version 3.32, queueup copyright InfoBeat, Inc. 1997)

with stdio id EOPA1AAELY05438; Thu, 25 Sep 1997 14:52:18 -0600 (MDT)

Errors-to: news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com

X-TestFile: merc-news1-text-reich_b@a1.eop.gov

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: nobody (nobody@www2.whitehouse.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 29-SEP-1997 16:47:00.00

SUBJECT: Guest_Book_WH_WWW_MAIL

TO: guestbook (guestbook@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ: UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Remote host: edccw.nipsco.com

Remote IP address: 208.137.36.30

BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.02; Update a; Windows

95)

[Sender information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Andrew Preston

[Message information]

SUBJECT: Free Trade

[Message content follows]

I strongly agree with your push to get fast track authority.

Keep it up.

Andrew Preston===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

Received: from conversion.pmdf.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDf V5.0-4 #6879)

id <01IO8037I5PC00IEN7@PMD.F.EOP.GOV> for guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Mon,
29 Sep 1997 16:51:14 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from storm.eop.gov (storm.eop.gov)

by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMD.F V5.0-4 #6879) id <01IO8036D60G00KH4F@PMD.F.EOP.GOV> for
guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Mon, 29 Sep 1997 16:51:13 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from www2.whitehouse.gov ([198.137.240.92])

by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMD.F V5.1-7 #6879)

with SMTP id <01IO802I3R1I00674U@STORM.EOP.GOV> for guestbook@oa.eop.gov; Mon,

29 Sep 1997 16:50:40 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by www2.whitehouse.gov (951211.SGI.8.6.12.PATCH1042/940406.SGI.AUTO)

for guestbook@oa.eop.gov id QAA05631; Mon, 29 Sep 1997 16:47:41 -0400

Apparently-to: guestbook@oa.eop.gov

Keywords: WWW-Correspondence; Guest_Book

Comments: Forwarded from White House WWW.

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: news-errors (news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:30-SEP-1997 16:55:00.00

SUBJECT: News - East Coast Edition @ 09/30/97

TO: Brian A. Reich (Brian A. Reich@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

East Coast Edition for Tuesday, September 30, 1997

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automatically protected? @Backup - the total data protection
solution, automatically updates it's integrated anti-virus
program every month! Protect your data from losses of all kinds
with @BACKUP. FREE Software. 30 day FREE trial.

Visit: <http://virus.atbackup.com/?134>

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*** Timberwolves reportedly increase offer to Garnett

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*** Seahawks' Warren, Galloway may miss Sunday

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*** Selenium level linked to AIDS death - U.S. scientists

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*** Nobel science contenders under the spotlight

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U.S. Front Page Stories

*** Clinton, Gingrich cross swords over IRS

President Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich crossed swords Tuesday over how far to go in reforming the Internal Revenue Service. The Republican leadership in Congress, backed by some Democrats, has proposed creating an independent board appointed by the president to oversee the IRS. Gingrich called the IRS "hopelessly out of control"

and urged reform of the agency. Clinton said the Senate hearings raised some legitimate points that must be addressed but that his administration has already been working on a project to improve the IRS. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205782-a07>

*** Committee to call former Clinton aide next week

The Senate committee investigating campaign fund-raising abuses in the 1996 election will call former White House senior aide Harold Ickes to testify, probably next Tuesday, a Senate source said. Ickes, who was White House deputy chief of staff from 1993-96, is seen as a central figure in the investigation. He coordinated Clinton's re-election campaign and oversaw its fund-raising operations. The decision to call Ickes represents a return by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee to focus on alleged abuses by Democrats in the 1996 campaign. Full story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204612-5ae>

*** Clinton urges race board to look to future

President Clinton Tuesday urged a presidential race panel to focus on improving education and economic opportunity for minorities amid reports some panelists want an apology and cash reparations for slavery. Making clear the type of direction he would like the panel to take, Clinton awarded \$15 million in grants to enforce fair housing laws in 33 states and Washington, D.C. Clinton has already stressed he does not want the commission to get bogged down in

considering whether he should make an apology for slavery. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204690-627>

*** U.S. seeks international price-fixing pacts

With international trade growing rapidly, the United States is aggressively seeking new cooperation with other countries to help protect American consumers from price-fixing. The United States has some of the toughest laws in the world against price-fixing, levying fines or sending people to prison if their companies are guilty of dividing territory and setting high monopolistic prices. But other countries lack the 100-year trust-busting tradition of the United States, and most prefer civil to criminal penalties. Full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203967-b81>

Crime and Catastrophe

*** MIT student dies after fraternity house party

A freshman student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has died after an alcoholic binge at a fraternity house. Scott Krueger, 18, died late Monday, said a spokeswoman for the hospital. Police said he had a blood alcohol level that was more than five times the legal driving limit after a drinking binge at the Phi Gamma Delta

fraternity. MIT officials indefinitely suspended the fraternity where Krueger drank the alcohol and said they were considering a school-wide ban on liquor, the Boston Herald reported. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5201301-a0c>

*** Kevorkian attorney: Colorado woman dies in Michigan

The lawyer for Dr. Jack Kevorkian said Tuesday that a 54-year-old Colorado woman suffering from multiple sclerosis died in a suburban Detroit motel room. The statement from attorney Geoffrey Fieger's office did not say if the assisted suicide advocate was involved in the death of Kari Miller of Englewood, Colo., nor did he say when the death occurred. Fieger could not be reached for immediate comment. A letter from Miller released by Fieger's office said her disease had forced her to live with intolerable pain. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205461-18d>

The U.S. Political Scene

*** Senate passes stopgap spending, sends to Clinton

The Senate passed and sent to the White House Tuesday a short-term measure to fund federal programs through Oct. 23, preventing a government shutdown as lawmakers wrap up work on overdue spending

bills. President Clinton was expected to quickly sign the bill, which is needed before Wednesday when the new fiscal year begins and essential agencies will run short of money. The legislation would also temporarily extend a program that helps immigrants become legal residents without having to first leave the United States. Full story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5206112-421>

*** Clinton's 'fast track' in deep trouble - Gingrich

U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich said on Tuesday that President Clinton's request for so-called fast-track authority to negotiate new trade agreements was in serious trouble in Congress. "I do not today see the votes in the House to pass fast track," Gingrich told a National Press Club audience. "I believe the legislation is in very deep trouble." For the second part of the story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205300-031>

*** Committee hears call for end to soft money

Former Vice President Walter Mondale and former Republican senator Nancy Kassebaum Baker appealed to Republican leaders Tuesday not to sabotage campaign finance reform legislation with killer amendments. The legislation would ban the use of "soft money," unlimited political contributions made by individuals and certain groups. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott Monday introduced an amendment to the bill that would require labor unions to allow their members to

stop their dues being used for political contributions. The amendment is viewed as a potential death blow to the legislation. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203566-b82>

*** House passes compromise Energy Dept. budget

The House Tuesday easily approved a compromise 1998 budget for the Energy Department and federal water projects of \$20.7 billion, \$782 million more than last year's level. The non-controversial measure passed on a vote of 404-17 and was sent to the Senate for final approval. It will take effect as soon as President Clinton signs it into law. The historic Tennessee Valley Authority utility, set up by President Roosevelt in 1933, was given one last year of federal subsidy. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204340-d60>

*** Clinton attacks scholarship plan, Senate stalls

President Clinton Tuesday attacked a \$7 million scholarship plan that would help some poor District of Columbia children enroll in private schools, even as the proposal stalled in the Senate. In a test vote, supporters failed 58-41 to limit debate on an amendment providing scholarships of up to \$3,200. They said the plan would have let about 2,000 low-income D.C. children enter private schools or public schools in outlying areas. The initiative is part of a high-pressure to provide tax breaks or vouchers for private schools nationwide.

Full story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205016-ca5>

*** Joint Chiefs head retires with full pomp

The nation's highest ranking military officer, Gen. John Shalikashvili, headed into retirement Tuesday with a full display of pomp. " ... our world is a better place because of your service," Clinton said at ceremonies to honor the 61-year-old general on his retirement as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Shalikashvili was saluted both for his extraordinary life -- in which he went from a childhood in Warsaw during World War II to the position of America's top soldier -- and for his role in reshaping the U.S. military strategy in the post Cold-War era. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205934-d65>

The Courts

*** Judge rules Toys 'R' Us muscled out competition

A federal administrative judge ruled Tuesday that Toys "R" Us Inc. used its muscle as the nation's largest toy seller to prevent toy manufacturers from supplying low-priced shopping clubs. Federal Trade Commission Administrative Law Judge James Timony prohibited Toys "R" Us from pressuring suppliers or making agreements with them to hold

back toys from shopping clubs. Timony found that Toy "R" Us had prices that were not the lowest in the industry, so it reached agreements with toy makers to restrict sales to discount clubs. For full story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204813-047>

*** Hooters to pay \$2 million in discrimination suits

Hooters restaurant chain said Tuesday its tentative \$2 million settlement with rejected male applicants who sued it for sex discrimination would not change its policy of hiring scantily clad "Hooters girls" to serve customers. The settlement, which will be reviewed Nov. 18, calls on Hooters to pay an additional \$1.75 million to plaintiffs' lawyers and open up the jobs of service bartender and service staff to men. Several class-action suits were filed around the country beginning in 1993 on behalf of rejected male applicants. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204521-660>

*** Retired U.S. agent cannot sue over Kennedy book

A retired U.S. Secret Service agent cannot go to court over a book that claims he accidentally fired the shot that killed President John F. Kennedy, officials said Tuesday. U.S. District Judge Alexander Harvey dismissed the defamation suit filed by George Hickey against St. Martin's Press, Simon & Shuster and Bonar Menninger, the author of the book "Mortal Error," saying Hickey waited too long to file the suit. The book alleges that Hickey accidentally shot and killed the

president in 1963, when he was assigned to Kennedy's Dallas motorcade. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5206146-9f7>

*** Local governments sue Oakland Raiders

Local government officials sued the Oakland Raiders of the National Football League Monday, saying they wanted the football team to fulfill the terms of a 1995 agreement that brought the team back to Oakland. The Raiders returned to Oakland in 1995 after 13 years in Los Angeles under a controversial \$200 million agreement with local governments. Officials said in a statement that the lawsuit sought to prevent Raiders' management from wrongfully interfering with an agreement to sell the naming rights of the coliseum. Full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5196621-72f>

*** Venezuelan aide convicted in Miami cocaine trial

A top aide to Venezuela's former anti-drug chief has been convicted in a Miami federal court of conspiring to ship up to 22 tons of cocaine to Florida, a court clerk said Tuesday. The verdict against Adolfo Romero Gomez was announced late Monday. The jury deliberated 12 hours over two days but remained deadlocked on a second charge, in which Romero was accused of smuggling a specific shipment of more than 900 pounds of cocaine from Colombia through Venezuela to the United States in 1990. Romero faces life in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for Dec. 10. See

U.S. Business and Financial News

*** Fed holds U.S. rates steady

The Federal Reserve Tuesday voted to leave key interest rates unchanged amid signs the economy is humming along comfortably with few indications of inflationary pressures. The widely expected decision by the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) left the federal funds rate that banks charge each other for overnight loans steady at 5.5 percent, where it has been since March. The next FOMC meeting is Nov. 12. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5205526-625>

*** Investors yawn at Fed

Wall Street barely shrugged after the Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged Tuesday, but stocks and bonds nosed downward as investors made last-minute changes before the end of the quarter. The Dow was off 46 points to 7945 on volume 589 million shares. Advancers led decliners 16 to 12. The S&P 500 was down six points to 947. The Nasdaq was down nine points to 1685. The 30-year bond was down 9.32 to yield 6.40 percent.

*** Lehman Brothers posts strong profits

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. said profits more than doubled in the third quarter, beating Wall Street expectations, on strong gains in trading and investment banking. Lehman, the nation's third biggest securities firm, earned \$197 million, or \$1.30 per share, in the three months ending Aug. 31, compared with \$77 million, or 60 cents per share, during the same period a year ago. Analyst were expecting earnings of 16 cents per share. (USA Today)

*** New home sales declined in August

The government said new home sales fell 2.2 percent in August. The Commerce Department reported single-family homes sold at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 800,000, down from 818,000 in July. The August decline was somewhat larger than expected. Most economists had predicted a drop of less than 1 percent. (USA Today)

*** Microsoft launching Web browser

Software giant Microsoft Corp. on Tuesday is rolling out its new Web browser, Internet Explorer 4.0. The tech tool makes graphics, text and sound just a point and a click away on the Internet. Explorer 4.0 is Microsoft's answer to Web-surfing software from rival Netscape, the leader in the browser market. (USA Today)

*** Toyota's Camry may outsell Ford's Taurus - Journal

Toyota Motor Corp's Camry sedan is expected to be named the top selling car in the 1997 model year, the Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday. The Camry may overtake Ford's Taurus model, which has been number one for four consecutive years, the paper said. The final results won't be tallied until after the model year officially ends Tuesday, the Journal reported, but going into September, 30,000 more Camrys had sold than Tauruses.

World Front Page Stories

*** Full N. Irish peace talks set for Oct. 7

Northern Ireland peace negotiations aimed at bringing peace to the British-ruled province will open early next week, sources said Tuesday. Representatives of pro-British and pro-Irish groups recommended Tuesday, Oct. 7, as the start-up date during two and a half hours of preliminary talks in Belfast, according to the sources. The launch will crown a three-year Anglo-Irish peace drive to find a political settlement to one of the world's oldest guerrilla conflicts between Catholics and Protestants. For the full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203816-c6e>

*** Israel backs settlements despite time-out deal

Israel said Tuesday it intended to go on expanding Jewish settlements despite having agreed to discuss a "time-out" when formal peace talks resume with Palestinians. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would not change Israel's settlement policy. Israelis and Palestinians met with U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in New York Monday. They agreed to restart formal talks, blocked for six months over Jewish settlement expansion on the West Bank and Islamic militant suicide attacks inside Israel, in October. Full text story, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204637-416>

*** U.N. says Indonesian fires will do lasting harm

The United Nations said Tuesday Indonesian bush fires spewing smog over Southeast Asia were an environmental emergency which would affect individual health and Asian economic well-being for years to come. Indonesia's neighbors, particularly Malaysia, have borne the brunt of the smog from the fires, which have raged for weeks on Sumatra and Kalimantan, the southern part of Borneo. U.N. experts, gathered in Jakarta to coordinate efforts to douse the flames, delivered the grim message that even if the fires were controlled soon, the pollution after-effects could last for years. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203623-dc9>

More foreign help for Malaysia to fight smog, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5198915-d59>

*** Payout of Swiss dormant accounts moves closer

Thousands of people demanding money from dormant wartime-era accounts in Swiss banks moved closer to getting paid after a board of trustees was named to oversee the claims process, officials said Tuesday. An independent Swiss-Jewish panel which is checking banks' books for dormant accounts said three of its members would serve on the new board. The trustees will commission a group of experts to advise on how best to settle the claims. They will also name up to 15 arbitrators who will decide on payments in individual cases. Full text story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203311-867>

*** Russian readies for first spacewalk in U.S. suit

A cosmonaut prepared Tuesday to take Russia's first step into space using a U.S. spacesuit. Meanwhile, the country's prime minister said the problem-prone Mir space station was safely under control. Cosmonauts on Mir had a schedule of TV interviews lined up for Tuesday, although the real business was trying out spacesuits for Wednesday's walk. During the five-hour spacewalk, cosmonaut Vladimir Titov, 49, and U.S. flight engineer Scott Parazynski will leave the Atlantis shuttle for the Mir which is docked alongside. During the mission they will retrieve scientific equipment on Mir's exterior. See story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5200292-445>

*** Diana driver was long-time alcoholic - new tests

New laboratory analyses have found that Henri Paul, the Ritz Hotel security official who drove the limousine in which Princess Diana died, was a long-time alcoholic, sources said Tuesday. The new tests show he suffered from "moderate alcoholism" for an undetermined period of time, the sources said. A series of earlier tests had detected an illegal level of alcohol in the chauffeur, along with traces of Prozac and Tiapride, both of whose instructions for use advise caution in driving. The drug combination is used in France to combat alcoholism. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5202742-1e9>

The World Political Scene

*** EU, U.S. on collision course over Total contract

The European Commission signaled its intent Tuesday to fight the United States if Washington imposed sanctions on French oil firm Total over its natural gas contract in Iran. "The European Union remains firmly opposed to United States legislation having extraterritorial effect -- notably the Helms-Burton and D'Amato Acts," European Trade Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan warned. The United States said Tuesday it would take time to assess whether the Total deal violated the D'Amato act ban on trade with Iran or Libya. Story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204399-b67>

United States could choose from several sanctions on Total, see
<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204162-340>

*** Libya urges Assembly to intervene in Lockerbie case

Libya called on the United Nations General Assembly to intervene in the Lockerbie affair, which resulted in sanctions against Tripoli, saying Tuesday it could not receive justice from the Security Council. Libyan U.N. representative Abuzed Dorda urged action to enable two Libyans accused in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am flight over Scotland that killed 270 people to be tried in a country other than Scotland or the United States. Britain and the United States insist the two Libyans cannot be tried anywhere else. For the full story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204892-c3d>

*** EU ministers to sign Amsterdam Treaty

European Union foreign ministers gather in Amsterdam Thursday to formally sign a compromise EU treaty which was designed to pave the way for eastward expansion but leaves many hurdles still to tackle. In contrast to the landmark Maastricht Treaty on economic and monetary union, engineered six years ago, the Amsterdam Treaty brokered in June fell far short of what was hoped. It had been seen as crucial to prepare the 15-nation bloc to function with up to a dozen new members over the next decade. But the Union put off the key

issue of streamlining its decision-making process. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5198447-d4a>

*** Liechtenstein wants more women involved in diplomacy

Liechtenstein's foreign minister, Andrea Willi, called for more active involvement of women in preventive diplomacy and peace negotiations Tuesday, saying they brought different perspectives to such issues. In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, she said the role of women in preventive diplomacy and in peacekeeping, and the "persistent absence of women from peace negotiations," were of particular concern. She said the equal access and full participation of women was also important in promoting and maintaining peace and security. Full story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203841-1ab>

*** European Court adviser upholds U.K. beef ban

Britain's bid to have a European ban on its beef exports relaxed in the wake of mad cow disease hit a further snag Tuesday when the European Court of Justice's Advocate General pronounced the measure valid. Although the Advocate General's opinion is advisory and non-binding on the court, in most cases his opinion is followed by his fellow judges. The United Kingdom is banned from "exporting live cattle, meat and other products obtained from bovine animals." Full story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5199273-943>

World Business and Financial News

*** Asian markets mixed; S. Korea index jumps 3.5 percent

Asian-Pacific markets were mixed Tuesday, while South Korea's key index rose 3.5 percent in reaction to recent economic data. In Tokyo, stocks fell as muted reaction to economic data failed to lift the benchmark Nikkei average. The Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index rallied 1.2 percent, gaining ground for the fifth session in a row. Australian share prices fell on profit taking across the board, after a brief rally in the resources sector in early trading. Philippine shares fell slightly in listless trading as investors refrained from actively participating in the market on lack of buying incentives. South Korean equities soared, as government economic reports helped shares rebound from recent substantial losses. In Singapore, shares were mixed on moderate volumes, while the benchmark Straits Times Industrials Index rose. (WSJ)

*** European shares advance despite early U.S. losses

Share prices closed mostly higher across the major markets of Europe Tuesday, despite a weaker opening on Wall Street. British, Italian and Belgian shares ended higher, but were off their session highs after the Dow Jones Industrial Average posted early losses. Share

prices on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange rose on a stronger dollar and French stocks were supported by the stronger dollar and the German Bundesbank's decision to leave its key securities repurchase rate steady. Spain's main indexes advanced to records Tuesday amid speculation the Bank of Spain will cut its benchmark rate Friday. Profit-taking pressured the Swiss market. (WSJ)

*** Shell to eliminate jobs in Europe

Shell International Ltd. says it will eliminate up to 2,850 jobs over the next two years as it shakes up its European fuel sales operations. Shell says it will eliminate internal bureaucracies set up around each type of fuel it sells by getting rid of overlapping management jobs. (USA Today)

*** Japan auto exports surge

Japan's exports of cars, trucks and buses surged 41.6 percent in August, rising from year-earlier levels for the 15th straight month. The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association attributes the sharp rise, to 369,659 vehicles, to demand for vehicles not produced in other countries, such as sports-utility models. Exports to the United States advanced 28.3 percent to 91,589, compared with a 22.2 percent rise in July. (USA Today)

*** White Sox, Thomas agree on 6-year extension; Bevington out

The Chicago White Sox agreed to terms Tuesday on a six-year contract extension with first baseman Frank Thomas, the 1997 American League batting champion. Financial terms were not disclosed. Thomas, who signed a four-year extension prior to the 1994 season with options for 1999 and 2000, is now locked up with Chicago for the next nine years. The 29-year-old captured his first batting title by hitting .347 with 35 home runs and 125 RBIs. It was the seventh straight season he hit at least .300 with 20 homers and 100 runs, walks and RBIs, becoming the first player to do so. Meanwhile, manager Terry Bevington became a scapegoat for the team's failures, as the team announced Tuesday it would not renew his contract for 1998. The White Sox finished 80-81, six games behind first-place Cleveland. The team also failed to produce at the box office and it unloaded a number of veteran players near the trading deadline in an attempt to slash the payroll.

*** Tkachuk returns to Coyotes; will play season opener

Phoenix Coyotes All-Star left winger Keith Tkachuk, involved in a contract dispute and suspended by the team Friday for refusing to play in the final preseason game, has returned to the team and will be in the lineup for Wednesday's season opener against the Chicago Blackhawks. Coyotes general manager Bobby Smith announced Tuesday

that Tkachuk will play the 1997-98 season under the terms of his existing contract. Tkachuk is in the third year of a five-year, \$17 million deal. The two sides have agreed to discuss a contract extension at the conclusion of the 1997-98 season. The 25-year-old Tkachuk led the NHL with a career-high 52 goals last season. He added 34 assists and led the Coyotes with 86 points while accumulating 228 penalty minutes in 81 games.

*** Timberwolves reportedly increase offer to Garnett

Contract talks between the Minnesota Timberwolves and Kevin Garnett have reconvened, as the team has reportedly increased its offer to the All-Star forward to more than \$120 million over six years. The St. Paul Pioneer Press reported Tuesday that the offer was increased on Monday from the original six-year, \$103.5 million deal that was rejected by Garnett and his agent, Eric Fleisher, on Aug. 13. The reported offer may include the ability for Garnett to opt out of the contract before six years are up and a portion of the money also may be structured as part of a charitable contribution on behalf of Garnett. The 21-year-old will be paid \$2.1 million in 1997-98, the final year of a three-year contract he signed after being selected fifth overall in the 1995 draft straight out of high school.

*** BYU's Harvey killed in car accident

Terrence Harvey, a sophomore cornerback for Brigham Young University, was killed Monday evening and two teammates were injured when their

sports utility vehicle flipped in Utah. Harvey, 20, was killed on Interstate 15 after the vehicle flipped several times, according to the school. Freshman Roderick Foreman and junior Tony Fields, both cornerbacks, were injured. Harvey transferred from Victor Valley Community College in Victorville, Calif., only three weeks ago and made his first career start against Southern Methodist last week in a 19-16 overtime win. The school will honor Harvey before Friday night's game against Utah State in Provo, athletic director Rondo Fehlberg said. Fields was treated and released, while Foreman will have hand surgery Tuesday. He is listed in fair condition.

*** Seahawks' Warren, Galloway may miss Sunday

The Seattle Seahawks may be without running back Chris Warren and wide receiver Joey Galloway for Sunday's game against the Tennessee Oilers at the Kingdome. Warren and Galloway sustained injuries in last Sunday's 20-17 overtime loss to the Kansas City Chiefs. Warren has a slightly pulled left hamstring, and Galloway is bothered by a sprained right ankle. "Neither one will probably play," said Seahawks coach Dennis Erickson. Warren has rushed for 225 yards on 52 carries (4.3 average) while Smith has produced 226 yards on 42 carries (5.4 average) in five games this season. Galloway, who caught a 41-yard scoring pass in Sunday's loss, has 19 receptions for 323 yards and two touchdowns this season.

*** U.S. studies show TB transmitted by dirty equipment

Several cases of tuberculosis have been linked to contamination in a common hospital diagnostic device, researchers said Tuesday. In one case a rare strain of TB may have been transmitted to three people in South Carolina in 1995 by a bronchoscope, a device used to examine the airways of the lungs, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. A second case, also involving a contaminated bronchoscope, spread the disease at another, unidentified hospital, said the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. For the full story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5202922-a3e>

*** Smoking, weight gain linked to diabetic pregnancy

Women who smoke cigarettes or gain weight in early adulthood increase their risk of developing diabetes during pregnancy, a study said Tuesday. Researchers at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School said they based the conclusion on a study of 14,613 women who delivered babies between 1990 and 1994 and who had no pre-pregnancy history of diabetes. The study said women who smoked more than five cigarettes a day before pregnancy had a significantly higher risk of developing diabetes during pregnancy than non-smokers. Story at <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5203329-aec>

*** Selenium level linked to AIDS death - U.S. scientists

Scientists have found a link between selenium deficiency and the rate at which people die from AIDS, which could mean that taking supplements of the mineral could improve survival rates for the disease, according to research published Tuesday. In a study of 125 HIV-infected men and women published in the Sept. 30 issue of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, researchers found that HIV-1 infected patients with selenium deficiency were 19.9 times more likely to die of the AIDS virus than people with higher levels.

Full story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5199899-89f>

*** Indian satellite hits orbit snag

India's ambitious launch of a home-grown satellite hit a snag Tuesday when space officials reported its orbit was elliptical and not circular and said the problem was caused by the rocket that carried it aloft. The orbit error marred an otherwise textbook-perfect blast-off Monday of the 468-ton Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) from Sriharikota Island, about 35 miles north of Madras. The Indian Space Research Organization said the 2,640-pound satellite was in an orbit of about 500 miles at its apogee and about 186.4 miles at its perigee. Story at

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204152-f2f>

*** Nobel science contenders under the spotlight

The world of science is seeking to grab a bigger share of the limelight in the annual round of Nobel prizes, after years in the shadow of the world famous peace and literature prizes. Every year speculation is rife about who will follow such figures as Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela to win the coveted Nobel Peace Prize or clinch the world's most famous writing award, the literature prize. The science awards are always harder to pick but, for the first time, Swedish Radio has tried to compile a list of possibles. For the full story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5199091-2af>

Technology

*** DataChannel integrates XML capability into MS Word

Extending Web publishing tools to a broader audience, DataChannel Tuesday announced "Push Channel" authoring capability from Microsoft Word. While most push-related tools require knowledge of proprietary authoring, languages and/or programming skills, ChannelManager allows any Word user to easily publish a channel. DataChannel's XML engine generates an XML file automatically when the user clicks the "Publish to Channel" "Save As" menu item within Word. A preview release of ChannelManager is available for free download at www.datachannel.com.

(PR Newswire) For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5198183-75f>

*** Lost Web users have new place for directions

Lost Web users have a new tool to help them find the place they want among the millions of Web addresses. Filez announces a new free service called WebSitez, <http://www.websitez.com>. The rapid growth of the Internet means common Web site addresses are becoming harder for businesses to attain. This forces companies to resort to using abbreviations and non-traditional spellings when selecting a name.

WebSitez visitors are able to enter a partial Web address or company name and results of the search are displayed in columns. (PR Newswire) See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5199656-378>

*** ObjecTime delivers embedded systems cross-platform

ObjecTime Tuesday released ObjecTime Developer 5.1, the company said.

The 5.1 version enables Windows NT developers to take advantage of a powerful object-oriented visual development toolset previously available to only Unix users. With ObjecTime Developer 5.1, Windows NT developers can build graphical models of their software designs and execute the models at every stage in development to test design alternatives and debug software. ObjecTime Developer's TotalCode allows them to generate complete applications, in the form of C and C++ code, from the graphical design models. (PR Newswire) For the full story,

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5201555-48b>

*** IDC study reveals a battle of competing networks is over

The decades-long battle of competing network standards and architectures is over. According to a new report published by market research firm International Data Corporation (IDC), in the future, corporate planning for networks will focus on one solution -- an intranet based on TCP/IP. The research reveals that as corporations evaluate functionality needed to support intranet migration, they will focus on some very specific requirements. These include enhancing IP performance, reducing IP management, extending intranets to remote users and supporting new multimedia applications. (PR Newswire) For story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5200297-e28>

Human Interest

*** Italian case reaches supreme court after 181 years

A dispute over a land sale in Sicily, mislaid in Italy's tortuous justice system for almost two centuries, is finally about to reach the highest court. La Repubblica newspaper reported on Tuesday that the Court of Cassation was preparing to rule on the 181-year-old row over the sale of land in the province of Agrigento. The problems began a month after a deal was drawn up on June 15, 1816, when the parties had a falling out over the value of the tract. The case

flared up again recently because one of the town councils involved has demanded the land back.

*** Macau restaurants serve up bullfight beef

Bullfighting has come back to Macau and the fate of the 24 bulls airlifted in for the occasion has already been sealed -- beef fresh from the ring will be served in select local restaurants. The Macau spectacle is a rare opportunity for fans of the sport in a region not known for fighting bulls. Tiny Portuguese-run Macau sits on the south coast of China. The fights are taking place in a 6,000-seat arena made of thousands of bamboo poles and planks. Gourmands praise "beef fresh from the bullring" for its game-like taste. For the full text story, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5202778-9a9>

*** Paris to fete 200 years of parachuting

Paris will celebrate the bicentenary of the first parachute jump next month with ceremonies feting a French daredevil and an invention that has saved thousands of lives. Physicist Andre-Jacques Garnerin landed safely in Paris' Plaine Monceau Oct. 22, 1797, completing the world's first parachute jump from a hot-air balloon floating about 1,300 ft. above the ground. His crude parachute hung by a cord from the balloon with Garnerin standing in a basket hanging from the parachute. He cut the cord with a knife and swept down holding a French flag. For the story, <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5202207-163>

*** Vodka, tobacco drive Russians to early grave

Vodka and cigarettes are driving Russian men to an early grave and a young man today has only a 50-50 chance of ever reaching the age of 60, experts said Tuesday. By 1994 the average life expectancy for a man had fallen to 57 from 63 four years earlier, compared to 74 in the European Union. But an international conference in Moscow heard there were signs of a slight fall in the death rate in recent years.

While 90 percent of British or French men aged 20 will live beyond 60 years old, only 50 percent of their Russian peers can hope to do so.

For the story,

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204059-115>

*** Computer gift brings Okla. school system into present

Dallas-based businessman Bill Plummer has become a household word around Tonkawa, Okla., because, they say, he's brought the school system into the 21st century. On Friday, Oct. 3, Mr. Plummer will be honored for the gift he gave the children of Tonkawa and the whole community of about 3,500 people in north central Oklahoma. He had an idea to help the kids where he grew up, so he gave Tonkawa's three public schools 70 computers and three file servers -- an idea he hopes catches on. (PR Newswire) For the story,

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=5204285-ef0>

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30 Sep 1997 17:03:23 -0400 (EDT)

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reich_b@a1.eop.gov; Tue, 30 Sep 1997 17:03:20 -0400 (EDT)

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30 Sep 1997 17:02:59 -0400 (EDT)

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by sender1.lodo.in.merc.com
(version 3.32, queueup copyright InfoBeat, Inc. 1997)

with stdio id EOPA1AADOL12525; Tue, 30 Sep 1997 14:55:34 -0600 (MDT)

Errors-to: news-errors@mx.lodo.infobeat.com

X-TestFile: merc-news1-text-reich_b@a1.eop.gov

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ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: nobody (nobody@www1.whitehouse.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:30-SEP-1997 14:49:00.00

SUBJECT: Guest_Book_WH_WWW_MAIL

TO: guestbook (guestbook@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Remote host: 76.dallas-10.tx.dial-access.att.net

Remote IP address: 12.67.3.76

BROWSER: Mozilla/2.0 (compatible; MSIE 3.02; Update a; AK;

Windows 95)

[Sender information]

PERSONAL-NAME: James K. Shafer

[Message information]

SUBJECT: Fast Track

[Message content follows]

I do not approve of the congress giving you or any other President Fast Track authority. In my opinion it circumvents the Constitution which provides for Advise & Consent by the Senate of all treaties and gives them the right to amend them. It smacks of dictatorial rule and for that reason I oppose it and appeal to you not to accept it. I will do all

I can with my elected Representatives in Congress to get them not to
give Fast Tract to you or any other President.

Sincerely, James K. Shafer===== ATTACHMENT 1

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ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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for guestbook@oa.eop.gov id OAA28907; Tue, 30 Sep 1997 14:49:56 -0400

Apparently-to: guestbook@oa.eop.gov

Keywords: WWW-Correspondence; Guest Book

Comments: Forwarded from White House WWW.

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CREATOR: larryshannon (larryshannon@ibm.net@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 5-OCT-1997 11:50:00.00

SUBJECT: bcc: Sunday Texas Clips

TO: Lucia A. Wyman (Lucia A. Wyman@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com Home]

Updated: Saturday, Oct. 4, 1997 at 23:05 CDT

Five Texans may be tapped to become U.S. ambassadors

By Maria Recio

Star-Telegram Washington bureau

WASHINGTON -- Five Texans are in the pipeline to become U.S. ambassadors, partly as the result of efforts by Texas Democrats to restore the state's clout in the Clinton administration.

Two of the five, all big donors to the Democratic cause, have been nominated by President Clinton. The three other nominations are expected to be announced soon, one as early as tomorrow, said sources close to the selection process.

"We made a special push," said Bill White, a Houston attorney and

businessman who is chairman of the Texas Democratic Party. "We're not over-represented in the administration as a whole. Texas is the largest state without a Cabinet secretary."

The first Clinton Cabinet included two Texans -- former Sen. Lloyd Bentsen as Treasury secretary and former San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros as secretary of housing and urban development. Both have left public service.

Texans have been in every Cabinet -- Democrat and Republican -- going back to 1985, when White House chief of staff James Baker III of Houston became Treasury secretary in President Reagan's second administration.

White said he believes it "appropriate for Texas to be represented" with the ambassadorships because of the state's size -- the second most populous after California -- and its global economic interests, especially in energy.

The Texans slated to fill ambassadorial posts are:

Stanley Louis McLelland, a lawyer who for the past 16 years has been a senior executive of Valero Energy Corp. in San Antonio. He has also served on trade delegations to Mexico. Clinton said in a statement on Thursday that he is nominating McLelland as ambassador to Jamaica.

Kathryn Hall, a Dallas lawyer and political activist who ran for Dallas

mayor in 1991. She was nominated by Clinton on Sept. 4 to be ambassador to Austria.

Lyndon Olson, an insurance executive from Waco who was Texas insurance commissioner and has been based in Fort Worth for many years. The grandson of Swedish immigrants, Olson is slated to be ambassador to Sweden, say sources close to the process. A White House source said yesterday that the nomination will be announced tomorrow.

H. Lee Godfrey, a Houston attorney who is active in the Democratic Party, is Clinton's choice to be ambassador to Brazil, according to sources close to the process.

Arthur Schechter, also a Houston attorney, is to represent the United States in the Bahamas. He and his wife have socialized with the Clintons.

The formal nominations of Schechter and Godfrey are expected to be announced soon. All of the nominees would then have to be confirmed by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

That would give Texans five of about 35 ambassadorships that the White House is awarding this year to political appointees, administration sources said. Many ambassadors finished three-year tours this summer, creating placement

opportunities for Clinton's second term.

In addition, former Rep. John Bryant, D-Dallas, is on a White House list of candidates for the high-profile ambassadorship to Mexico, according to Texas sources with knowledge of the process.

The State Department says that there are 163 ambassadorial assignments and that about 30 percent of them are allocated to political appointees.

Traditionally, the White House distributes the ambassadorships as rewards to politicians -- such as Rep. Tom Foglietta, D-Pa., who has been nominated as ambassador to Italy, or former Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste, nominated as ambassador to India -- and to contributors who have supported the president's party.

In the selection of the Texans, White points to the state's importance and his ties with the White House. "I work very closely with White House personnel and have for five years," said the Texas Democratic chairman, who was deputy energy secretary in the first Clinton administration.

But critics of the selection process contend that it is too much influenced by money.

"It shows nothing has really changed in Washington," said Charles Lewis, executive director of the Center for Public Integrity, a Washington-based

ethics-monitoring group.

All of the Texans picked for diplomatic posts are large contributors to Democratic candidates and the Democratic National Committee, according to federal election records reviewed by the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonpartisan watchdog group.

All five attended White House coffees in August 1996 with Clinton, events that campaign finance reformers say amounted to little more than fund-raisers.

Hall and her husband, Craig Hall, gave more than \$240,000 to Democratic candidates and the Democratic Party in the 1996 election cycle -- \$125,506 to Democratic candidates and committees under federal limits and an additional \$119,642 in "soft" money to the Democratic National Committee.

Craig Hall, who heads the Hall Financial Group, is a Dallas-based real estate developer and former thrift owner who was a significant figure in the savings and loan disaster. Craig Hall made a \$102 million settlement with the Resolution Trust Corp., the thrift cleanup agency. Kathryn Hall is executive vice president and managing director of Hall Financial Group.

Olson is president and chief executive officer of Travelers Insurance Holding Cos. and divides his time between offices in Fort Worth and New York and his home in Waco. He gave a total of \$50,500 to Democratic candidates

and entities, including \$20,000 in soft money to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

Schechter, a partner in the law firm Schechter & Marshall, gave \$132,597 to Democratic causes; Godfrey, of the high-profile Houston firm Susman & Godfrey, gave \$109,953; and McLelland, with Valero Energy of San Antonio, gave \$127,729.

White, who knows all five candidates, was asked if the ambassadorships are "for sale," for about \$100,000 each, as some critics contend.

"That's ridiculous," he said. "There are hundreds of thousands of political contributors out there. The administration tried to match special skills and backgrounds with the embassies."

All of that is no comfort to professional diplomats such as F.A. "Tex" Harris, who until recently was secretary of the American Foreign Service Association, which advocates ambassadorships going to career Foreign Service officers.

"America has no titles except that of ambassador," said Harris, who is from Dallas. "The ultra-wealthy can, through contributions and political work, earn an ambassadorship as a capstone to a successful business career. This has become America's knighthood equivalent."

The AFSA almost never takes positions on individuals.

If all the Texans are nominated and approved by the Senate, they will join longtime Texas Democratic politician Bob Krueger, who is ambassador to Botswana. Krueger was appointed as a U.S. senator after Bentsen left Congress to become Treasury secretary. Krueger lost the seat in an election to Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison.

Bryant could possibly join the ranks. The former lawmaker is fluent in Spanish, says his former press secretary Carlton Carl, and has a longtime interest in Mexico.

The former congressman also has an anti-drug record that could help him get past Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C. Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, recently quashed the nomination of former Massachusetts Gov. William Weld to be ambassador to Mexico, partly on the grounds that he believes Weld to be soft on drugs.

Bryant did not seek re-election to the House in 1996. Instead, he sought the Democratic nomination for the Senate seat held by Republican Phil Gramm, but lost to Mesquite teacher Victor Morales in the primary. Bryant is now an attorney in private practice in Washington and Dallas.

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[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 6:09 PM 10/3/1997

Houston Chronicle Interactive

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Section: Editorial

Support for free trade eroding in
----- irresponsible Congress

[Clean Air Action]

U.S. prosperity is dependent upon
----- free trade. Expansion of free
HCl's Editorial forum trade depends on Congress'
granting President Clinton "fast

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for tough Japan aviation pact of their constituents.

* September 21: Let Clinton paint Congressional leaders say fast
vision of new economy track authority for the president
may be dead this year.

Organized labor bears a large measure of blame, obstinately clinging to the false argument that free trade agreements cost union members jobs. Since the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement, U.S. unemployment has plummeted while household income, for the first time in decades, has risen significantly. Will union bosses and the Democratic congressmen they support ever accept the truth?

President Clinton was able to pass NAFTA because of Republican support in Congress. But House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said Republicans in Congress are reluctant to support fast track legislation and implied that weak Democratic support was the reason.

Since when are Republicans reluctant to support bills that Democrats oppose? Gingrich's comments reveal the willingness of congressional Republicans to abandon fast track, jeopardizing U.S. commerce and jobs, just to make Clinton look bad.

Many economists view Latin America as the emerging market with the largest potential for U.S. exports. Fast track authority for the president is vitally important if the United States is to take advantage of that potential.

But Latin America is only one of many important markets.

Using Commerce Department statistics, the Heritage Foundation reports that 4 million Americans work in jobs involving U.S. trade with Asia.

Texas is third, behind California and Washington state, in U.S. exports to Asia. More than 300,000 Texans owe their jobs to those

exports, and failure to pass fast track could endanger those high-paying jobs and prevent the addition of more.

A third of Houston jobs are reported to be related to international trade and the Houston economy is humming. Does it not make sense that more such trade can mean more such vigor for Houston?

Fortunately, Houston's Rep. Bill Archer, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, on Monday is to unveil his version of legislation that would give the president fast-track authority on trade.

Let's hope that he is successful. It's about time that members of Congress on both sides of the aisle worried less about their next re-election campaign and worried more about how to promote policies that benefit the entire country.

===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Image] [The National desk] [The National desk]
[Image]

[Image]

[Image] Some Texans in Congress won't keep raise

[Image] [Image]

Charities, national debt among beneficiaries of

National \$3,073 pay increase
summaries

[Image] 10/05/97

What do YOU

think? Post By Catalina Camia / The Dallas Morning News
your

comments in [Image] TEXAS WATCH
our

National WASHINGTON - Congress gave itself a pay raise last
Forum week, but some Texas lawmakers won't accept the
money.

[Image]

For the first time since 1992, Congress declined

to block an automatic cost-of-living adjustment and cleared the way for a \$3,073 pay increase for next year. The annual salary for most members is now \$133,600.

But some Texans are balking, choosing instead to donate the funds to charity or send them to the U.S. Treasury to help pay off the nation's debt.

Rep. Pete Sessions, R-Dallas, says he'll increase his annual donation to his alma mater, Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.

Lamar University also can expect a check from Rep. Nick Lampson, a freshman Democrat who graduated from the Beaumont school. He'll also contribute to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Heidi Search Center in San Antonio.

Reps. Kevin Brady, R-The Woodlands, and Max Sandlin, D-Marshall, are leaning toward applying their pay raises to deficit reduction.

Lawmakers who are turning down the 2.3 percent cost-of-living increase cite two reasons for their munificence. Some, like Rep. Charles Stenholm, D-Stamford, are philosophically opposed to raising their own pay while the federal budget isn't balanced.

But a key reason for freshmen such as Mr. Brady and Mr. Sandlin is the way the issue was handled.

Since 1989, members of Congress have been entitled by law to the same cost of living adjustment, or COLA, as other federal workers and judges. But in 1993, lawmakers started turning down the raise by specifically voting against it.

This year, House Republican leaders used procedural tactics to prevent pay raise opponents from offering an amendment to kill the increase. That gave the Senate a chance to quickly drop its objection to the raise.

"A lot of people have lost faith in Congress and instead of standing on principle behind open and honest government, we stood behind procedure," Mr. Brady said.

House Majority Whip Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, a proponent of the pay raise, defended the increase. He said lawmakers are just trying to keep pace

with inflation.

"My wife and children have sacrificed enough," Mr. DeLay said. "They deserve a decent living, and I'm going to give it to them."

One Texan who opposed the raise, however, said he'll probably keep it.

"I don't think Congress should have any raise," said Rep. Jim Turner, D-Crockett. "But it does little good to say I'm not going to accept what the Congress has done."

In the Senate, Texas Republicans Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison split on the pay raise issue.

Mr. Gramm voted against the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill, which essentially clears the way for the COLA, because of the pay raise and a huge increase in the Internal Revenue Service budget.

When asked what he would do with his money, Mr. Gramm joked: "Buy a Cadillac."

Ms. Hutchison voted for the measure but is planning to donate her \$3,073 to charity.

"It's reasonable for Congress to be treated like all other federal employees and judges. That's fair," she said.

Texas tidbit:

* Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, one of the few registered nurses in Congress, has been tapped to co-chair a task force on HIV and AIDS.

Ms. Johnson, D-Dallas, and Rep. Connie Morella, R-Md., will try to raise awareness about the disease among women, especially minorities.

The Dallas lawmaker said she wants the task force, an arm of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, to push bills that will help women gain access to new drug therapies.

[\[Image\] Back to Top](#)

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===== END ATTACHMENT 3

===== ATTACHMENT 4

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com]

Fort Worth Editorial Columnists

Home

[Image] Jim Wright

Fort Worth
Columnists

Updated: Saturday, Oct. 4, 1997 at 15:38 CDT

Arlington

Columnists Fast-track trade issue will be a challenge for Clinton

Northeast Columnists This month President Clinton faces his toughest
legislative challenge since health-care reform went down
in flames three years ago. In attempting now to forge a
Cyber Columnists bipartisan House majority for fast-track trade
negotiating authority, Clinton's remarkable skills as a
trader and persuader are meeting stubborn obstacles.

[Image]

The president has been riding high on surging waves of
From the favorable economic statistics, legislative budget
Editorial Board: compromises and rising public approval ratings. He now
must guide his darting surfboard between jutting rocks of
Tommy Denton Democratic distrust and Republican resentment.

Cecil Johnson Leaders of both parties in the House are openly
suspicious. Many Democrats think Clinton snookered them
Jim Jones into supporting the North American Free Trade Agreement
in 1993 by promising firm side agreements to protect
JR Labbe worker's jobs from sweatshop wages abroad. GOP
strategists, on the other hand, resent Clinton's
Bob Ray Sanders legislative successes. They secretly want to deny him
another victory that could endear him to corporate
Pat Truly executives who've reaped rich profits from Mexican
investments and crave more of the same in Chile,
Remaining Argentina and Asia.

Editorial

Writers: Conscious of the tribulations of American workers
displaced when companies moved operations south of the
Gerry Barker border, Clinton promises to work harder this time for
stricter international standards against child labor,
Mark Davis substandard wages and threats to collective bargaining.
Many Democrats think he doesn't mean it and won't follow

Paul Harral through. Some Republicans fear that he may.

Ron Hutcheson Eager to foreclose any worker protection provisions from future treaties, Senate Finance Committee Republicans

Molly Ivins voted Wednesday for language prohibiting the president's negotiating on worker rights or environmental protection.

Bud Kennedy This angers Democrats, fraying bipartisanship's tattered cloak.

Jon McConal

By latest count, fast-track forces lack the 219 votes

Frank Perkins needed for passage. That may change. The president's supporters have organized a full-court press. Cabinet

Phil Record members and business friends are bending ears and twisting arms of reluctant lawmakers.

Bill Thompson

The fast-track authority that Clinton seeks would assure

Jim Wright him an up-or-down vote on any new treaty he negotiates.

Congress would forgo the right to pick apart its individual provisions. This is the same tool given by Democratic Congresses to Republican presidents. The Senate could refuse to ratify. The House could vote down implementing legislation. But Congress couldn't insist on specific changes in any deal that Clinton signs with another country.

The president makes a strong argument that his stewardship has led to nearly 13 million new jobs since he took office. America leads the world again in automobile production, even if many of the parts are processed abroad. Unemployment has been held below 5 percent. Interest rates are steady. Welfare rolls have dropped to their lowest level in decades. And prices have remained remarkably stable.

Clinton claims part of this good news, including at least 100,000 jobs, is due to opening new markets abroad for American goods. "We cannot create enough good jobs and increase wages if we don't expand trade," he insisted to the AFL-CIO convention on Sept. 24. He expects about 20 nations, comprising half the world's population, to rise early in the next century from low-wage to middle-income status. To sell our goods to them, we'll need an early entry to their markets, Clinton told union activists.

But labor remains highly skeptical. Bombarded by plant closures, downsizing and outsourcing, labor's spokesmen cite other statistics to show that NAFTA, on balance, has cost more jobs in the United States than it has created. Although total trade volumes have risen dramatically, imports from Mexico have grown by 83 percent, more than twice as fast as our exports to that country have increased. As result, we suffered a \$16 billion trade deficit with Mexico last year in place of the \$2 billion annual surplus we enjoyed before NAFTA.

The problem, worker representatives declare, is that Mexican wages are so low that fully employed Mexicans still cannot afford any big influx of U.S. products. One of the principal arguments for NAFTA in 1993 was that the treaty would stimulate a rising tide of Mexican employment, fueling the purchase of many more American-made goods. Low Mexican pay scales would steadily rise, creating an ever-broadening pool of buying power for our wares.

But House Democratic Whip David Bonior says the reverse has happened. Mexican wages along the border have dropped from about one dollar an hour before NAFTA to only 70 cents an hour today, he says. And a Cornell University study concludes that corporate America has used the threat of moving as effective leverage to hold down wages in our country.

Vicente Fox, governor of Guanajuato, spoke in Fort Worth last year, attempting to woo investments in his state. As bait for business, he estimated that hourly wages and work-force benefits would be only about one-ninth the figure paid in the United States.

An El Paso textile plant closed recently, laying off 200 minimum-wage workers. It reopened in Juarez, offering 70 cents hourly pay. Johnson & Johnson is moving its Arlington operation to Malaysia, displacing 300 pharmaceutical employees. The cumulation of such anecdotal evidence has become a heavy drag on Clinton's quest for no-strings negotiating authority.

Clearly, we can't withdraw from the global economy. Our 4 percent of the world's people, with 22 percent of its wealth, must either shape it or be shaped by it. Can we influence it, make it more benign, more worker-friendly? Can free trade and fair trade coexist in one package?

That's what the debate is about.

Jim Wright of Fort Worth, a Democrat, is a former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. You can write him at P.O. Box 1413, Fort Worth, TX 76101.

Send Your Comments to the Editor!
Include your name and E-mail address.

TEXT:

[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 8:52 PM 10/3/1997
Houston Chronicle Interactive

WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK

Section: National

Hutchison to appear on TV series

[COUPONS] Republican Sen. Kay Bailey
 Hutchison will portray herself in
----- an upcoming episode of the popular
HCI's National News forum CBS television series Walker,
 Texas Ranger, her office announced

Recent related stories: last week as the senator began
 rehearsals and taping for the show

- * Friday: Viewpoints: October 3, on a Dallas soundstage.
1997
- * Thursday: Pay raise for In the episode entitled "Mr.
Congress gets bipartisan Justice," which is slated to air
support in December, Hutchison will join
- * Wednesday: Enough of comparing Walker star Chuck Norris in a
the IRS with KGB, Gestapo discussion about programs designed
- * Wednesday: Outrage over IRS to reduce juvenile crime.
still rising
- * Tuesday: HCI Special: Cal Hutchison told The Associated
Thomas Press that she wasn't nervous
- * Tuesday: That sinking feeling about her foray into show
when the IRS audits a taxpayer business. But the absence of stage
- * Tuesday: IRS altercation sparks fright, she said, wasn't enough to
agent's role as accuser give her thoughts of pursuing a
- * Tuesday: Clinton not backing new career.
plan for IRS reform
- * Monday: IRS action spurred "I'm going to keep my day job,"
suicides, agent says she said.
- * September 27: Reports of tax
woes deluge senators, IRS A charitable gesture
- * September 26: IRS agent's
testimony throws spotlight on That day job can be tough some
Houston branch days, though, as Hutchison found
- * September 26: IRS missing mark last week when senators were faced
in seeking `customer with voting themselves a pay raise
satisfaction' or voting down a \$26 billion
- * September 25: IRS targets the appropriations bill to fund the
poor, agent says Treasury Department and U.S.
- * September 24: Senator: IRS Postal Service through next year.
targets the lower-income
- * September 22: IRS faces Hutchison voted for the spending
scrutiny this week measure, which passed 55-45. But
- * September 22: Your taxes: With since the bill did not include
tax relief done, Congress to language to block a 2.3 percent

turn attention to IRS cost-of-living adjustment for
* September 21: Senate to look at lawmakers and federal judges, her
allegations of irregularities vote was interpreted as an
at the IRS endorsement of the first pay
increase for members in five
years.

A Hutchison aide said later that
the senator believes the \$3,072
boost members will get in their
\$133,600 salaries next year as a
result "is a reasonable increase
for all federal employees,
including members of Congress."

But the senator, the aide added,
does not plan to keep her raise.
Instead, she will give it to
charity.

Smoking out a bad habit

At least one Supreme Court justice
has apparently decided to practice
what he preaches.

Justice Clarence Thomas, known to
his colleagues as a big cigar
smoker, made a landmark decision
earlier this year to give up the
habit.

Although the justice declined
comment, Legal Times, the
newspaper of law, reported he gave
up the stogies after advising a
student group to stay healthy and
avoid bad habits. A student then
asked Thomas if he had any bad
habits. The justice apparently
confessed to the cigar smoking --
and promptly gave it up.

Bipartisanship? Baloney

House Speaker Newt Gingrich,
R-Ga., called last week for a
bipartisan effort to overhaul "the
IRS as we know it" but quickly
blamed the Democratic Clinton
administration for many of the
mismanagement problems at the tax
agency.

He said the agency is "so badly mismanaged" that 21 percent of the payments made to low-income families each year under the Earned Income Credit are made because of mistakes by IRS employees. "What if every American next April 15 called the IRS and said, 'Hi, I filed my taxes within 21 percent of accuracy. Good enough for you, good enough for me,' " Gingrich said. "Now, there is no other place in America except Washington, D.C., where you could have a 21 percent error rate and explain, as the Clinton administration did, that this is the successful version (of the IRS)," Gingrich added.

Clinton, who the same day had called for bipartisan cooperation to correct IRS problems, ordered his press secretary, Mike McCurry, to make clear that it is the job of Congress, not the president, to conduct oversight of the IRS.

McCurry added that Gingrich was probably the only government figure more unpopular than the IRS. And he said Gingrich might not be the best person to lead the fight for IRS reform, since he was forced to pay a \$300,000 fine by the House ethics committee in connection with his use of tax-exempt organizations to promote his political agenda.

So much for bipartisanship.

Consumed by consumption tax

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Irving, meanwhile, intends to do his part to ensure that the IRS gets a top-to-bottom overhaul. This week, he plans to launch what he calls a "scrap the code" tour aimed at killing off the current tax system in favor of his beloved flat tax plan. The tour starts Friday at the University of Ohio

in Columbus, where he will be joined by Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., who will argue that the income tax should be replaced by a national sales or consumption tax.

The consumption tax is favored by House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer, R-Houston, who will preside over any major changes in the current system. Archer may decide to join the tour later to plug his plan.

Houston Chronicle Washington Bureau

===== END ATTACHMENT 5 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 6 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 4:13 PM 10/3/1997
Houston Chronicle Interactive

Sign of the times or not?

Section: National

Politicians deny connections with
----- letters that clearly seem to bear
[MSNBC] their signature

----- By MARC LACEY

HCI's National News forum Los Angeles Times

Recent related stories: WASHINGTON -- The next time you receive a letter from a

- * Monday: CIA drafts new rules on politician, remember this: The lobbying official whose signature is at the
- * September 23: Campaign fund bottom may not have written it, scandal lies in the legalities may not have signed it and, if
- * September 20: Chronicle push comes to shove, may deny any editorial: Hearings dispel any knowledge of it. doubt about role of cash in politics

That's one truth that has emerged from two months of Senate hearings on campaign fund-raising abuses.

During appearances before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, politicians repeatedly have been confronted with documents bearing their signatures or even written in their own handwriting. And what has appeared

in black and white repeatedly has turned gray as politicians have distanced themselves from the words before them.

Take an Aug. 22, 1996, letter signed by former Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour thanking the Taiwan government's U.S. representative for a \$25,000 contribution to a GOP think tank. Democrats on the committee produced the correspondence to show that Barbour must have known that his party was taking in money from overseas, a violation of U.S. law.

"It's not a letter that I wrote," Barbour insisted, the correspondence displayed on a video screen before him.

He then conceded he may have signed it, albeit without knowing its contents. "It appears that I signed the letter. I don't think that's an auto-pen. A lot of my correspondence was signed by auto-pen. But I don't believe that's an auto-pen. I believe this was probably in a stack of letters I signed."

The auto-pen is a device that politicians, deluged by mail, often use to produce replicas of their signatures.

Senate Republicans, meanwhile, touted a personal letter dated April 26, 1996, from President Clinton to Democratic fund-raiser Yah Lin "Charlie" Trie, explaining the administration's China policy as evidence of how much cachet Trie had at the White House. Democrats, however, argued that the short, "perfunctory" note from the president may not have even passed through the Oval Office.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, suggested that it was a White House auto-pen

and not Clinton himself who signed the "Dear Charlie" letter. He was even ready to conduct a test, if necessary.

"I have a number of letters in my office with Bill Clinton's real signature, and the auto-pen signature on some," Glenn said. "And I'd be glad to compare."

When it is not a mechanical device that is causing the confusion, sometimes it can be a mysterious aide.

When a June 25, 1985, letter from former RNC Chairman Frank J. Fahrenkopf was introduced as evidence, Fahrenkopf denied that the signature was his, suggested that an RNC employee "wrote the letter and signed my name without any authority or approval."

It's easy to see why Fahrenkopf did not want his name on the letter. The embarrassing missive recommended controversial oilman Roger Tamraz for a foreign policy post in the Reagan White House.

Tamraz is the same international wheeler-dealer -- wanted on a criminal charge in Lebanon -- whom Republicans have held up as a poster boy for how big donors bought access to the Clinton administration. He contributed \$300,000 to the Democratic Party in 1996 -- support that helped him gain invitations to the White House even as national security advisers sought to keep him out.

Republicans also distanced themselves from two letters sent to Tamraz in February of this year that offered him a spot on the "Republican Senatorial Inner Circle" if he donated to the GOP.

The fund-raising pitches appeared to have been signed by Senate

Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., head of the GOP committee that raises money for Senate candidates. But a party spokesman dismissed them as "generic mass mail," suggesting neither Lott nor McConnell is accountable if recipients include those with questionable backgrounds.

Meanwhile, former Democratic Party Chairman Donald Fowler testified that he did not recall receiving a July 12, 1995, memo written to him by an aide warning him about Tamraz's background.

Fowler also distanced himself from his own handwritten notes from an Oct. 6, 1995, meeting with Tamraz. The notes mention the full name of an intelligence agent, along with his secret telephone number and the acronym "CIA."

In testimony, however, Fowler's recollection of the agent, identified at the hearings only by the first name of "Bob," dries up. Fowler said he does not recall speaking to the man, or even knowing that he worked for the CIA.

"Now, memory is fallible," Fowler said. "And I'm telling you ... as sincerely and as honestly as I can (that I) have no memory whatsoever. Now, if somebody has some proof or whatever, I would be happy to try to refresh my memory."

Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., the committee chairman, was more than willing to oblige. He produced CIA records confirming that Fowler had spoken to a CIA agent named "Bob" about helping to get Tamraz a White House meeting.

"Does that refresh your recollection, Mr. Fowler?"

Thompson asked.

"Not in the least, sir," Fowler
said.

===== END ATTACHMENT 6 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 7 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 7:38 PM 10/4/1997
Houston Chronicle Interactive

Brown, Mosbacher stay 1-2

Section: News

One-third of voters undecided on
----- mayoral pick, poll shows

[Directory Center]

By ALAN BERNSTEIN

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HCI's Page1 forum Chronicle

Recent related stories: Three months of campaigning have
produced no major shifts in the

- * Saturday: Survey says Garcia Houston mayor's race, leaving Lee
leads Kelley in controller race P. Brown slightly ahead and Rob
- * Friday: Candidates charge that Mosbacher firmly in second place,
Lanier relies on too few according to a Houston Chronicle /
decision-makers KHOU-TV poll.
- * Friday: In ballot battle,
confusion rules A hefty one-third of the
- * Wednesday: Candidates split on registered voters remained
rewriting affirmative action undecided about the Nov. 4
- * Tuesday: Campaign notebook contest, according to 1,050
- * September 26: Huey, Greanias telephone interviews conducted
defend conflicts with Lanier Sept. 24-Oct. 1.
- * September 25: Campaign Notebook
- * September 21: Affirmative The most noticeable change since a
action debate may flare Chronicle / KHOU poll in July was

a smidgen of momentum for
Mosbacher, the only candidate with
a sustained presence in television
advertising. The survey shows him
ahead of George Greanias, who ran
almost even with Mosbacher in
midsummer.

Brown, the former police chief,
garnered the support of 24.6
percent of the surveyed voters,
compared to 20.1 percent for
businessman Mosbacher and 11.8
percent for Greanias, a former
city controller and councilman.

Trailing the front-runners were Councilwoman Gracie Saenz with 6 percent, Councilwoman Helen Huey with 3.4 percent and businessman Jean-Claude Lanau with less than 1 percent.

The poll, with a margin of error of 3 percentage points, was conducted by the University of Houston, Center for Public Policy, and Rice University, Baker Institute for Public Policy.

The segment of undecided voters grew slightly from July, when it was 28.2 percent. Brown was supported by 25 percent in the July poll, which showed Mosbacher with 18.3 percent, Greanias 15.4 percent, Saenz 6.4 percent and Huey 5.1 percent.

Richard Murray, a University of Houston political scientist who directed the poll with Bob Stein of Rice University, said many people are undecided because the contest lacks a central issue.

"The candidates are struggling to define a compelling message in a rather issue-less environment," Murray said.

Oletta Warren, a retired nurse in northeast Houston who was among the voters surveyed last week, said she was undecided because she lacked information about the candidates' background.

She said she will listen for the candidates with proposals for "a city that has less crime and better streets."

Meg Oswald, a lawyer who lives in Kingwood, said she was leaning against the two candidates who served on the City Council because, in her view, they blindly followed Mayor Bob Lanier.

Oswald said she has not decided whom to support because she is unfamiliar with the candidates' backgrounds.

"I think we need a leader in local transportation," she said.

Cecil Snowden, a Spring Branch retiree, said he supports Brown and knows little about the other contenders. Snowden also said he doesn't consider the mayor's race vital.

"I don't know what harm a mayor can do me," he said.

The survey results indicate that black voters are falling into place behind Brown, while the white vote "is wide open," Murray said.

For that reason, he continued, Greanias still has a chance to qualify for the expected runoff between the two top vote-getters. But to stay competitive, Greanias probably would have to match Mosbacher's advertising efforts, Murray said.

Greanias will advertise his candidacy on television in the final two weeks of the campaign and perhaps earlier, a spokeswoman said.

In a runoff between Brown and Mosbacher, Brown would start with 39.1 percent of the vote, Mosbacher with 33.5 percent and the remainder undecided, according to the poll.

A Brown-Greanias match would begin with 44.4 percent for Brown, 25.9 percent for Greanias. In a Mosbacher-Greanias match, it would be 38.4 percent for Mosbacher, 25.1 percent for Greanias.

The poll was designed to reflect the demographics of the expected turnout on Nov. 4: Fifty-two percent female; about 65 percent Anglo, 25 percent black and 10 percent Hispanic. The actual number of blacks surveyed was slightly below 25 percent, so their responses were given extra weight.

While the overwhelming share of Brown's support in the poll came from blacks, his "favorable" rating from all respondents was the highest among the top five candidates.

Almost 73 percent said they have a favorable opinion of Brown. Thirteen percent gave him an "unfavorable" rating and another 13.5 percent were unsure or didn't know enough about him.

Mosbacher was rated favorably by 52.4 percent, Greanias by 51.3 percent, Saenz by 46.4 percent and Huey by 33.9 percent. Voters were less decisive and less knowledgeable, rather than less positive, about those four candidates. Huey had the highest "unfavorable" rating, a relatively low 19.4 percent.

Lanier was rated favorably by 80.4 percent, unfavorably by 12.8 percent. The rest were unsure.

But more than two-thirds -- 67.4 percent -- said their vote for mayor would not be swayed if Lanier endorses a candidate. Almost 19 percent said they would be more likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by Lanier; 10.1 percent said they would less likely to favor that candidate.

Lanier has denounced Greanias and remained officially neutral about the rest of the contenders. But many of his 1991 campaign

strategists are working for Brown.

Voters continue to view "honesty and integrity" as a key to evaluating the candidates. Almost 41 percent said it was the most important factor in their selection.

Ranking second was "leadership," which was named by 11.4 percent of the voters. "Issues" were most important to 10.7 percent and "caring about people like me" was most important to 10.4 percent. The candidates' experience in government was most important to only 4.7 percent of the voters.

"The public says they're very concerned about (honesty and integrity), but no candidate has a big problem in that regard," Murray said. "In the first round, certainly, it's unlikely any of them will face attacks on that question."

Among 646 Anglos surveyed, 34.7 percent were undecided about the mayor's race. Mosbacher was favored by 29.1 percent of the Anglos; Greanias by 16.4 percent; Brown, 11.4 percent; Huey, 5 percent; and Saenz, 3.5 percent.

Among 226 blacks, 28 percent were undecided. Brown was favored by 67.1 percent of the black voters; Mosbacher by 2.4 percent; and Saenz, 1.4 percent. Greanias and Huey were supported by less than 1 percent each.

Among 95 Hispanics, 35.8 percent were undecided. Saenz was favored by 33.7 percent of the Hispanic voters; Brown by 12.6 percent; Mosbacher and Greanias, 8.4 percent each; and Huey, 1 percent.

Among 16 Asian-Americans surveyed, six were unsure. Brown got the support of four, Greanias three,

Mosbacher two, Saenz one and Huey none.

Almost 75 percent of the surveyed voters said they are certain to vote on Nov. 4 or during early voting, which starts Oct. 18. Another 16.5 percent said they probably will vote.

About 23 percent said they get their information about city politics from newspapers. Another 23 percent said they rely on newspapers and television. Seventeen percent said they rely on a combination of all media; 14 percent said they rely solely on television.

END ATTACHMENT 7

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: larryshannon (larryshannon@worldnet.att.net@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 6-OCT-1997 09:43:00.00

SUBJECT: bcc: Monday Texas Clips (from "on the road" in Wichita, KS)

TO: Lucia A. Wyman (Lucia A. Wyman@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Lucia,

No Texas clips this morning. It's all national stuff. Here are a couple you may have missed.

Larry shannon===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

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06 Oct 1997 09:53:07 -0400 (EDT)

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by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879) id <01IOHDI6R9RK00HDG1@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for
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(post.office MTA v2.0 0613) with SMTP id AAA27327 for

<Lucia_A._Wyman@oa.eop.gov>; Mon, 06 Oct 1997 13:52:22 +0000

X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.0 (Win95; I)
===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Click here for Ford's Visteon.] [Don't keep your audience in the dark.]

[Image]

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[Image]

IS TRENT LOTT BLOWING HIS BIG CHANCE?

If all goes according to plan, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott will soon drive a stake through the heart of campaign-finance reform. The McCain-Feingold bill has clung tenuously to life in Lott's Senate, and now he's going all out to kill it. But what may look like smart politics to the genial senator from Mississippi may be only the latest miscue to tarnish his reputation as a savvy pol.

A cleanup of the corruption-plagued election finance system is popular with voters--and gaining backing from corporate CEOs. With a hard-to-embarrass President Clinton, the AFL-CIO, and all 45 Senate Democrats behind a modest fix, Republicans are poised to take the fall for sidetracking reform. Even *The Weekly Standard*, a bellwether of conservative opinion, urged Lott & Co. to back at least some curbs. But Lott is trying to attach a rider to the bill that would require workers' prior approval for spending their dues on political campaigns--anathema to Democrats.

Lott's unwavering stance may boost his stock with GOP Senate colleagues and conservatives generally. But on the national stage, he looks less and less like the visionary statesman Republicans have been seeking since House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) turned into Public Enemy No.1. Moreover, the nasty campaign-finance fight signals fierce partisan brawling for the rest of the 105th Congress, setting the stage for a brutal '98 election campaign.

MANY DEALS. Just a year ago, Lott, 55, looked like the GOP's golden boy. Unnerved by Gingrich's confrontational tactics, which had soured voters on the GOP, Lott set out to end gridlock and prove his party could govern. In short order, he cut compromises with Clinton ranging from welfare overhaul and a minimum-wage hike to the balanced-budget pact and tax cuts.

But the by-product of all this dealmaking was a backlash from GOP hardliners, who accused Lott of selling out his conservative principles. "He hasn't given the troops any red meat," complains Thomas S. Winter, editor of *Human Events*, a conservative journal. But Lott counters that having a Democrat in the White House makes it tough for him to advance hot-button issues. Besides, he says, "While we're not getting all we want, certainly the debate has changed. Clinton has been playing on our turf."

Even so, as soon as the ink had dried on this year's bipartisan budget deal, Lott began to shore up his right flank. Besides savaging the President for campaign fund-raising scandals, Lott has launched a bare-knuckles attack on taxpayer harassment by the Internal Revenue Service, and he's offering Clinton little help on renewal of fast-track trade negotiating authority--the top White House goal this fall. "I pulled a lot of punches to try to set up an atmosphere to get the balanced budget and the tax cuts," the Majority Leader concedes. "Now I'm prepared to fight [the Clintonites]."

Those tough-guy tactics are risky. Lott's ho-hum attitude toward fast-track authority could snarl trade expansion, a priority of the GOP and its business allies. His plans to turn up the rhetoric on such cherished conservative ideals as abortion restrictions, eased environmental curbs for business, and reining in unions give Clinton a new opening to paint Republicans as extremists.

A string of missteps earlier this year hasn't helped Lott's cause. Last spring, he tried unsuccessfully to limit the scope of the Senate's inquiry into '96 fund-raising abuses. In September, he and Gingrich were caught trying to slip a \$50 billion tax break for Big Tobacco into the budget deal; an embarrassing bipartisan revolt killed the measure. More recently, he irked shrink-the-government hardliners by tacitly agreeing to back a 2.3% pay hike for lawmakers.

SLACK TIME. Even so, Lott's position in his party is far from precarious. Unlike Gingrich, he enjoys broad support among colleagues. "His successes have greatly outweighed the setbacks," says Senator Slade Gorton (R-Wash.). He gets kudos for sticking to a schedule so senators don't work overtime--and for his small-town touch.

That's why even conservative firebrands are cutting the GOP leader some slack. "Everyone understood that Trent was dealt a hand and had to play it the best he could," says Senator Rick Santorum (R-Pa.). And Lott has moved deftly on his own to make amends. In talking up school choice, curbs on the IRS, and tax reform, Lott is playing to conservatives in ways that also have broader public appeal. "Lott is finding issues that are popular with the public, mobilize our base, and immobilize Clinton," says conservative political consultant Ralph Reed.

Other Lott moves have been more strident. After endorsing a chemical weapons treaty that Senator Jesse A. Helms (R-N.C.) tried fiercely to scuttle, Lott backed Helms to the hilt when the Foreign Relations Committee chairman killed ex-Massachusetts Governor William F. Weld's nomination to be ambassador to Mexico. That endeared Lott to the right. The

downside: He let the cranky, despotic Helms become the public image of the GOP for weeks.

The switch from playing ball with the Dems to playing hardball politics will be a home run with die-hard Republicans. But for a public tired of partisan squabbling, Lott may be throwing the wrong pitch

EDITED BY OWEN ULLMANN
By Amy Borrus, with Richard S. Dunham

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[Image]

Updated Oct. 2, 1997 by bwwebmaster
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===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[alt=banner]

[toolbar]

[Maximum Power. Maximum Control. And it looks cool too. Check it out. I
BM Netfinity 7000]

October 6, 1997

News- and Gossip-Hungry Washington Devours Newsletters

By MELINDA HENNEBERGER

[W]ASHINGTON -- Sandy Hume, the star reporter of the weekly paper The Hill, is among a new breed of correspondents burrowing so deep inside Congress that legislation itself has become largely beside the point. And a proliferation of the news he calls "the juicy, inside stuff" is making this corner of the world more insular than ever.

A growing number of news outlets offering almost instantaneous updates to and about Congress have quickened an already frenetic pace. Two highly competitive newspapers, The Hill and Roll Call, several faxed newsletters and some new online publications cover

politics and personalities.

But much of the resulting mountain of reportage both originates and is consumed on the Hill, and some of it reads like an in-house message from one lawmaker to another. Often it is so site specific and ephemeral that it becomes outdated within hours and never leaves the environs of the Capitol.

"I can spend all day on the Hill and not know what a single vote is about," said Hume, the 28-year-old son of the TV journalist Brit Hume. "Almost everything they vote on is irrelevant to our mission. What we do is even more inside baseball than what the vote's about."

Several heavy consumers of Capitol news say this increased focus on not just inside-the-Beltway but inside-the-building news makes lawmakers even more isolated.

"It creates this 'Looking Glass' world of mirrors reflecting more and more off one another and less and less of the outside world," said Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

With shortened news cycles requiring ever faster reactions, some legislators and staff members say the House in particular, which has never been considered a contemplative institution, has become even less so.

"These newsletters and daily operations have sped up the game and intensified the political nature of the place by making people respond almost instantly," said Rep. David Obey, D-Wis. And the growing emphasis on insider gossip, he said, focuses too much attention on "government as entertainment."

On the other hand, some readers point out that the extensive coverage also makes it harder to hide pork or plain misbehavior.

The expansion has already gone well beyond what anybody thought the market would bear, with advertisers -- sometimes the same lobbyists who serve as news sources -- willing to pay relatively high rates to appeal to readers who make laws. The federal government is shrinking, the Cold War is over, and Americans apparently find news from Washington less compelling than ever. But on Capitol Hill, self-described news junkies still cannot get enough.

Tony Rudy, press secretary for Tom DeLay of Texas, the majority whip in the House, describes a typical week: "Of course, on Wednesday, you get in early to see what

The Hill wrote, and on Monday and Thursday it's Roll Call. At noon, you get on the Internet for Hotline -- Hotline is like the Bible. ... Then Congress Daily at 3 o'clock, which gives you what happened at all the press conferences up to 2 o'clock."

While Roll Call, a twice-a-week newspaper that has about 40 staff members, has been around since 1954, The Hill, with a staff of 28, came on the scene three years ago. The newsletters, all founded in the last decade, include CQ News Monitor, a 24-page sheet that focuses on floor action; Hotline, a newsletter available online that does no original reporting but summarizes the top political stories of the day; and Congress Daily, a 12-page newsletter offering news twice a day on the people and politics behind lawmaking. Among the more recent entries in the field are online products like National Journal's Cloakroom, CQ News Alert, and Allpolitics, sponsored by CNN and Time.

All of these and more are considered must-reads in a phenomenon that David Rapp, executive editor of Congressional Quarterly, calls "information paranoia."

Howard Wolfson, chief-of-staff for Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., says: "You're afraid to miss something because information is the most important commodity. The more you have, the better off you are, so it just becomes a time-management issue that you have to do other things other than read newspapers. You budget the best you can."

A favorite sport of congressional staff members during the time that is not spent reading inside reports, several of them said, is guessing who gave which unattributed quotations, then dissecting and rating them.

Recent fare included a story in The Hill that the chief-of-staff of a Republican opponent of same-sex marriage, Rep. Charles Canady of Florida, announced she is a homosexual and had quit to work for a homosexual-rights group. A story in Roll Call noted that two House Republicans visited Cuba during the August recess but had not been criticized by their colleagues.

Some stories, such as Hume's July report breaking the news of the abortive Republican rebellion against Speaker Newt Gingrich, do get picked up by larger papers and television, and these local publications are widely used by congressional staff members to get the attention of the wider media. (Hume's editor-in-chief, Martin Tolchin, brags that that story "did for us what Watergate did for The Washington Post.")

Sometimes, bigger papers only come around after someone else has published and thus legitimized a story -- and made yesterday's unconfirmed speculation today's conventional wisdom. But there are some complaints that that kind of pickup lowers the standard for publication of scandalous gossip.

In-House messages are commonly traded through these publications. Wolfson said his boss, Ms. Lowey, and other Democrats who support abortion rights recently used Congress Daily to send a message to Henry Hyde. They wanted him to know that they would try to vote down the spending bill for Labor and Health and Human Services unless he changed language that they feared would have prohibited health maintenance organizations from receiving federal money if they offered abortions. (The two sides have reached an understanding that kept but did not expand a ban on abortions paid for with federal money, Wolfson said.)

Advertisers are sending messages, too, of course. In a recent edition of Roll Call, ads urged congressional support for American Indians, for a \$32-billion-a-year highway improvement program, and for giving President Clinton "fast track" negotiating authority for trade agreements. Advertisers in the Congress-centric press include major trade associations like the Made-in-In-U.S.A. Coalition and policy lobbyists like Citizens For State Power and the America Smokers' Alliance, as well as companies like Northwest Airlines and AT&T. The Hill charges \$7,200 for a full-page color ad, Tolchin said.

Some local ads also focus on staff members who are apparently working late to keep up with their reading. "Tired of late-night greasy take-out?" one ad for a restaurant in The Hill began.

With low costs and relatively high ad revenue, Roll Call's reputation as a cash cow for its owner, The Economist Group, has drawn many of the newer competitors into the fray. "I don't think we've even scratched the market yet," said Jerry Finkelstein, chairman of the board of The Hill, who said the paper would more than break even this year. Both the Hill and Roll Call reported record ad revenues in September.

The Hill, which is owned by Finkelstein's company, News Communications Inc., says that it has "the largest circulation of any Capitol Hill publication." Tolchin put the circulation of The Hill -- which is mostly distributed free -- at 21,000. Roll Call has a circulation of about 17,500: 5,000 paid and 12,500 free.

The annual subscription rate for Roll Call's paying readers is \$225.

Profit margins at Roll Call are frequently as high as 40 percent, say people who have knowledge of the publication's finances. And even owners of less profitable publications said they thought there was room for virtually all comers. And there are rewards other than money for peddling your papers to some of the most powerful people in the world, they suggested.

"You have a lot of growth, not a lot of people making a lot of money," said John Fox Sullivan, publisher of the scholarly National Journal, which generally operates closer to the bone and was recently sold by Times Mirror to David Bradley and a group of investors including members of senior management. "But people are building up very valuable assets because we're major players in the capital of the entire world."

And many of the newer entries in this corner of the market are spinoffs of established publications. The National Journal, for example, owns Congress Daily and Hotline, which sells for a pricey \$4,200 a year. Its World Wide Web service, Cloakroom, began operation in July, and another newsletter, Daily Energy Report, is due out this month. National Journal inaugurated a new look with a redesigned magazine last month.

Congressional Quarterly, which has gotten some competition from Congress itself since the institution began posting roll call votes on the internet, is likewise designing several new services in addition to CQ Monitor and the online CQ News Alert, which is scheduled to expand in December.

At the other end of the spectrum, a glossy new competitor for Washingtonian magazine, Capital Style, hit the streets last month. Its editor, Bill Thomas, said that the monthly, also owned by The Economist, would cover Washington "as a show business town." He described Congress as "535 lounge acts all struggling to be Johnny Headliner."

Is there any limit to the hunger for inside Washington news -- if only inside Washington?

"There's constant expansion," said John Morton, a media analyst who also publishes a newsletter on the newspaper industry. "There probably is a limit, but it hasn't been reached yet. There does seem to be an unending appetite for this stuff."

Other Places of Interest on the Web

- * National Journal's Cloakroom
 - * CNN/Time AllPolitics
 - * CQ News Alert
 - * Roll Call
 - * The Hill
-

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===== END ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ARMS Email System
RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: jziegler (jziegler@ustr.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 8-OCT-1997 19:52:00.00

SUBJECT: Re: Revised Fast Track POTUS Statement and Guidance -Reply

TO: Barry J. Toiv (barry.j.toiv@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jake Siewert (jake.siewert@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Victoria Radd (victoria.radd@EOP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

A few points for tomorrow based on early fast track press today:

- The process is moving forward, and we will continue to work on a
bi-partisan basis to secure fast
track this year.

- In the last two weeks, Senate Finance approved a bill with overwhelming
bi-partisan support and
Ways and Means voted the bill out 24-14.

Q: Isn't the Administration disappointed in the lack of support among
Democrats?

A: We had a solid vote from the Committee. We will continue to build
support among Democrats
and Republicans. If you look at the Committee action we have seen in the
last two weeks, it is clear
we've made substantial progress in advancing prospects for fast track

approval this year.

(Background Note: Among Democrats on Ways and Means only six members
voted for the Nafta.)

Q: Don't Democrats on the Committee have a point that the President will
be unable to make
progress on labor and environmental issues?

A: No. We will apply fast track consistent with prior fast track
authority and this Administration has
made it clear that we will continue to address labor and environmental
issues as part of the trade
agenda. We have made unprecedented progress on environmental and labor
issues (Nafta,

Uruguay Round, WTO agreement on core labor stds.).===== ATTACHMENT 1

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

RFC-822-headers:

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id <01IOKOY8WH3400LJ3S@PMDf.EOP.GOV>; Wed, 08 Oct 1997 18:53:01 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from gatekeeper.eop.gov by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)
id <01IOKOY8277400IK4B@PMDf.EOP.GOV>; Wed, 08 Oct 1997 18:52:57 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from eoptst.eop.gov by gatekeeper.eop.gov;
(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/17Oct95-0424PM) id AA17794; Wed, 08 Oct 1997 18:52:53 -0400

Received: from ustr.gov (eop.ustr.gov) by EOPTST.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879)
id <01IOKOXYITK000049K@EOPTST.EOP.GOV>; Wed, 8 Oct 1997 18:52:44 EASTERN

Received: from USTR-Message_Server by ustr.gov with Novell_GroupWise; Wed,
08 Oct 1997 18:50:40 -0500

X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 4.1

Content-disposition: inline

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

**Clinton Presidential Records
Automated Records Management System
[EMAIL] and Tape Restoration Project [Email]**

This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies a responsive email, already made available within another collection.

Collection: 2015-0463-F

Bucket: Default

Creation Date: 1997-10-08

Subject: White House Weekly Report for the Week of October 13, 1997

Creator: Cynthia Coogan CN=Cynthia
Coogan/OU=DOT/O=GOV [UNKNOWN]

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: USIA_Media_Reaction (

USIA_Media_Reaction/R__MR/WASHDC/USIA/GOV.USIA@notes1.usia.gov@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-OCT-1997 07:55:00.00

SUBJECT: Early Report 10/9: CLINTON TO SOUTH AMERICA

TO: Kristen E. Panerali (Kristen E. Panerali@eop [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Journalists anticipating President Clinton's visit beginning Sunday to

Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela dwelled heavily on the questions of trade

and

of granting Argentina major non-NATO ally status--an initiative that has

irritated Argentina's neighbors. In Buenos Aires, correspondents

contrasted

"the importance given by the Argentine government to the 'great non-NATO

alliance'" with Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs

Jeffrey

Davidow's "cautious" explanation that Argentina's non-NATO ally status has

a

"different meaning" than the one previously granted in other cases.

Argentine

dailies also previewed what they see shaping up as a struggle between

Washington and Mercosur, the regional trade pact, on how to proceed with

integration of trade markets throughout the Americas. Chilean observers

highlighted Mr. Davidow's words to the effect that their country remains

the

premier candidate for NAFTA expansion. U.S.-European trade rivalries

dominated

Milan's provocative, classical liberal Il Foglio coverage of the visit, with the headline "Latin American Economy Running Towards Europe. Clinton Runs After It (Breathlessly)."

MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS: CAUSE FOR HOPE?

Editors in many parts of the world expressed cautious optimism that the meeting that took place early Wednesday between Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority chair Arafat had succeeded in "resuscitating" the stalled

Middle East peace process. Analysts expressed concern, however, that the return of the "charismatic" Hamas founder, Sheikh Yassin, to Gaza could weaken

Chairman Arafat's position and force him "to share power with Hamas." In Israel, dailies were divided as to whether the summit had achieved a "breakthrough." While top-circulation, pluralist Yediot declared that "history

was made" at the Erez crossing meeting, mass-appeal, pluralist Maariv expressed

misgivings about whether or not Mr. Netanyahu had "made up his mind in earnest

to pay the price of peace." Dailies in several Arab countries railed against

"Israeli terrorism," with Cairo's pro-government Al Akhbar arguing that

Mr.

Netanyahu "should be tried and questioned like other terrorists."

Commentary

in Jeddah's widely read Ukaz served as a counterweight to the optimism about

the peace process expressed by some observers outside the Middle East.

"Palestinian and Arab confidence in an Israeli commitment to peace

conditions

has reached bottom," Ukaz declared, concluding: "The recent foiled Mossad

attempt to kill Khaled Meshal will not be the last of the Israeli criminal

conspiracies."

BRIEFS

-- Greenspan: 'Again Bogeyman For Stock Exchange'

-- IRA Omitted From U.S. List Of Terrorist Groups

-- Kim Jong-Il Assumes Party Leadership: Will North Open Up?

-- U.S. Policy In Middle East, Persian Gulf

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Kathleen J. Brahney

CLINTON TO SOUTH AMERICA: TRADE, ARGENTINA'S ALLIED STATUS

ARGENTINA: "Clinton Wants More Non-NATO Allies"

Daily-of-record La Nacion (10/8) ran this front-page story by its

Washington-based correspondent Jorge Elias who quoted Assistant Secretary

Davidow: "The United States thinks of including other Latin American

countries

as non-NATO allies."

"Contrast Between Argentina, Davidow On Ally Status"

Sergio Serrichio, Washington-based correspondent of business/financial

Buenos

Aires Economico (10/8), "The importance given by the Argentine government

to

the 'great non-NATO alliance' is in contrast with (Secretary) Davidow's

own

caution when he addressed the issue. When requested by Buenos Aires

Economico

to 'define the term'... (Davidow) said it was a recognition of Argentine

participation in 'at least eight' international peace operations, and (he)

added that (Argentina's) non-NATO ally status has a 'different meaning'

than

the one previously granted in other cases.... 'It is not a strategic

alliance

nor does it imply any kind of mutual defense obligation,' Davidow

explained."

"The Other Name"

An editorial in pro-government La Prensa held (10/8), "The visitor will

find a

high hurdle in the Southern Cone, where Mercosur stands up as an alliance

that

does not want to be damaged by the commercial attack of the North.... The United States, an unparalleled example of liberties, must defeat its domestic protectionists, who seem not to have understood that free trade is a fruitful avenue, as long as a balanced two-way traffic is guaranteed. Otherwise, liberty will only belong to the stronger one. And that has another name."

"U.S. And Our National Interest"

Rogelio Frigerio, head of the "Movimiento de Integracion y Desarrollo" political party, wrote (10/8) in an op-ed piece in daily-of-record La Nacion,

"With or without fast track, Washington will attempt to make fewer concessions

than the ones demanded by our countries. This is being perceived in Brazil.... In turn, in Argentina there

are no clear official explanations and everything leads one to believe that

Washington thinks of Buenos Aires as a kind of collaborator to break the Brazilian negotiating hard-line."

CHILE: "House Of Representatives Commission Votes On Fast Track"

Conservative, influential El Mercurio carried an article (10/8) written by

its

special correspondent Isabel Seguel that includes excerpts from Davidow
briefing at Foreign

Press Center: "In a briefing at the Washington Foreign Press Center

Assistant

Secretary

for Interamerican Affairs, Jeffrey Davidow, defended in his usual grumpy
style

President

Clinton's trip to Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina....

"Responding to a question from the press, Davidow said that this visit
emanates

from existing ties and is part of a genuine effort and not only a photo
opportunity as the press has stated. He confirmed that the White House
has not

yet sent to Congress its request that Argentina become a major non-NATO
ally.... He once again added that Chile will be the first country with
which

the United States will start conversations on free trade and that Clinton
would

like to announce a formal opening of these (conversations) at the Summit
(of

the Americas) in Santiago in April 1998."

ITALY: "U.S. Vs. Europe: On Latin American Turf?"

With the headline "Latin American Economy Running Towards Europe. Clinton
Runs

After It (Breathlessly)," provocative, classical liberal Il Foglio
offered

this scenesetter(10/9), "Though in a less spectacular way than for the
Middle

East, the Latin American area also is rapidly becoming an issue of
conflict

between the various economic and trade policies of the United States and
Europe.... In the domestic arena...the controversial request for fast
track

authority is a background issue.... But it is not the only one. The
more

comprehensive problem is that the present development trend in Latin
America

economies risks weakening, if not excluding, a Yankee role. In recent
years,

Latin America, the former backyard, has been the focus of grandiose plans
of

continental development by the White House. On top of which there is
NAFTA.... But the problem is that, beyond it, all other post-NAFTA trade
pacts

are still on the open seas, and there is the skepticism of an important
sector

because of drug trafficking.... Another problem for Clinton...is that European countries did not miss the opportunity...to speed up their trade and financial market penetration, which was also facilitated by the deregulation and privatization processes started in Latin America along the lines of the American economic model."

MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS: CAUSE FOR HOPE?

ISRAEL: "Historic Meeting"

Top-circulation, pluralist Yediot wrote in its lead editorial (10/9): "The press was not on hand to record handshakes or smiles at the Netanyahu-Arafat summit--if there were any. But the fact of the matter is that history was made at the Erez crossing. The peace process which was taken to be on its death bed has been resuscitated. Why did this happen? President Clinton offered a plausible explanation. The President said in not so many words that, paradoxically, the Mossad assassination fiasco and the release from prison of Hamas leader Sheikh Yassin, impressed on both Netanyahu and Arafat the need to put the peace process back on track.... In other words, the way to prevent Hamas from dominating the scene is by breathing new life into the peace

process."

"Some Summit"

Mass-appeal, pluralist Maariv stressed in its lead editorial (10/9):

"There is

no reason to doubt Ambassador Ross' observation that the atmosphere in the Netanyahu-Arafat meeting was good despite the outstanding serious disagreements. Both leaders know that the stalemate in the peace process played into Hamas's hands. Fear of the common enemy may yet produce miracles.... There is one nagging feeling though. Netanyahu may not have yet

made up his mind in earnest to pay the price of peace and he may prefer to go

one waging an endless battle.... It may just be that the prime minister does

not know where he is headed."

JORDAN: "'Backstage' Diplomacy"

Daily columnist Nicola Nasser opined in independent, mass-appeal Al-Arab Al-Yawm

(10/9): "Jordan's backstage diplomacy's concern for containing the crisis

rather than enflaming it clashed with Jordan's rare opportunity to have a very

effective political weapon with which to pressure the Netanyahu

government.

This concern has helped ease Netanyahu's domestic problem and helped contain a growing crisis between Israel and the international community. In fact, Jordan's backstage diplomacy rewarded Netanyahu for his crime as the world praised his 'humanitarian' gesture of releasing Sheikh Yassin from prison."

"Assassination Details Gleaned From Israel"

Managing editor Saleh Qallab also wrote in Al-Arab Al-Yawm (10/9): "We felt envy, jealousy and shame as we listened to Israel's media reveal the tiniest of details of the assassination attempt against Meshal.... When we tried to ask the questions that were on the mind of every Jordanian citizen, we were accused of harming the country and damaging its reputation and image, as if Jordan is represented by a minister of information or a prime minister.... Because Jordan is not represented by one minister or another, we will continue our constructive criticism in the name of loyalty to the country and the people."

EGYPT: "Netanyahu Should Be Tried"

Said Sonbol, columnist for pro-government Al Akhbar, argued (10/8): "A terrorist is one who refuses to negotiate, refuses other opinions...and throws accusations at others.... Netanyahu fits this description. He should be tried and questioned like other terrorists. He condemned Meshal...and ordered his execution without hearing his defense.... He did not care about his neighbor, Jordan...and disregarded the embarrassment that this crime might cause to the Jordanian regime.... A terrorist is proud of his crime, which is what Netanyahu (indicated) in the press conference [after the crime was revealed].... The deal between Jordan and Israel...should not cover Netanyahu's crime. He's a terrorist who should be tried."

SYRIA: "Zionist Terrorism"

Mohamed Ali Buza opined (10/8) in government-owned Al-Thawra, "It is a crime to let the Netanyahu government go without punishment and to cover up its foiled crime in Jordan.... We realize the importance and the dimensions of the American move at present; we recognize that saving Israel, and

consequently the
Doha summit, from the impasse brought about by an intransigent policy,
will be
the focus of Dennis Ross' visit to occupied Jerusalem."

SAUDI ARABIA: "Uneasiness Over Summit"

Jeddah-based, widely-read Ukaz put forth this view (10/9): "Although we appreciate the Americans' optimism, we nonetheless feel a great uneasiness regarding the outcome of Netanyahu and Arafat's summit for the following reasons...one, Palestinian and Arab confidence in an Israeli commitment to peace conditions has reached bottom. Secondly, any in-depth reading of the events of the last few hours preceding their meeting lists many Israeli crimes,
violations and an attempt to shed Palestinian Arab blood, even outside of Palestinian territories; the recent foiled Mossad attempt to kill Khaled Meshal
will not be the last of the Israeli criminal conspiracies... Thirdly..the results of this meeting...will not find acceptance among Palestinians because
their suspicion has become entrenched due to Netanyahu's anti-peace actions."

BRITAIN: "Talks Revive Middle East Peace Hope"

The liberal Guardian had this report from Jerusalem (10/9): "Israeli,
Palestinian and American officials cautiously welcomed a fresh start' for

the

Middle East peace process after Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu held a

snap

summit with Yasser Arafat yesterday morning.... Observers said the United

States had exploited diplomatic room for maneuver opened up by a

controversial

Israeli assassination attempt last month in Jordan against a Hamas

official.... The dramatic meeting has served to divert attention, at

least

temporarily, from the political storm over the Meshal affair."

GERMANY: "Arafat, Netanyahu: Up To Their Necks In Difficulties"

Jerusalem correspondent Anne Ponger wrote editorially for centrist

Sueddeutsche

Zeitung of Munich (10/9), "As a consequence of the fiasco relating to the

attack in Amman and the upgrading of Hamas by the release of its founder,

Sheikh Yassin, both Netanyahu as well as Arafat are up to their neck in

difficulties. This is why the night meeting between the two did not

result in any real narrowing of views.... For Arafat, too, the situation

has

become more complicated by the return of the charismatic Sheikh Yassin.

Arafat

will now have to share power with Hamas and listen to Yassin's advice. It

will

become more difficult for Arafat to arrest Hamas members at the same time

Israel sets them free. Hamas has won a victory not only over Israel and its legendary Mossad, but also over Arafat. How should this promote the peace process?"

ITALY: "Two Enemies Forced To Love Each Other"

Fiamma Nirenstein pointed out in centrist, influential La Stampa (10/9):

"What

Madeleine Albright was unable to achieve has been achieved very rapidly by

Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. True, there was also Dennis Ross in the area and certainly his pressures for a meeting between Arafat and Netanyahu were indispensable. But the truth is that...only a terrible situation could have

removed the crust of ice over the Middle East peace process. And that situation occurred in the wake of the failed Mossad attempt to assassinate one

of Hamas's leaders in Amman.... Arafat and Netanyahu met during the night.

Dennis Ross left yesterday evening after meeting Arafat in Ramallah and Netanyahu in his home and after assigning homework to both.... It may be that

the shock suffered by Netanyahu on so many different fronts...and Arafat's fear

have really put the peace process in motion."

AUSTRALIA: "Failed Killing Sparks Search For Peace"

The national conservative Australian observed (10/9): "Sheik Yassin (Hamas's spiritual leader) wasted no time after his release in outlining a surprisingly pragmatic vision for relations with Israel, even mentioning a conditional ceasefire. He called for a truce if Israel withdraws completely from the West Bank and Gaza Strip and removes all of its settlements. While those conditions would be unacceptable to Israel, the official reaction was that his words represented a 'positive change.' In a meeting with Mr. Arafat, the sheik said Hamas was not competing with the Palestinian Authority and called for Palestinians to unite, an invitation that the PLO leader could scarcely reject. It is to be hoped that the Erez Crossing meeting will lead to meaningful discussions about how the peace process can move forward."

INDIA: "Netanyahu-Arafat Meet, A Diversion From Crises"

Kesava Menon wrote from Cairo for the centrist Hindu (10/9): "While there is an imperative for the United States to put a gloss on this meeting and while Arafat and Netanyahu have reason to welcome the diversion from certain

political difficulties that this exercise provided, only the details will prove

whether the achievements matched the drama of last night's meeting....

The

Palestinians and Israelis were expected to focus on relatively mundane matters

while meeting in Ross' presence during the special envoy's latest trip to the

region.... In the event (Sec State) Albright made the barest of nudges towards

a balanced U.S. approach towards the issues of Israeli security and the Palestinian political interest.... While placing the first emphasis on security matters she did speak out, while on Israeli soil, against the unilateral moves made by the host government on...the expansion of settlements. Although short of what the United States should have said...these

words did give a measure of satisfaction to the Arabs. However that deficit in

the U.S. approach had given strength to the view that the United States would

bring only so much pressure to bear on Israel and that, therefore, any negotiations which might ensue would not produce quick results."

BRIEFS

GREENSPAN: 'AGAIN BOGEYMAN FOR STOCK EXCHANGE'

BRITAIN: "Goldilocks Economy Will Eventually Meet The Bears"

The independent Financial Times noted under the headline above (10/9):

"Mr.

Greenspan cautioned that the extraordinarily benign condition of the
American

economy--strong growth with low inflation, the so-called Goldilocks
economy--could not continue indefinitely."

"Alan Greenspan: This Time It's Serious"

An editorial in the centrist Independent held (10/9): "Alan

Greenspan...rarely

gets quoted entirely accurately on anything. So it was perhaps inevitable
that

his uncontentious observation yesterday that it was not realistic to look
for a

continuation of stock market gains of anything like the magnitude of those
recorded in the past couple of years should have become distorted on some
of

the more unreliable news wires to the bald assertion that stock prices were 'unrealistically high'. Plainly, there is a world of a difference.

"All the same, what he actually did say was sobering enough. Mr.

Greenspan's

normally Delphic testimony to the House of Representatives was, for a change,

unambiguous. Mr. Greenspan is not a believer in the 'new paradigm', the theory

that the United States has abolished the business cycle, that the economy is on

a sustainable glide path of low inflation and high growth out into the

indefinite future. Mr. Greenspan is far too wise an old bird to call the

theory so much hooey; the American public doesn't like to hear that kind of

thing. But he might well have done.... This time round he looks intent on

pricking the bubble with a rise in interest rates."

ITALY: "True Orchestrator Of U.S. Economic Growth"

Mario Platero observed from New York in leading business Il Sole 24-Ore

(10/9): "Even though markets gave a negative welcome to Alan Greenspan's unexpected 'knuckle rapping', once more the fed chairman emerges as the true

orchestrator of U.S. economic growth.... Some people in Congress state

that

the Fed is too powerful and would like to reduce its power a little.

However,

nobody, not the markets, which will surely continue to respond to

Greenspan,

nor the politicians, will be able to ignore the warning by a civil

servant who

has always been right until now."

BELGIUM: "Greenspan Again Bogeyman For Stock Exchange"

Under the headline above, independent Catholic De Standaard said (10/9),

"Fed

Chairman Alan Greenspan is clearly not very happy with the continuing

increase

of share quotations in Wall Street.... Apparently, people believe that

inflation no longer exists as a consequence of technological renovations

in the

production apparatus. But, we must not forget that this is an

evolutionary--no

revolutionary--process, Greenspan said.... If things go on like this,

'the

question is not whether but when labor costs will escalate."

IRA NOT INCLUDED IN U.S. LIST OF TERRORIST GROUPS

BRITAIN: "Rubin: U.S. Decision Conditional Upon Ceasefire"

BBC Radio (10/9) stressed the exclusion of the IRA from Washington's list of proscribed terrorist organizations: "Although a recent State Department report described the IRA as a radical terrorist group with links to Libya, the Clinton administration has decided not to impose sanctions against it--for the time being at least. Spokesman Jamie Rubin made clear that the

decision was conditional upon the ceasefire and that if the IRA returned to violence its status would be reconsidered."

"IRA Escapes U.S. Terrorist Group Ban"

According to the conservative Daily Telegraph (10/9): "This signal that the vociferous Irish-American lobby in the United States may continue giving help to Northern Ireland's republican gunmen comes a day after President Clinton assured David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, that Washington would repudiate Sinn Fein/IRA if it broke the ceasefire."

KIM JONG-IL ASSUMES PARTY LEADERSHIP: WILL NORTH OPEN UP?

SOUTH KOREA: "Kim Jong-il Becomes Party Secretary"

Moderate Hankook Ilbo declared (10/9): "Kim Jong-il has become the party's secretary, indicating that North Korea has moved beyond the shock of the death of the late President Kim Il-Sung. With Kim assuming that authority, the North may become more flexible than ever in dealing with the United States, Japan and even us. That is because the North must know that it has no other alternative to opening up to solve its severe shortages in food, energy, and foreign hard currency. As the party's new secretary, Kim Jong-il may soon want to have a summit meeting with Jiang Zemin of China, which will help strengthen his prestige and authority. Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has an invitation to Pyongyang, and U.S. lawmaker Tony Hall's visit to the North for the celebration of the upcoming party anniversary has already been scheduled....

In dealing with us, North Korea has lately shown more flexibility than ever, although its attitude toward us is still rigid."

JAPAN: "How to Deal With The Kim Jong-II Regime"

The top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri editorialized (10/9), "Now that Kim Jong-il has been formally named general secretary of the Workers Party of (North) Korea, how should Japan deal with the North? There is no doubt that the priority for the international community should be to ensure that North Korea does not become a source of turmoil for Northeast Asia and the rest of the world.... Pyongyang should be encouraged to act as a responsible member of the international community and to adopt a path of reform, openness and democratization... It is essential to establish a mechanism to restore peace to the Korean peninsula...through the four-party talks...and through the normalization of Pyongyang's diplomatic relations with the United States and Japan. It is also necessary to promote dialogue between North and South Korea. In addition, it is important that the U.S.-North Korea nuclear accord remain on track."

GERMANY: "First Communist Dynasty Of World's History Is Born"

In an editorial, Gebhard Hielscher remarked in centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung

(10/9), "With the nomination of Kim Yong-Il...to become the secretary general of the North Korean Labor Party, the first Communist dynasty of the world's history was born. However, it is questionable whether this will extend the life expectancy of the regime with its prostrated economy.... North Korea's neighbors welcomed the 'successor on the throne.' They hope for a stabilization of the situation on the Korean peninsula, although 'normal' relations with North Korea seem to be very unlikely. Pyongyang continues to live its role of outsider."

U.S. POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST, PERSIAN GULF

FRANCE: "Center Of Gravity For U.S. Preoccupations: Persian Gulf"

Thierry de Montbrial observed in right-of-center Le Figaro (10/8), "The center of gravity for U.S. strategic preoccupations in the Middle East is now the Persian Gulf and Washington's 'dual containment' policy.... U.S. Near East policy is more than ever dominated by its domestic issues.... Washington is not really ready to put pressure on Israel. As for Europe, the nature of intra-European and transatlantic

relations is such that it is incapable of playing a role in Near and Middle Eastern affairs."

RUSSIA: "U.S. Seeks To Revenge Itself On France"

Aleksandr Shumilin held in reformist, business-oriented Kommersant Daily (10/9): "Failing to thwart Total's deal with Iran, Washington has decided to recoup itself by trying to shoulder the French out of Algeria. The Americans have consistently been criticizing the local regime for a lack of flexibility in relation to the Islamic opposition. Washington, evidently, feels that something must happen which will give the Islamists considerable influence in that country. Unlike the French, the Americans recognize the Islamic Salvation Front leaders as partners in talks and intend to boost their stand through dialogue."

TURKEY: "U.S. Vs. France"

Ergun Balci wrote in liberal Cumhuriyet (10/9): "The natural gas deal between the French company Total and Iran has caused tension between the United States

and France, and this has brought back the issue of the quarrel between the United States and Europe.... More interestingly, during the whole Total controversy, EU countries supported France in a very determined way.

Along

with its economic importance, Total's deal with Iran has political implications. France wants to take over the U.S. position in the Middle East,

or at least, wants to be represented equally with the United States. The Total

deal with Iran will help France enhance its influence in the Middle East....

We had better remember the double standard regarding the so-called 'joint' struggle against terrorism by the United States and the EU. The European Union

likes very much to give lessons on human rights and democracy to Third World

countries, but forgets all about them when the EU reaps economic benefits with

any of those countries. Also the United States does the same, such as in the

example of Sudan. The Clinton administration declared Sudan a terrorist country in January, and recently allowed a U.S. firm to participate in a oil

bid in Sudan."

##===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
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id <01IOLGOJIPEO00LLPF@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for panerali_k@a1.eop.gov; Thu,
09 Oct 1997 08:06:53 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from storm.eop.gov (storm.eop.gov)

by PMDF.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.0-4 #6879) id <01IOLGOI4VF400DIJK@PMDF.EOP.GOV> for
panerali_k@a1.eop.gov; Thu, 09 Oct 1997 08:06:51 -0400 (EDT)

Received: from notes1.usia.gov ([198.67.64.251])

by STORM.EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.1-7 #6879)

with SMTP id <01IOLGNQ5B5S007444@STORM.EOP.GOV> for panerali_k@a1.eop.gov;
Thu, 09 Oct 1997 08:06:16 -0400 (EDT)

Received: by notes1.usia.gov (IBM OS/2 SENDMAIL VERSION 1.3.2)

/1.0) id AA9207; Thu, 09 Oct 1997 08:03:31 -0700

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X-Lotus-Type: Early Report

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GTON DC 20547 OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND MEDIA REACTIONOO

#XP\ P6QyP#Bill Richey, Branch Chief Media Reaction (R/MR), #:x2PkCXP# #XP\

P6QyP#Richey@usia.gov, (202) 6196511

Ann Pincus,

Director, (

202) 6196511

#Xn\ P6Qy&P#Thursday, October 9, 1997

X' hp x (# CLINTON TO SOUTH AMERICA: TRADE, ARGENTINA'S ALLIED STATUS

X' hp x (#

Journalists anticipating President Clinton's visit beginning Sunday to

Argenti

na, Brazil and Venezuela dwelled heavily on the questions of trade and

of grant

ing Argentina major nonNATO ally statusan initiative that has

irritated Argenti

na's neighbors. In Buenos Aires, correspondents contrasted "the importance given by the Argentine government to the 'great nonNATO alliance'" with Assistant Secretary of State for InterAmerican Affairs Jeffrey Davidow's "cautious" explanation that Argentina's nonNATO ally status has a "different meaning" than the one previously granted in other cases. Argentine dailies also previewed what they see shaping up as a struggle between Washington and Mercosur, the regional trade pact, on how to proceed with integration of trade markets throughout the Americas. Chilean observers highlighted Mr. Davidow's words to the effect that their country remains the premier candidate for NAFTA expansion. U.S. European trade rivalries dominated Milan's provocative, classical liberal Il Foglio coverage of the visit, with the headline "Latin American Economy Running Towards Europe. Clinton Runs After It (Breathlessly)."

MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS: CAUSE FOR HOPE?

Editors in many parts of the world expressed cautious optimism that the meeting that took place early Wednesday between Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority chair Arafat had succeeded in "resuscitating" the stalled Middle East peace process. Analysts expressed concern, however, that the return of the "charismatic" Hamas founder, Sheikh Yassin, to Gaza could weaken Chairman Arafat's position and force him "to share power with Hamas." In Israel, dailies were divided as to whether the summit had achieved a "breakthrough." While top circulation, pluralist Yediot declared that "history was made" at the Herzliya crossing meeting, mass appeal, pluralist Maariv expressed misgivings about whether or not Mr. Netanyahu had "made up his mind in earnest to pay the price of peace." Dailies in several Arab countries railed against "Israeli terrorism," with Cairo's progovernment Al Akhbar arguing that Mr. Netanyahu "should be tried and questioned like other terrorists." Commentary in Jeddah's widely read Umm al-Qura served as a counterweight to the optimism about the peace process.

expressed
by some observers outside the Middle East. "Palestinian and Arab
confidence i
n an Israeli commitment to peace conditions has reached bottom,"
Ukaz declared,
concluding: "The recent foiled Mossad attempt to kill Khaled
Meshal will not b
e the last of the Israeli criminal conspiracies."

BRIEFS

Greenspan: 'Again Bogeyman For Stock Exchange'
IRA Omitted From U.S. List Of Terrorist Groups
Kim JongIl Assumes Party Leadership: Will North Open Up?
U.S. Policy In Middle East, Persian Gulf

EDITORS: Mildred Sola Neely and Kathleen J. Brahney

CLINTON TO SOUTH AMERICA: TRADE, ARGENTINA'S ALLIED STATUS

ARGENTINA: "Clinton Wants More NonNATO Allies"

Dailyofrecord La Nacion (10/8) ran this frontpage story by its
Washingtonbased
correspondent Jorge Elias who quoted Assistant Secretary
Davidow: "The United
States thinks of including other Latin American
countries as nonNATO allies."

"Contrast Between Argentina, Davidow On Ally Status"

Sergio Serrichio, Washingtonbased correspondent of business/financial Buenos
A
ires Economico (10/8), "The importance given by the Argentine government to
the
'great nonNATO alliance' is in contrast with (Secretary) Davidow's own
caution
when he addressed the issue. When requested by Buenos Aires
Economico to 'def
ine the term'... (Davidow) said it was a recognition of
Argentine participation
in 'at least eight' international peace operations,
and (he) added that (Argen
tina's) nonNATO ally status has a 'different
meaning' than the one previously g
ranted in other cases.... 'It is not a
strategic alliance nor does it imply any
kind of mutual defense obligation,'
Davidow explained."

"The Other Name"

An editorial in progovernment La Prensa held (10/8), "The visitor will find
a

high hurdle in the Southern Cone, where Mercosur stands up as an alliance that does not want to be damaged by the commercial attack of the North.... The United States, an unparalleled example of liberties, must defeat its domestic protectionists, who seem not to have understood that free trade is a fruitful avenue, as long as a balanced two-way traffic is guaranteed. Otherwise, liberty will only belong to the stronger one. And that has another name."

"U.S. And Our National Interest"

Rogelio Frigerio, head of the "Movimiento de Integración y Desarrollo" political party, wrote (10/8) in an op-ed piece in daily record La Nación, "With or without fast track, Washington will attempt to make fewer concessions than the ones demanded by our countries. This is being perceived in Brazil.... In turn, in Argentina there are no clear official explanations and everything leads one to believe that Washington thinks of Buenos Aires as a kind of collaborator to break the Brazilian negotiating hardline."

X hp x (#

X hp x (# CHILE: "House Of Representatives Commission Votes On Fast Track"

Conservative, influential El Mercurio carried an article (10/8) written by its special correspondent Isabel Seguel that includes excerpts from Davidow's briefing at Foreign Press Center: "In a briefing at the Washington Foreign Press Center Assistant Secretary for Interamerican Affairs, Jeffrey Davidow, defended in his usual grumpy style President Clinton's trip to Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina....

"Responding to a question from the press, Davidow said that this visit emanates from existing ties and is part of a genuine effort and not only a photo opportunity as the press has stated. He confirmed that the White House has not yet sent to Congress its request that Argentina become a major non-NATO ally.... He once again added that Chile will be the first country

with which the United States will start conversations on free trade and that Clinton would like to announce a formal opening of these (conversations) at the Summit (of the Americas) in Santiago in April 1998."

ITALY: "U.S. Vs. Europe: On Latin American Turf?"

With the headline "Latin American Economy Running Towards Europe. Clinton Run s After It (Breathlessly)," provocative, classical liberal Il Foglio offered this scenerunner (10/9), "Though in a less spectacular way than for the Middle East, the Latin American area also is rapidly becoming an issue of conflict between the various economic and trade policies of the United States and Europe. ... In the domestic arena...the controversial request for fast track authority is a background issue.... But it is not the only one. The more comprehensive problem is that the present development trend in Latin America economies risks weakening, if not excluding, a Yankee role. In recent years, Latin America, the former backyard, has been the focus of grandiose plans of continental development by the White House. On top of which there is NAFTA.... But the problem is that, beyond it, all other postNAFTA trade pacts are still on the open seas, and there is the skepticism of an important sector because of drug trafficking.... Another problem for Clinton...is that European countries did not miss the opportunity...to speed up their trade and financial market penetration, which was also facilitated by the deregulation and privatization processes started in Latin America along the lines of the American economic model."

MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS: CAUSE FOR HOPE?

X' hp x (#ISRAEL: "Historic Meeting")

Top circulation, pluralist Yediot wrote in its lead editorial (10/9): "The press was not on hand to record handshakes or smiles at the Netanyahu-Arafat

summit

if there were any. But the fact of the matter is that history was made at the Erez crossing. The peace process which was taken to be on its death bed has been resuscitated. Why did this happen? President Clinton offered a plausible explanation. The President said in not so many words that, paradoxically, the Mossad assassination fiasco and the release from prison of Hamas leader Sheikh Yassin, impressed on both Netanyahu and Arafat the need to put the peace process back on track.... In other words, the way to prevent Hamas from dominating the scene is by breathing new life into the peace process."

"Some Summit"

Massappeal, pluralist Maariv stressed in its lead editorial (10/9): "There is no reason to doubt Ambassador Ross' observation that the atmosphere in the Netanyahu-Arafat meeting was good despite the outstanding serious disagreements. Both leaders know that the stalemate in the peace process played into Hamas's hands. Fear of the common enemy may yet produce miracles.... There is one nagging feeling though. Netanyahu may not have yet made up his mind in earnest to pay the price of peace and he may prefer to go on waging an endless battle.... It may just be that the prime minister does not know where he is headed."

X hp x (# JORDAN: "'Backstage' Diplomacy"

X hp x (#

Daily columnist Nicola Nasser opined in independent, massappeal AlArab AlYawm (10/9): "Jordan's backstage diplomacy's concern for containing the crisis rather than enflaming it clashed with Jordan's rare opportunity to have a very effective political weapon with which to pressure the Netanyahu government. This concern has helped ease Netanyahu's domestic problem and helped contain a growing crisis between Israel and the international community. In fact, Jordan's backstage diplomacy rewarded Netanyahu for his crime as the world praised his 'humanitarian' gesture of releasing Sheikh

Yassin from prison."

"Assassination Details Gleaned From Israel"

Managing editor Saleh Qallab also wrote in AlArab AlYawm (10/9): "We felt
env
y, jealousy

and shame as we listened to Israel's media reveal the tiniest of details of
the
assassination attempt against Meshal.... When we tried to ask the
questions
that were on the mind of every Jordanian citizen, we were accused
of harming th
e country and damaging its reputation and image, as if Jordan is
represented by
a minister of information or a prime minister.... Because
Jordan is not repre
sented by one minister or another, we will continue our
constructive criticism
in the name of loyalty to the country and the
people."

X' hp x (# EGYPT: "Netanyahu Should Be Tried"

X' hp x (#Said Sonbol, columnist for progovernment Al Akhbar, argued (10/8):
"A
terrorist is one who refuses to negotiate, refuses other opinions...and
th
rows accusations at others.... Netanyahu fits this description. He should
be
tried and questioned like other terrorists. He condemned Meshal...and
ordered
his execution without hearing his defense.... He did not care about
his neigh
bor, Jordan...and disregarded the embarrassment that this crime
might cause to
the Jordanian regime.... A terrorist is proud of his crime,
which is what Neta
nyahu (indicated) in the press conference [after the crime
was revealed]....
The deal between Jordan and Israel...should not cover
Netanyahu's crime. He's
a terrorist who should be tried."

X' hp x (#
SYRIA: "Zionist Terrorism"

Mohamed Ali Buza opined (10/8) in governmentowned AlThawra, "It is a crime
to
let the Netanyahu government go without punishment and to cover up its
foiled c
rime in Jordan.... We realize the importance and the dimensions of
the America
n move at present; we recognize that saving Israel, and

consequently the Doha summit, from the impasse brought about by an intransigent policy, will be the focus of Dennis Ross' visit to occupied Jerusalem."

X' hp x (# SAUDI ARABIA: "Uneasiness Over Summit"

Jeddah-based, widely-read Ukiyah put forth this view (10/9): "Although we appreciate the Americans' optimism, we nonetheless feel a great uneasiness regarding the outcome of Netanyahu and Arafat's summit for the following reasons...one, Palestinian and Arab confidence in an Israeli commitment to peace conditions has reached bottom. Secondly, any in-depth reading of the events of the last few hours preceding their meeting lists many Israeli crimes, violations and an attempt to shed Palestinian Arab blood, even outside of Palestinian territories; the recent foiled Mossad attempt to kill Khaled Meshal will not be the last of the Israeli criminal conspiracies... Thirdly..the results of this meeting...will not find acceptance among Palestinians because their suspicion has become entrenched due to Netanyahu's anti-peace actions."

BRITAIN: "Talks Revive Middle East Peace Hope"

The liberal Guardian had this report from Jerusalem (10/9): "Israeli, Palestinian and American officials cautiously welcomed a 'fresh start' for the Middle East peace process after Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu held a snap summit with Yasser Arafat yesterday morning.... Observers said the United States had exploited diplomatic room for maneuver opened up by a controversial Israeli assassination attempt last month in Jordan against a Hamas official.... The dramatic meeting has served to divert attention, at least temporarily, from the political storm over the Meshal affair."

X' hp x (# GERMANY: "Arafat, Netanyahu: Up To Their Necks In Difficulties"

Jerusalem correspondent Anne Ponger wrote editorially for the centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung of Munich (10/9), "As a consequence of the fiasco

relating to the attack in Amman and the upgrading of Hamas by the release of its founder, Sheikh Yassin, both Netanyahu as well as Arafat are up to their neck in difficulties. This is why the night meeting between the two did not

result in any real narrowing of views.... For Arafat, too, the situation has become more complicated by the return of the charismatic Sheikh Yassin. Arafat will now have to share power with Hamas and listen to Yassin's advice. It will become more difficult for Arafat to arrest Hamas members at the same time Israel sets them free. Hamas has won a victory not only over Israel and its legendary Mossad, but also over Arafat. How should this promote the peace process?"

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ITALY: "Two Enemies Forced To Love Each Other"

Fiamma Nirenstein pointed out in centrist, influential La Stampa (10/9): "What Madeleine Albright was unable to achieve has been achieved very rapidly by Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. True, there was also Dennis Ross in the area and certainly his pressures for a meeting between Arafat and Netanyahu were indispensable. But the truth is that...only a terrible situation could have removed the crust of ice over the Middle East peace process. And that situation occurred in the wake of the failed Mossad attempt to assassinate one of Hamas's leaders in Amman.... Arafat and Netanyahu met during the night. Dennis Ross left yesterday evening after meeting Arafat in Ramallah and Netanyahu in his home and after assigning homework to both.... It may be that the shock suffered by Netanyahu on so many different fronts...and Arafat's fear have really put the peace process in motion."

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The national conservative Australian observed (10/9): "Sheik Yassin (Hamas's spiritual leader) wasted no time after his release in outlining a surprisingly pragmatic vision for relations with Israel, even mentioning a conditional ceasefire. He called for a truce if Israel withdraws completely

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The independent Financial Times noted under the headline above (10/9): "Mr. Greenspan cautioned that the extraordinarily benign condition of the American economy with low inflation, the so-called Goldilocks economy could not continue indefinitely."

"Alan Greenspan: This Time It's Serious"

An editorial in the centrist Independent held (10/9): "Alan Greenspan...rarely gets quoted entirely accurately on anything. So it was perhaps inevitable that his uncontentious observation yesterday that it was not realistic to look for a continuation of stock market gains of anything like the magnitude of those recorded in the past couple of years should have become distorted on some of the more unreliable news wires to the bald assertion that stock prices were 'unrealistically high'. Plainly, there is a world of a difference.

"All the same, what he actually did say was sobering enough. Mr. Greenspan's normally Delphic testimony to the House of Representatives was, for a change, unambiguous. Mr. Greenspan is not a believer in the 'new paradigm', the theory that the United States has abolished the business cycle, that the economy is on a sustainable glide path of low inflation and high growth out into the indefinite future. Mr. Greenspan is far too wise an old bird to call the theory so much hooey; the American public doesn't like to hear that kind of thing. But he might well have done.... This time round he looks intent on pricking the bubble with a rise in interest rates."

ITALY: "True Orchestrator Of U.S. Economic Growth"

Mario Platero observed from New York in leading business II Sole 24Ore (10/9)

: "Even though markets gave a negative welcome to Alan Greenspan's unexpected 'knuckle rapping', once more the fed chairman emerges as the true orchestrator of U.S. economic growth.... Some people in Congress state that the Fed is too powerful and would like to reduce its power a little. However, nobody, not the markets, which will surely continue to respond to Greenspan, nor the politicians, will be able to ignore the warning by a civil servant who has always been right until now."

BELGIUM: "Greenspan Again Bogeyman For Stock Exchange"

Under the headline above, independent Catholic De Standaard said (10/9), "Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan is clearly not very happy with the continuing increase of share quotations in Wall Street.... Apparently, people believe that inflation no longer exists as a consequence of technological renovations in the production apparatus. But, we must not forget that this is an evolutionary process, Greenspan said.... If things go on like this, 'the question is not whether but when labor costs will escalate.'"

X hp x (#

IRA NOT INCLUDED IN U.S. LIST OF TERRORIST GROUPS

X hp x (#BRITAIN: "Rubin: U.S. Decision Conditional Upon Ceasefire"

BBC Radio (10/9) stressed the exclusion of the IRA from Washington's list of proscribed terrorist organizations: "Although a recent State Department report described the IRA as a radical terrorist group with links to Libya, the Clinton administration has decided not to impose sanctions against it for the time being at least. Spokesman Jamie Rubin made clear that the decision was conditional upon the ceasefire and that if the IRA returned to violence its status would be reconsidered."

"IRA Escapes U.S. Terrorist Group Ban"

According to the conservative Daily Telegraph (10/9): "This signal that the

vo
ciferous IrishAmerican lobby in the United States may continue giving help
to N
orthern Ireland's republican gunmen comes a day after President Clinton
assured

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, that Washington would
repudiate Sin
n Fein/IRA if it broke the ceasefire."

X' hp x (#

KIM JONGIL ASSUMES PARTY LEADERSHIP: WILL NORTH OPEN UP?

SOUTH KOREA: "Kim Jongil Becomes Party Secretary"

Moderate Hankook Ilbo declared (10/9): "Kim Jongil has become the party's
secr
etary, indicating that North Korea has moved beyond the shock of the
death of t

he late President Kim IISung. With Kim assuming that authority,
the North may

become more flexible than ever in dealing with the United
States, Japan and eve

n us. That is because the North must know that it has
no other alternative to

opening up to solve its severe shortages in food,
energy, and foreign hard curr

ency. As the party's new secretary, Kim Jongil
may soon want to have a summit

meeting with Jiang Zemin of China, which will
help strengthen his prestige and

authority. Former U.S. President Jimmy

Carter has an invitation to Pyongyang,

and U.S. lawmaker Tony Hall's visit to

the North for the celebration of the upc

oming party anniversary has already

been scheduled.... In dealing with us, Nor

th Korea has lately shown more

flexibility than ever, although its attitude tow
ard us is still rigid."

JAPAN: "How to Deal With The Kim Jongil Regime"

The topcirculation, moderate Yomiuri editorialized (10/9), "Now that Kim
Jongil

has been formally named general secretary of the Workers Party of
(North) Kore

a, how should Japan deal with the North? There is no doubt that
the priority f

or the international community should be to ensure that North
Korea does not

become a source of turmoil for Northeast Asia and the rest of
the world.... Py

ongyang should be encouraged to act as a responsible member
of the internation

al community and to adopt a path of reform, openness and

democratization... It
is essential to establish a mechanism to restore peace
to the Korean peninsula
a...through the fourparty talks...and through the
normalization of Pyongyang's
diplomatic relations with the United States and
Japan. It is also necessary to
promote dialogue between North and South
Korea. In addition, it is important
that the U.S.-North Korea nuclear accord
remain on track."

X' hp x (#

X' hp x (# GERMANY: "First Communist Dynasty Of World's History Is Born"

In an editorial, Gebhard Hielscher remarked in centrist Sueddeutsche Zeitung
(
10/9), "With the nomination of Kim YongIl...to become the secretary general
of
the North Korean Labor Party, the first Communist dynasty of the world's
history was born. However, it is questionable whether this will extend the
life expectancy of the regime with its prostrated economy.... North Korea's
neighbors welcomed the 'successor on the throne.' They hope for a
stabilization of the situation on the Korean peninsula, although 'normal'
relations with North Korea seem to be very unlikely. Pyongyang continues to
live its role of outsider."

U.S. POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST, PERSIAN GULF

X' hp x (#FRANCE: "Center Of Gravity For U.S. Preoccupations: Persian Gulf"

Thierry de Montbrial observed in rightofcenter Le Figaro (10/8), "The
center of
gravity for U.S. strategic preoccupations in the Middle East is now
the Persian
Gulf and Washington's 'dual

'containment' policy.... U.S. Near East policy is more than ever dominated by
its domestic issues.... Washington is not really ready to put pressure on
Israel.
As for Europe, the nature of intra-European and transatlantic
relations is such that it is incapable of playing a role in Near and Middle
Eastern affairs."

RUSSIA: "U.S. Seeks To Revenge Itself On France"

Aleksandr Shumilin held in reformist, business-oriented Kommersant Daily

(10/9)

: "Failing to thwart Total's deal with Iran, Washington has decided to recoup itself by trying to shoulder the French out of Algeria. The Americans have consistently been criticizing the local regime for a lack of flexibility in relation to the Islamic opposition. Washington, evidently, feels that something must happen which will give the Islamists considerable influence in that country. Unlike the French, the Americans recognize the Islamic Salvation Front leaders as partners in talks and intend to boost their stand through dialogue."

TURKEY: "U.S. Vs. France"

Ergun Balci wrote in liberal Cumhuriyet (10/9): "The natural gas deal between the French company Total and Iran has caused tension between the United States and France, and this has brought back the issue of the quarrel between the United States and Europe.... More interestingly, during the whole Total controversy, EU countries supported France in a very determined way. Along with its economic importance, Total's deal with Iran has political implications. France wants to take over the U.S. position in the Middle East, or at least, wants to be represented equally with the United States. The Total deal with Iran will help France enhance its influence in the Middle East.... We had better remember the double standard regarding the so-called 'joint' struggle against terrorism by the United States and the EU. The European Union likes very much to give lessons on human rights and democracy to Third World countries, but forgets all about them when the EU reaps economic benefits with any of those countries. Also the United States does the same, such as in the example of Sudan. The Clinton administration declared Sudan a terrorist country in January, and recently allowed a U.S. firm to participate in an oil bid in Sudan."

###Xx\ P6QyXP#

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: larryshannon (larryshannon@ibm.net@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-OCT-1997 10:48:00.00

SUBJECT: bcc: Friday Texas Clips (from on the road -- somewhere in Ameri

TO: Lucia A. Wyman (Lucia A. Wyman@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

[Image] [The Business desk] [The Business desk]

[Image]

[Image]

[Image] Congress votes to make change at Love

[Image] [Image] Field

Business Wright amendment eased to extend

summaries nonstop service

[Image] D/FW

Top 200 10/10/97

[Image]

By Catalina Camia / The Dallas Morning

Business News

columnists

WASHINGTON - Congress gave its final

[Image] approval Thursday to a plan easing

flight restrictions at Dallas Love

Field, ending a rancorous fight over

the Wright amendment with a whimper.

With no debate in the Senate and only a few comments in the House, Congress made the first changes to the 18-year-old aviation law since its inception by extending direct, nonstop service to Kansas, Alabama and Mississippi.

It also cleared the way for start-up Legend Airlines Inc. to fly nonstop to any U.S. airport from Love Field using modified jets.

The Love Field provision, which is part of a massive transportation spending bill, now heads to President Clinton's desk. He cannot use his line-item veto to strike the changes to the Wright amendment, which protects Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport from competition, because they do not change federal spending.

"We're delighted," said T. Allan McArtor, president and CEO of Legend, which plans to offer service to

business travelers next year. "This Congress made a strong statement for competition and the removal of barriers to competition."

The House passed, 401-21, the \$42.2 billion transportation bill, which included the Wright amendment changes. The Senate followed, clearing it on a voice vote.

"We made great strides toward encouraging greater competition in the airline industry through this bill," said Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., who drew the ire of some Texas lawmakers for his aggressive push to change the Wright amendment.

"I am very proud that my colleagues joined me in choosing public interest over special interest and took the first steps toward dismantling years of regulatory airline monopolies," he said.

A spokesman for Sen. Kay Bailey

Hutchison, R-Texas, who had strongly opposed the Love Field provision, said she was attending a news conference in another part of the Capitol when the transportation measure quickly came up on the Senate floor for consideration.

"She made her position clear," said the senator's press secretary, Eric Ruff. "If there was a roll call vote, she would have voted no."

In the House, supporters of the Wright amendment stressed the law's aim to ensure the safe development of D/FW Airport while continuing flights at Love Field.

But opponents have long contended the law, named for former House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Fort Worth, limits air service options and inflates air fares.

"The changes . . . are bad policy because they will injure Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, risk the

hard-earned taxpayer dollars that have developed this airport and trample on the desires of our local communities," said Rep. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth.

As a concession to Wright amendment supporters, House and Senate negotiators included an air safety provision. It reinforces the Federal Aviation Administration's authority to take action if D/FW Airport or Love Field become congested and operations are unsafe.

Still, a citizens group in the Love Field area and the city of Fort Worth are considering legal action to prevent the easing of flight restrictions.

Ms. Granger and Dallas Democrats Eddie Bernice Johnson and Martin Frost voted against the bill, which includes funding for Texas projects, to protest the Love Field provision.

Opponents of the Wright amendment, who

vow they will try to repeal the law
next year, say it is no longer
necessary to protect D/FW, the
nation's second-busiest airport.

"This provision allows competition,"
said Rep. Todd Tiahrt, R-Kan., about
the Love Field agreement. "This is the
strength of America. This is free
enterprise."

This year, Legend sought Mr. Shelby's
help overturning a Transportation
Department ruling that said only
planes designed to hold 56 seats can
fly nonstop to points beyond Texas,
Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and
Louisiana.

The Dallas company is planning to use
large jets, such as DC-9s, that are
reconfigured to hold only 56 seats or
less. Service from Love Field could
begin as early as spring.

Mr. Shelby, chairman of the Senate
transportation spending panel,

inserted the provision for Legend over the objection of Ms. Hutchison and Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, Ms. Granger and other area lawmakers. He then attempted to repeal the aviation law but settled for extending nonstop service to more states.

During the brief House debate Thursday, Mr. Frost said Mr. Shelby had "bullied" lawmakers into changing the aviation law.

And Ms. Johnson, who represents the Love Field area, said this year's battle over the Wright amendment was not fair.

"Our hands were really tied," she said. "It's really unusual for someone to come from outside the state and disrespect what the community wishes."

Mr. Shelby said that he respects the issues raised by Texas lawmakers but noted that air fares and competition are not only Texas issues. He said his

Alabama constituents also pay higher
air fares in flying to Dallas.

Overall, the bill would provide
funding for highway, aviation, rail
and public transportation programs in
nearly every state.

The measure includes \$11 million for
Dallas Area Rapid Transit's North
Central rail line and Railtran, which
will link Dallas and Fort Worth. It
also includes \$1.2 million for bus
transit in Fort Worth.

[Image] Back to Top

[Image] Send a letter to the Editor
about this story

[Image] Back to Business indexes

[Image]

, 1997 The Dallas Morning News

[About us]===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

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10 Oct 1997 10:44:16 -0400 (EDT)

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10 Oct 1997 14:43:35 +0000 (GMT)
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.01 (Win95; I)

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===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====

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TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com Home]

Updated: Thursday, Oct. 9, 1997 at 22:47 CDT

Bush defends free-trade policy, endorses 'fast-track' authority

By Jay Root
Star-Telegram Austin Bureau

AUSTIN -- Gov. George W. Bush, in a passionate defense of free-trade policies, told a group of foreign dignitaries yesterday that the United States must "never retreat within its borders."

"The United States must never become protectionist," Bush said. "Those of us in public life, whether it be in the federal arena or the state arena, must stand up and promote and defend free trade."

Bush was speaking before a group of foreign consular officials stationed in Texas. Afterward, he told reporters that he supports giving President Clinton "fast-track" authority for new trade agreements, with Chile in particular.

"I believe the president ought to be given fast-track negotiating authority. I believe Chile should be in our common market, so to speak," he added. "Chile . . . would be a great trading partner."

Fast-track authority gives the president wide latitude to negotiate free-trade agreements, and it gives Congress only an up or down vote, with no opportunity to amend it.

The Clinton administration argues that fast-track is necessary because negotiators can assure foreign governments that lawmakers won't change their agreement. But many in Congress have balked, saying fast-track rules out the inclusion of environmental and labor safeguards.

Bush told the gathering at Austin's historic Driskill Hotel that Texas should send the message that "if you can compete on our soil, you're welcome to come, just give us the same chance on yours as well."

He criticized the "voices of negativism" that "attempt to divide our country, our state, from other countries, either with either racial overtones or bad public policy."

Asked by reporters to elaborate, Bush said he was referring to "protectionists like Pat Buchanan and protectionists like some of the AFL-CIO affiliates who have taken it upon themselves to try to say to America that free trade is bad."

Buchanan, a CNN commentator and former presidential candidate, sounded protectionist themes in his "America First" campaign for the GOP presidential nomination last year.

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===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com Home]

Updated: Friday, Oct. 10, 1997 at 02:07 CDT

Congress passes bill altering Wright law

By Michael D. Towle
Star-Telegram Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON -- Congress passed a \$42.2 billion transportation spending bill yesterday that would force the first changes in the beleaguered Wright Amendment since it was enacted 18 years ago.

The bill, a compromise reached in conference by lawmakers from the House and Senate, would ease flight restrictions at Dallas Love Field and permit nonstop service to three additional states -- Alabama, Mississippi and Kansas.

The original amendment, named for former House Speaker Jim Wright of Fort Worth and intended to encourage growth of Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, allowed nonstop service from Love Field only to destinations in Texas and its four neighboring states -- Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

The new language in the Wright Amendment was in a spending bill that provides money for transportation and highway projects in fiscal 1998, which began Oct. 1. The bill passed in the House 401-21 and in the Senate by a

voice vote.

Reps. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth; Martin Frost, D-Dallas; and Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Dallas, were among those who voted against the bill. House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Irving, House Majority Whip Tom DeLay of Sugar Land and Reps. Joe Barton of Ennis, and Sam Johnson of Plano, all Republicans, voted for it.

If President Clinton signs the bill, as expected, he will put an end to weeks of bitter debate over the Wright Amendment, which has guided the growth of air travel in Texas and other states for most of the past two decades.

Lawmakers supporting the changes said the bill would bring more and cheaper service to their cities. Opponents contended that expanded service from Love Field would siphon business from D/FW, which under the Wright Amendment became one of the world's biggest and busiest airports.

Minutes before the House vote, Granger launched a last-ditch defense of the original amendment.

"The Wright Amendment was enacted almost 20 years ago to permit the safe development of Dallas/ Fort Worth International Airport while still permitting flights from Dallas Love Field," she said in a floor speech.

"The changes to the Wright Amendment contained in this bill are bad policy because they will injure [D/FW], risk the hard-earned tax dollars that have developed the airport, and trample the desires of our local communities."

In addition to altering the Wright Amendment, the bill would spend \$8 million on the Fort Worth Transportation Authority's Trinity Railway Express, formerly Railtran, and on an intermodal transportation center. It would also spend \$1.5 million on buses that use alternative fuels.

Granger had sought \$14 million for the two projects, but the bill initially passed by the Senate contained no funding for either project. The \$9.5 million in the bill for the two Fort Worth programs is a compromise figure she worked out with negotiators.

The railway project will use 32 miles of track from Irving to the historic Texas & Pacific Railroad depot at the south end of downtown Fort Worth.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee's transportation subcommittee, led the fight against the Wright Amendment.

Shelby pushed the changes through Congress, calling the Wright Amendment "an impediment to competition."

The bill would benefit fledgling Legend Airlines, a company that plans to offer an all-business-class service from Love Field using aircraft modified to carry no more than 56 passengers. The modifications would exempt the planes from Wright Amendment restrictions, allowing them to fly nonstop to any state.

Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., called the compromise a victory for air travelers.

"The restrictions that were placed on direct travel from Wichita to Dallas were just another example of the federal government meddling in the marketplace," Brownback said.

Rep. Martin Frost, D-Dallas, said the changes will do a "grave injustice" to the Fort Worth-Dallas region.

"This is a local matter and it's one that should be settled locally, not by an appropriations conference report," Frost said. "This body should not allow itself to be bullied by one United States senator who does not represent the area."

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===== ATTACHMENT 4 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com]

October 10, 1997 Fort Worth Editorial Columnists

Home [Image] Bob Ray Sanders e-mail Bob Ray Sanders

Fort Worth Columnists Updated: Friday, Oct. 10, 1997 at 01:19 CDT

Arlington Columnists Some always wanted to lift Love Field limits

Northeast Columnists We've come a long way since the days when Southwest Airlines stewardesses (and that's what they were called then) sported their "hot pants" uniforms and Miss America smiles to greet the mostly male business travelers.

Cyber Columnists Those were the days when Southwest founder Lamar Muse would show up at the terminal gate, sometimes with a bottle of champagne, to meet the paying customers and thank them for defying the "big boys" and big government who were determined to put the airline out of business at Dallas' airport.

[Image]

From the Editorial Board:

Tommy Denton The airline's promotions were catchy and, in hindsight, somewhat crude. That's when the word peanuts not only defined the fare from Dallas to Houston, but also

Cecil Johnson perfectly described the only meal a passenger would get in flight.

Jim Jones

JR Labbe The TV and print ads featured one of those smiling, skimpily clad attendants uttering the sexually suggestive phrase "Fly me."

Pat Truly

Take all that sexist, defiant, underdog hoopla and base it an airport called 'Love,' and it made for an incredible campaign that would take off like a rocket, launching what would become one of the most successful airlines in the country. It also saved an airport that was supposed to have been closed when Dallas/Fort Worth International (then "Regional") Airport opened in 1974.

Mark Davis

(By the way, the name Love in this case had nothing to do with affection, liking or good will. The airport, began as an Army base in 1914, was named for Lt. Moss L. Love, who was killed that year during a training flight in San Diego.)

Molly Ivins

Once Southwest Airlines was in the picture, coming into focus only after the other major carriers had signed an agreement to move their operations to D/FW, the courts and a less-than-committed Dallas City Council made sure there was no way Love Field would close.

Frank Perkins

The most that could be hoped for was limiting operations out of the Dallas airport, and former Rep. Jim Wright of Fort Worth passed legislation that would do just that.

Bill Thompson

The Wright Amendment allowed nonstop flights (from Love Field of planes with more than 56 seats) only to cities in Texas and the four states that border it: Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Muse and company knew exactly what they were doing, possessing a keen understanding of the marketplace and apparently understanding the law a lot better than their adversaries did.

They came into the game knowing that they had to operate out of Love Field and Houston Hobby, and that the business passenger they coveted would only accept jet airplanes.

Fort Worth vigorously fought Southwest's operation out of Love, but the airline was determined. Many Dallas leaders, while pretending to fight the airline, secretly rooted for the Dallas-based company to succeed.

In the last few years, some Dallas agitators have solicited other powerful allies in their attempt to lift the limits on Love Field, and this week they made major progress.

Congress passed a measure yesterday that would allow nonstop flights to three additional states -- Kansas, Mississippi and Alabama -- and permit planes that carry no more than 56 passengers to fly anywhere in the nation.

Why Kansas, Mississippi and Alabama? Well, a couple of Dallas business leaders who fought the Wright Amendment -- they travel to Kansas regularly -- have always complained about those airfare costs. Nonstop flights to Kansas are intended to benefit them, as well as Dorothy, Toto or anybody else.

The powerful meddling senator who pushed through the new measure, although he had only heard of the Wright Amendment last spring, is Sen. Richard Shelby. He's from Alabama. And Senate Republican Leader Trent Lott, who got on board the movement, is from Mississippi.

It's about big business and politics, and there's a lot more than peanuts at stake.

We can anticipate some airlines at D/FW moving some flights to Love, and there will be at least one start-up airline beginning operation next year.

Even though it can be considered a defeat for those who have tried to hold on to the full force of the Wright Amendment, D/FW will survive this latest attack.

What bothers many of us is that we know that this new law is just the first step in what will be more attempts to have Love Field operating without any restrictions.

While it is easy to blame some out-of-state senators for their deeds, the real blame has to be placed on a less-than-dedicated and an anything-but-united Texas congressional delegation.

There were noble efforts from a few, like Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, and Reps. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth, and Martin Frost, D-Dallas. The entire delegation, however, should know that we not only expect better in the future -- we demand it.

Bob Ray Sanders' column appears Sunday, Wednesday and Friday. His E-mail address is bobray@star-telegram.com.

Send Your Comments to the Editor!
Include your name and E-mail address.

Feedback.

===== END ATTACHMENT 4 =====

ARMS Email System

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (TRP NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: larryshannon (larryshannon@ibm.net@INET@LNGTWY [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-OCT-1997 09:49:00.00

SUBJECT: bcc: Texas Friday Clips

TO: Lucia A. Wyman (Lucia A. Wyman@EOP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com Home]

Updated: Thursday, Oct. 16, 1997 at 22:09 CDT

Quayle pushes campaign finance changes

By Max B. Baker

Star-Telegram Staff Writer

DALLAS -- Former Vice President Dan Quayle spoke out yesterday for reforming

campaign finance laws and aggressively prosecuting those who break them during a swing through Texas to promote congressional candidates and his own

presidential hopes.

Quayle questioned the scandals swirling around the White House regarding campaign finance during a speech at the Melrose Hotel in Dallas for 24th Congressional District candidate Shawn Terry.

But Quayle said he holds out little hope that Attorney General Janet Reno will appoint a special prosecutor to investigate President Clinton or Vice President Al Gore because she owes too much to them.

House Republicans assailed Reno on Wednesday for not appointing an independent counsel to examine allegations of campaign finance abuses and for not acting more quickly in analyzing subpoenaed documents.

"I've become conditioned to expect the worst from her decisions," Quayle said in an interview. "She has made some doozies in the past, and it will not surprise me at all that she will make another bad decision."

During the Bush administration, Quayle said, he and the president were told specifically by their White House counsel what was allowed and not allowed.

"What Bill Clinton and Al Gore did is they knew exactly what the law was, they went right up to the line, they pushed it to the extreme, and I believe in some cases stepped over the line," Quayle said.

"Let's bring those who violated the current laws to justice," he said.

Quayle spent two days in Texas stumping for Terry and Rudy Izzard, a 17th Congressional District Republican hopeful.

But the former vice president also is among those continually mentioned as

]possible Republican presidential candidates in 2000 along with Gov. George W. Bush; Sen. Dan Ashcroft, R-Mo.; and Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn.

Quayle has been popular among Republicans in North Texas particularly for his very conservative viewpoints on family values, education, welfare reform and taxes -- themes that he reiterated in Dallas yesterday.

Quayle avoided sizing up Bush as a primary opponent.

"I'll make a decision in 1999. Clearly, I am traveling the country articulating a vision for America. After the '98 elections, we'll be talking to our supporters, talking to my family," Quayle said.

"I would like to, and I intend to run for president some day, and 2000 may be the year I do it."

In speaking out for Terry in Dallas yesterday, Quayle called the campaign against veteran Democratic Rep. Martin Frost of Dallas an uphill climb, but one the party can win if it sticks by its candidate.

A tireless campaigner and head of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Frost got 56 percent of the vote in 1996. In that race, he spent about \$2 million compared with \$868,000 spent by his GOP opponent.

Terry, 30, works for a Dallas corporation consulting firm. He said he hopes

to raise about \$500,000 and receive additional help from the national party.

Terry said his goal was to raise about \$30,000 at yesterday's breakfast.

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===== ATTACHMENT 2 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Star-Telegram.com Home]

Updated: Thursday, Oct. 16, 1997 at 22:08 CDT

Senator renews campaign against Love Field limits

By Ron Hutcheson
Star-Telegram Washington bureau

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama, opening a new phase in his campaign to repeal flight restrictions at Dallas' Love Field, has invited critics of the current system to air their views at a congressional hearing next week.

The hearing scheduled on Tuesday before Shelby's Senate appropriations subcommittee marks the first step in a renewed drive to repeal the Wright Amendment, the 1979 law that allowed Love Field flights only to destinations in Texas and the four neighboring states -- Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Shelby, who forced changes in the law last week, said at the time that he would not rest until Love Field is opened to unlimited service.

Although Shelby said in his announcement that the hearing will examine "the broad issue of competition in the airline industry," at least two of the five witnesses have endorsed repealing the Wright Amendment. No known supporters of the current system have been invited to testify before the Senate panel.

"I'm going to talk about why it should be done," Steven Morrison, an economics professor at Northeastern University in Boston, said of the repeal effort. "Let others talk about the downside."

Fred Allvine of the Georgia Institute of Technology said he was asked to testify after he wrote a letter to Shelby praising the senator's campaign against the Wright Amendment. Allvine, a marketing professor who studies aviation economics, strongly supports repealing the law.

"If the Wright Amendment were repealed, the benefits to Dallas and to travelers in Dallas would be huge," he said. "That's where I'm coming from. The Dallas market deserves it, and it could happen with the stroke of a pen."

Also scheduled to testify are Jay Sterling, a marketing professor at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, and two Transportation Department officials.

Shelby's decision to press ahead with repeal came as officials in North Texas continued to grapple with the changes he pushed through Congress last week. As a first step toward unlimited service at Love Field, Shelby added three states -- Alabama, Mississippi and Kansas -- to the list of states eligible for nonstop service.

He also won an exemption for aircraft that have been modified to carry a maximum of 56 passengers, a change that cleared the way for fledgling Legend Airlines to start unrestricted service in the spring.

Fort Worth has filed a lawsuit against Dallas seeking to block the changes. Meanwhile, American Airlines and other carriers that currently operate at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport are considering their options at Love Field.

The Wright Amendment, which is named for former House Speaker Jim Wright of Fort Worth, was enacted to encourage the growth of D/FW by stifling competition at the nearby Dallas airport. The law helped end a long-running feud between Fort Worth and Dallas over air service.

Shelby, who could not be reached to comment, has made no secret of his

desire to scrap the statute.

"We're going to ultimately repeal the Wright Amendment," he predicted last week. "It is an impediment to competition."

In scheduling hearings that will frame the debate in Congress, Shelby got the jump on Texas lawmakers. At the insistence of Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R- Texas, another Senate panel has tentatively scheduled an Oct. 30 hearing that is expected to include testimony from Fort Worth Mayor Kenneth Barr and Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, both of whom oppose changes at Love Field.

Shelby's quick strike guarantees that he will control the hearing agenda. The two college professors said they will present data to buttress Shelby's contention that repealing the restrictions would benefit consumers.

Morrison said his preliminary data indicate that fares from D/FW to the four states that are currently served by Southwest Airlines from Love Field are considerably lower than fares to states outside the Love Field service area.

Allvine said his studies of two-airport markets in Chicago, New York and Washington led him to similar conclusions. The Georgia professor is also an outspoken critic of the hub-and-spoke system that American Airlines and other major carriers use to funnel passengers to a handful of large airports.

Hutchison and other Wright Amendment supporters contend that their opponents have overstated the economic benefits of repeal because Love Field has limited capacity for additional flights. They have also raised concerns about safety and aircraft noise.

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===== END ATTACHMENT 2 =====

===== ATTACHMENT 3 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 9:30 PM 10/16/1997

Houston Chronicle Interactive

Section: Local & State Mosbacher's campaign stance on
gays 'saddens' lesbian sister

----- By ALAN BERNSTEIN
[HCI Classifieds] Copyright 1997 Houston Chronicle
Political Writer

HCI's Local & State News forum Mayoral candidate Rob Mosbacher's
lesbian sister said Thursday she
Recent related stories: was saddened after reading
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* Today: Judge urges Clinton to his opposition to "special

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- * Thursday: Campaign notebook understand that lesbian and gay
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- * Monday: Many residents in special rights," said Dr. Diane
Briargrove give nods to Mosbacher, a California
Mosbacher as mayor psychiatrist.
- * October 7: Mosbacher spending
funds at record pace In a campaign brochure mailed to
- * October 5: Poll: one-third of voters this week, Rob Mosbacher
voters undecided on mayor; says he wants to "help reverse the
Brown, Mosbacher stay 1-2 breakdown of the family" and would
oppose the extension of insurance
benefits to the gay partners of
city workers.

The brochure points out that two
of the businessman's opponents,
former City Controller George
Greanias and former Police Chief
Lee P. Brown, have said they would
consider making the employee
benefits available.

Mosbacher's campaign materials
also say he will oppose any
proposed amendment to the city
charter that would give "special
treatment" to gays. The City
Council adopted an ordinance
banning discrimination against gay
city workers in 1984, and voters
repealed it in a referendum the
following year.

The Chronicle sent Mosbacher's
sister a copy of his campaign
literature and requested an
interview. She responded with a
written statement after an
assistant said Diane Mosbacher was
unable to talk by telephone.

"I am in Los Angeles with my
partner of 22 years, Dr. Nanette
K. Gartrell, where I am receiving
an award for my most recent
documentary on homophobia," she
said.

In addition to practicing
psychiatry, Diane Mosbacher is a

filmmaker and activist on lesbian and gay issues.

Reacting to his sister's comments, Rob Mosbacher said through a campaign spokesman, "I love my sister and respect her point of view, but I differ with her on this issue."

In April, Mosbacher said at a meeting of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus that as mayor he would fight discrimination of any kind, but that he was against amending the city charter to specifically protect gays.

Asked why he opposes providing employee benefits to the unmarried partners of city workers, Mosbacher said his reasons were personal.

"I would just say in my case we are all God's children and its not for me to judge," he said. "But as a public officeholder I have to make a decision based on my own principles, and I've probably said as much as I can."

Diane Mosbacher, two years older than her brother, has been the subject of newspaper and magazine articles that draw the contrast between her lesbian activism and the conservative beliefs of her brother and father, former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Bob Mosbacher. The family members have described their relationship as close and supportive.

The Mosbacher campaign brochure advertises him as "the only conservative in the race" and contrasts his opinions with those of Greanias, who has been endorsed by two local gay political groups.

END ATTACHMENT 3

ATTACHMENT 4

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

[Houston Chronicle Interactive logo] 9:11 PM 10/16/1997
Houston Chronicle Interactive

Section: News U.S. as leader stressed at
conference

----- Baker Institute honors Gorbachev
[Virtual Voyager]

By ARMANDO VILLAFRANCA

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HCI's Page1 forum

Recent related stories: Though the Cold War era and its
threats are past, three former
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* Thursday: Ceremony, conference the United States must maintain a
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to think globally

* Monday: Future of global issues "It's a basic feature of the
focus of Baker forum post-Cold War world that the

* October 8: Senators fear success or failure in the
expense of expanding NATO international arena depends upon
the United States," said Warren
Christopher, former secretary of
state under President Clinton.

"That's the lesson of every crisis
in the last four years, from
Bosnia to Haiti to the Middle East
and North Korea, Taiwan Straits,
the Mexican peso crisis. Each case
exemplifies the imperative of
American leadership."

Christopher, James A. Baker III
and Henry Kissinger, secretaries
of state under four
administrations, discussed foreign
policy priorities for the 21st
century.

Cyrus Vance, secretary of state
under President Carter, was unable
to attend as scheduled.

Former Soviet President Mikhail
Gorbachev was presented the Enron
Prize for Distinguished Public
Service by Baker and Enron Corp.
President and CEO Kenneth L. Lay.

This was the third conference held by the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, whose themes alternate between domestic and foreign policy issues. About 4,000 attended the conference at Autry Court at Rice University.

Concerns addressed by the panelists included expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, fast-track authority to facilitate international trade, and whether the United States should use a containment policy with China.

"If China becomes aggressive," Kissinger said, "containment may be necessary, but it is essential to see whether we can establish a cooperative relationship with China."

The relationship is especially important, he said, when China can be used to help resolve problems in Asia instead of contributing to tensions in the region.

"To declare somebody an enemy who does not want to be an enemy and thereby make him an enemy, that is stupid," Kissinger said.

Christopher said containment, rather than improved human rights conditions in China, would worsen conditions because, "History shows that the most repressive periods in Chinese history are when they are isolated and contained."

Regarding relations with Latin America and obtaining trade agreements in the region, Baker said, "If we don't get fast track and don't go forward with a hemispheric free trade zone, you can bet your life the South American countries will be cutting their own deals with Asia and Europe in short order and we'll be

left out."

An unscheduled guest, former President Bush, said threats facing the United States, whether old like tensions in the Korean Peninsula or new like nuclear proliferation and international terrorism, demand a U.S. presence in the world arena.

"Those of us who share a concept of active and engaged U.S. leadership in the world have an obligation to stand up and be counted and continue to make the case why America cannot turn inward, as some would have her do," Bush said. "The Cold War is over ... And the Soviet bear has receded into history, but threats remain.

"I sometimes wonder if the current proponents of isolationism and protectionism realize that freedom prevailed in the Cold War, and I wonder if they understand that the superpower struggle ended the way it did largely because we led."

The panelists, for the most part, agreed on foreign policy priorities. But their position on the proposed expansion of NATO to include Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic contrasted sharply with Gorbachev's.

In a defiant speech, he criticized support for the expansion of NATO, adding that focus should be on reforming the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which he believes are in crisis.

"NATO is a military alliance inherited from the Cold War and it cannot be a substitute for the OSCE," Gorbachev said.

"What I'm worried about is not so much the admission of a couple of

new countries into that alliance. What I'm worried about is the change of goals, the goals that used to be a really united Europe.

"This is a very serious situation today. Europe is a focal point where many things began and if once again we draw dividing lines in Europe, this could result in very undesirable developments."

Baker said opposition to expansion of NATO has centered on its military aspects, and that opponents have forgotten that NATO has always had a vital political role.

"When we talk about expanding the North Atlantic alliance, we should take great pains to make it very clear we're not talking about doing that because we fear Russia as an enemy," Baker said.

"Russia today is not a military threat to Western Europe, and we need to make very clear to the Russian people and the Russian military that NATO expansion is to promote peace and stability in an area of conflict, the center of Europe, and it's not directed against the Russians."

Gorbachev also reprised a recurring theme in speeches regarding the end of the Cold War era, criticizing the United States for failing to exploit opportunities created by the dissolution of communism.

"The end of the Cold War was presented by some people in the West -- I would say by many people in the United States -- as, rather than the victory of common sense over the logic of confrontation, a victory of one side that was attained by using the methods of force and confrontation.

"My feeling is that if we base future politics on force, as would follow from this evaluation of the end of the Cold War, then, of course, everything would seem very simple. 'Big stick' politics, but I don't think that this is the right choice."

===== END ATTACHMENT 4 =====