

Violet - see 25, 199

Draft 12/02/99 1:50pm
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
December 25, 1999
(1 minute)**

THE PRESIDENT: On this holiest of holidays, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. This is a season of joy, a time for family and friends to rejoice in one another's company, in the wonder and excitement of our children, and in the spirit of Christmas.

This is also the season of peace. On behalf of all Americans, I'd also like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home. Thank you for the greatest gift of the season – for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings we hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: At this time of year, when the nights grow longer, our lives are brightened and our hearts are warmed by the lights of Christmas – and in the special gifts it brings: the love that warms our hearts, the faith that lights our journey, the hope that promises us a bright tomorrow.

THE PRESIDENT: At the dawn of a new millennium, there's no better time than now to reflect on our hopes, our dreams and the gifts we want to leave for the future. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

Draft 12/02/99 1:50pm
Josh Gottheimer

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December 25, 1999
(30 seconds)**

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THE WHITE HOUSE

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I wish all of you a joyous holiday season -- one full of magical moments with friends and family, a celebration of the year just past, and hope for the year to come.

I'd also like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home and loved ones. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings of freedom we all hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of a homeless child who grew to become the Prince of Peace, let us all cherish the gift of every child among us. And let us pledge ourselves to building a better world where all children, no matter where they're born, can thrive and make their dreams come true.

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the new year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION

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THE PRESIDENT: Merry Christmas. Happy New Year. And God bless you all.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN CHRISTMAS GREETING

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the holiday season be with you today and throughout the new year.

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MRS. CLINTON: From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

* * * * *

Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/6/98 5pm

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
December 25, 1998
(1 minute)**

THE PRESIDENT: On this joyous occasion, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. Tonight, as we gather around our Christmas trees and dinner tables, let us take the time to give thanks to the blessings of the year just passed, to rejoice in our children, and to enjoy the company of family and friends.

As we approach the feast of light, I'd also like to send a special greeting to all of the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home -- you are in our hearts and prayers. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the freedom we all hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: Christmas reminds us that the values we share far outweigh whatever the differences there are between us. The twinkle of a child's eye, the joy of a grandmother's laughter, the love in the hearts of mothers and fathers for their children -- all these blessings are unwrapped on Christmas morning.

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Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/3/98 5pm

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MRS CLINTON: From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM PROIODATE: 11/29 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 12/1 12 noonSUBJECT: Video Scripts

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	McCURRY	☐	☒
BOWLES	☒	☐	McGINTY	☐	☐
McLARTY	☐	☐	NASH	☐	☐
PODESTA	☒	☐	RADD	☐	☐
MATHEWS	☒	☐	REED	☐	☐
RAINES	☐	☐	RUFF	☐	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☒	☐	SMITH	☒	☐
BERGER	☐	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	SPERLING	☐	☐
EMANUEL	☒	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
GIBBONS	☐	☐	TARULLO	☐	☐
HILLEY	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
IBARRA	☒	☐	WALDMAN	☒	☐
KLAIN	☐	☐	YELLEN	☐	☐
LEWIS	☒	☐	BEGALA	☒	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐		☐	☐
MARSHALL	☐	☐		☐	☐
				☐	☐

REMARKS:

Comments to Laura Cpps

RESPONSE:

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
DECEMBER 1, 1997**

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I wish all of you a joyous holiday season -- one full of magical moments with friends and family, celebrations of the year just passed, and hope for the year to come.

I'd also like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving in lands far from home and loved ones. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings of freedom that we all hold dear.

THE FIRST LADY: This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of a homeless child who grew to become the Prince of Peace, let us all cherish the gift of every child among us. And let us pledge ourselves to building a world where all children, no matter where they are born, can thrive and make their dreams come true.

THE PRESIDENT: Merry Christmas. Happy New Year. And God bless you all.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM PR010Date: 12/6/98ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 12/7/98 9:00AMSubject: VIDEO SCRIPTS

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
PODESTA	☒	☐	REED	☒	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	RUFF	☐	☐
LEW	☐	☐	SMITH	☐	☐
BEGALA	☒	☐	SOSNIK	☒	☐
BERGER	☒	☐	SPERLING	☐	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☒	☐	STEIN	☐	☐
FRAMPTON	☐	☐	STERN	☐	☐
IBARRA	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
KLAIN	☐	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
LANE	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
LEWIS	☒	☐	WALDMAN	☒	☐
LINDSEY	☐	☐	YELLEN		
LOCKHART	☐	☒	_____		
MARSHALL	☒	☐	_____		
MOORE	☒	☐	_____		

Send to Rm?
 Yes ☒
 No _____

REMARKS:

COMMENTS TO JOSH GOTTHEIMER

RESPONSE:

CHRISTMAS GREETING TO THE NATION

This is your annual Christmas greeting to the nation that will be played throughout the holiday season during network and affiliate programing. The text of the video message will be distributed to Online services and will be available on the White House Home page. Last year more than 210 affiliates in over 64 markets used the holiday greeting.

298955 SS
FG001-07

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-9-96

Monday, December 9, 1996

9:30 AM	Meeting with Defense Minister Chi of China	Distributed Separately
9:45 AM	Meeting with Crown Prince Sid Mohammed of Morocco	Distributed Separately
10:30 AM	Interview with Brian Lamb of C-Span	TAB A
12:10 PM	Video Tapings	TAB B
	1. Greetings to Armed Forces (Description and Script)	
	2. Greetings to the Nation	
	3. Walt Disney	
	4. Senator Sam Nunn	
	5. Greater Little Rock Chamber of Commerce	
	6. Drunk Driving Public Service Announcement	
	SCRIPTS FOR VIDEOS 2 - 6	To be forwarded
5:30 PM	Holiday Reception	TAB C To be forwarded
8:30 PM	Holiday Reception	TAB D To be forwarded

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-20-95

THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
THE WHITE HOUSE
DECEMBER 20, 1995

The President: On this holiest of holidays for millions of Americans, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you good health, good cheer, and the fellowship of family and friends. As we gather around our Christmas trees and dinner tables today, I want to send a special greeting of goodwill to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving this country all around the world, and especially those who are spending this Christmas day in Bosnia. Like the little child whose birth we celebrate this day, our troops are on a mission of peace. There is no higher calling. And we join all Americans in praying for their success and safe return.

The First Lady: For Americans of all religious faiths, the holiday season reminds us that the values we share far outweigh whatever differences there are between us. The twinkle of a child's eye, the joy of a grandmother's laughter, the love in the hearts of mothers and fathers for their children -- all these blessings are unwrapped on Christmas morning.

The President: It is our wish that the magic of this day will continue to bring joy to you and your loved ones throughout the New Year.

Merry Christmas and God bless you all.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-20-95

**THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS
NBC ROSE BOWL PARADE**

TAPED ON: 12/16/95 FOR BROADCAST ON: 1/1/95

The President: Thank you Liz and Matt, and a special thanks to everyone at NBC. We're looking forward to this year's Tournament of Roses Parade, and we know it will be as spectacular as ever.

As we embark upon the New Year, it is our sincere hope that all Americans, and our friends around the world, will come together in the spirit of peace and brotherhood. Together we can make 1996 a year filled with love, laughter and joy. Happy New Year.

The First Lady: Happy New Year.

1995. 1. 1. 11

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12-20-95

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED MESSAGE TO RESERVISTS
TAPED ON: 12/20/95 FOR BROADCAST ON:**

With the downsizing of our active military force, now, more than ever, our nation's defense will depend on the readiness of our National Guard and Reserve.

[PAUSE FOR 5 SECONDS]

The end of the Cold War has not meant the end of war, as some had hoped. It's true that, from the Middle East to Northern Ireland, from South Africa to Haiti, and now in Bosnia, people are moving from conflict to cooperation -- with America's help. But we still face old problems that have taken on new and dangerous dimensions -- like ethnic and religious violence and aggression by rogue states. And no nation can ignore the increasingly interconnected threats of terrorism...international organized crime...drug trafficking...and the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

In this new world of challenge and change, we no longer think of the Guard and Reserve as forces of last resort. Instead, we recognize them as an indispensable part of our ability to defend our nation -- from the very start of a conflict. And because the Reserve forces play a major role in any military operation, we must make sure they are properly trained and ready to deploy around the world.

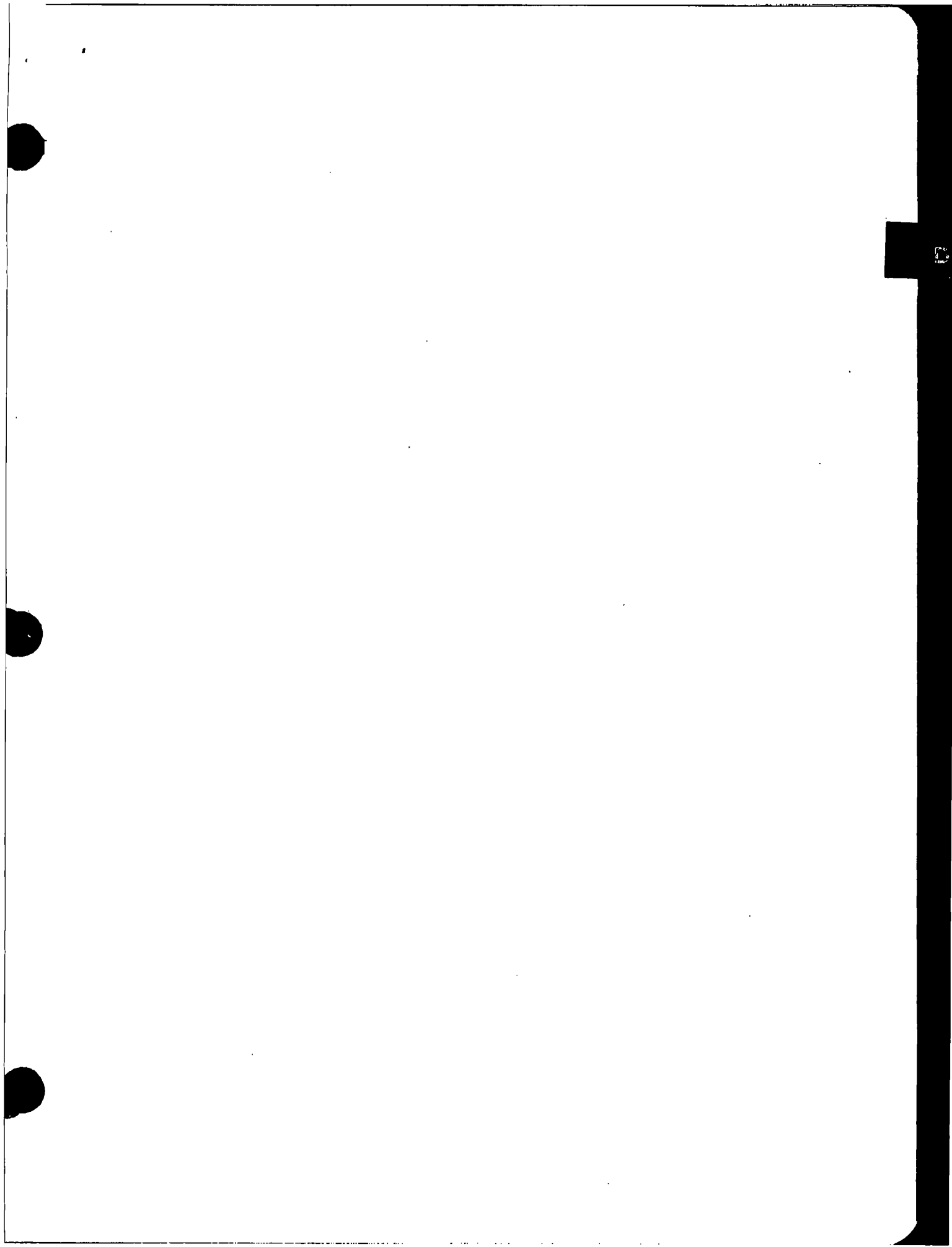
Reservist-employees, both in the public and private sectors, have my complete support to accomplish their military missions. I encourage all employers to offer the same support to their citizen soldiers.

28793055
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12-16-94
FG001-07

Friday, December 16, 1994

9:15 AM	Foreign Policy Team Meeting	Distributed Separately
10:45 AM	Welfare Briefing	TAB A
12:00 PM	Environmental Briefing	TAB B
	- Background	TAB C
1:10 PM	Video Tapings	TAB D
	Scripts	
	- Holiday Message	TAB E
	- Disney Christmas Message	TAB F
	- Partnership for a Drug-free America	TAB G
7:30 PM	Holiday Dinner	TAB H

No script
in briefing paper
for 1994

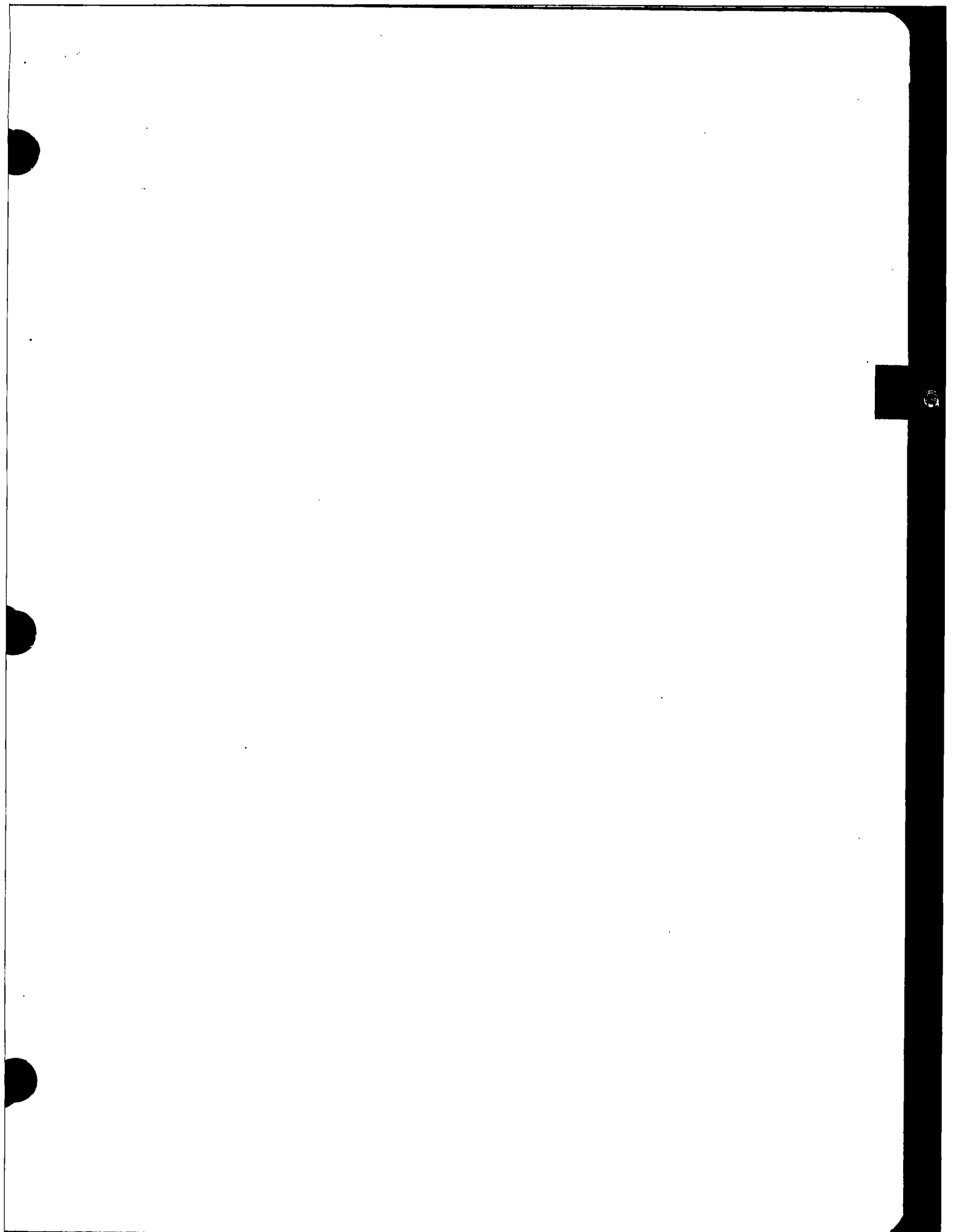


V. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Carter Wilkie
Dave Anderson
Doria Steedman - PFDA
David Idema - PFDA
Lillian Brown - makeup
Technical Personnel (5)

VI. REMARKS

A Teleprompter will be provided. Scripts to be provided.



EF

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

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PRO 10

President William J. Clinton and Mrs. Clinton

Christmas Video Message to the Nation

December 16, 1993 (taped)

LENGTH: :57 RECORDED ON: 12/16 FOR USE ON: 12/25

[President:] On this Christmas Day all over
our nation, Americans are gathering in
celebration of faith and family and
tradition.

[Mrs. Clinton:] This season has a special magic. It may be cold outside... but we all feel an inner warmth; we are renewed with every kindness we give and receive; the celebration is as big as the world... and, yet, it is as private as every Christmas wish that a child of any age has ever dreamed.

[President:] On this day, our greatest gift is the one within... the emergence and the sharing of our better selves. Our Christmas prayer is that each of us be given the strength to bring peace and goodwill to every community and to every American, especially to every child. Peace for them is our greatest wish.

We are especially grateful to the men and women of the Armed Forces who are overseas this holiday, away from family, and preserving the freedoms that we cherish.

We wish all Americans a joyous, blessed holiday.

[*President and Mrs. Clinton:*] Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Draft 11/25/97 9:45am

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON &
FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
DISNEY WORLD'S VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS PARADE
December 25, 1997**

THE PRESIDENT: Hello and Happy Holidays to all of you enjoying Walt Disney World's Annual Christmas Parade. Hillary and I are very glad to join you again this year as you celebrate the magic of the holidays in the Magic Kingdom.

This is the season of joy, a time for family and friends to rejoice in one another's company, in the wonder and excitement of our children, and in the spirit of Christmas. It is also the season of peace -- a time to build peace in the world, in our communities, and in our homes.

THE FIRST LADY: This year, let's come together in the spirit of Christmas and make a better, more peaceful world for our children. Because after our love and encouragement, that is the greatest gift we can give them.

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I wish you and your loved ones a joyous holiday and a healthy, happy New Year. May the meaning and the magic of Christmas be with you today, and throughout the year.

THIS PAGE AND PERHAPS OTHERS IN THIS CASE ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

PLEASE REFER TO THE PAPER FILE FOR THE INFORMATION DESIRED.

Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/03/98 6:30pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
DISNEY CHRISTMAS PARADE
December 15, 1998**

THE PRESIDENT: Hello and happy holidays to everyone enjoying today's broadcast of the Walt Disney World Very Merry Christmas Parade. Hillary and I are very glad to join you again this year as you celebrate the magic of the holidays in the Magic Kingdom.

MRS. CLINTON: Christmas is a time for children. It is a day to revel in their excitement, rejoice in their growth, and renew our pledge to help them make the most of their God-given gifts here in our own country and around the world.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Let us all rejoice in the hope and promise every child brings to this Earth. Today, as we journey toward a new millennium, it must be our children who continue to light the way. Hillary, Chelsea, and I wish you all a joyous holiday and a very happy New Year. Thank you, God bless you, and may the magic of Christmas always be with you.

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

Final 11/29/99 9am

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
AUDIOTAPED REMARKS FOR
THE WALT DISNEY WORLD 1999 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
December 1999**

Hello. This is President Bill Clinton. I'm sure everyone around the world appreciates how special this year's holiday celebration is. We are about to enter a new millennium – an era of tremendous promise and opportunity. There's no better time to reflect on our hopes and dreams and the gifts we want to leave for the future than now. We can all do something make the world a better place. Hillary, Chelsea and I want to wish everyone listening the happiest of holidays. As we celebrate the future, it is our hope that your dreams for the new millennium will come true.

Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/03/98 6:30pm

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re: 11/11/98 →
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CHRISTMAS 1997

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Christmas.

At this time of year, when the nights grow longer and often colder, our lives are brightened and our hearts warmed by the lights of Christmas. So much light surrounds our memories and celebration of Christmas: candlelight in the windows, colored lights twinkling on the tree, children's faces lit with a joy that is reflected in their parents' eyes. The beloved Christmas story itself is a story of light, for, as the Gospel of John tells us, Jesus came into the world as "the true Light" that illumines all humankind.

Almost 2,000 years later, that Light still shines amid the dark places of our world. It is reflected in the lives of so many quiet and generous people who strive daily to make life better for others -- feeding the hungry, caring for the ill and elderly, cherishing and nurturing children. It radiates from the hearts of those who work for peace and justice in their communities, our nation, and the world. It shines in the efforts of men and women striving to break down the walls of fear, ignorance, and prejudice that cast shadows across too many lives and prevent us from becoming the people God intended us to be.

May all who celebrate Christmas this year rejoice in the special gifts of light that it brings: the love that warms our hearts, the faith that lights our journey, and the hope that promises us a bright future. Hillary and I wish you joy and peace during this Christmas season and much happiness in the New Year.

BC/DIA/MAH/DWB/ws-emu-lynn-efr-emu (Corres. #3745323)
(12.christmas97.msg)

(Event: ASAP)

cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOB

DO NOT MAIL -- RETURN TO CARMEN FOWLER, 91 OEOB, FOR DISPATCH
Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to NH through Todd Stern

CLEAR THRU TODD STERN
PRESIDENT TO SIGN

BILL CLINTON A

OK to sign
2 identical
Muh

Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/6/98 5pm

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION**

December 25, 1998

(1 minute)

THE PRESIDENT: On this joyous occasion, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. Tonight, as we gather around our Christmas trees and dinner tables, let us take the time to give thanks to the blessings of the year just passed, to rejoice in our children, and to enjoy the company of family and friends.

As we approach the feast of light, I'd also like to send a special greeting to all of the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home -- you are in our hearts and prayers. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the freedom we all hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: Christmas reminds us that the values we share far outweigh whatever the differences there are between us. The twinkle of a child's eye, the joy of a grandmother's laughter, the love in the hearts of mothers and fathers for their children -- all these blessings are unwrapped on Christmas morning.

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the new year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

1st draft

Draft 12/02/99 1:50pm
Josh Gottheimer

① On this holiest of holidays, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas..
~~Hillary and I wish all of you a joyous season - one full of magical moments with friends and family, a celebration of the year just past, and hope for the year to come.~~

6.1 ② At the dawn of a new millennium, there's no better time than now to reflect on our hopes, our dreams and the gifts we want to leave for the future. ~~We can all do something to make the world a better place.~~ (float)

③ This is a season of joy, a time for family and friends to rejoice in one another's company, in the wonder and excitement of our children, and in the spirit of Christmas. It is also the season of peace - at time to build peace in the world, in our communities, and in our homes.

⑤ At this time of year, when the nights grow longer, our lives are brightened and our hearts are warmed by the lights of Christmas ~~candlelight's in windows, colored lights twinkling on trees~~ children's faces lit with the joy of the season/ with a joy that is reflected in their parent's eyes. ~~May all who celebrate this year rejoice in the special gifts of light that it brings; the love that warms our hearts, the faith that lights our journey, the hope that promises us a bright future.~~ (float) tomorrow

④ I'd also like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home and loved ones. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season - for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings we hold dear.

Christmas is a time for children. It is a day to revel in their excitement, rejoice in their growth, and renew our pledge to help them make the most of their God-given gifts here in our own country and around the world.

⑥ ~~As we celebrate the future, it is our hope that your dreams for the new millennium will come true.~~ May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the New Year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
December 25, 1998
(10 seconds)**

THE PRESIDENT: On this joyous occasion, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. Tonight, let us take the time to give thanks to the blessings of the year just passed, to rejoice in our children, and to enjoy the company of family and friends.

MRS CLINTON: From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 12/1/98

FROM: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Scheduling

SUBJECT: POTUS/FLOTUS Christmas Greeting to Nation

Virginia Apuzzo	_____	Capricia Marshall	_____
Paul Begala	_____	Thurgood Marshall, Jr.	_____
Lisa Berg	_____	Katie McGinty	_____
Samuel Berger	_____	Minyon Moore	_____
Sidney Blumenthal	_____	Bob Nash	_____
Erskine Bowles	_____	Jennifer Palmieri	_____
Phil Caplan	_____	John Podesta	_____
Maria Echaveste	_____	Redington/Davis	✓
Rahm Emanuel	_____	Bruce Reed	_____
Tim Emrich	✓	Dan Rosenthal	_____
Jeff Forbes	✓	Charles Ruff	_____
Nancy Hernreich	_____	Patti Solis-Doyle	✓
Mickey Ibarra	_____	Craig Smith	_____
Ron Klain	_____	Doug Sosnik	_____
Neal Lane	_____	Gene Sperling	_____
Lisa Levin	_____	Larry Stein	_____
Ann Lewis	✓	Todd Stern	_____
Bruce Lindsey	_____	Melanne Verveer	_____
Joe Lockhart	✓	Michael Waldman	✓
Brenda Anders	✓		

FILE: Accept 12/1/98

COMMENTS: Video Session

VIDEO REQUEST PROPOSAL

TODAY'S DATE 11/30/98

☒ ACCEPT ☐ REGRET ☐ PENDING

98 NOV 30 15:24

TO: Stephanie Streett
Director of Scheduling & Advance

FROM: Joe Lockhart
Press Secretary

REQUEST: Christmas greeting from the President and
First Lady to the nation.

PURPOSE: This generic Christmas message from the First
Family will be packaged and sent to the
networks, distributed to affiliates across
the country via satellite and fed to radio
stations across the country. The tape would
be embargoed for 12:01am December 25. This
message has been taped the last five years.

DATE AND TIME: The video should be recorded at the
president's December video session.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT: White House

BACKGROUND: The video will be played nationally on
television and radio starting at Christmas
through the New Year. In previous years,
over 210 affiliates in over 64 markets have
taken our satellite feed of the video, the
networks have fed the message to their
stations nationwide and CNN has played the
message every half hour on Christmas Day.
The transcript of the message was released to
America OnLine, Compuserve, Prodigy and could
be found on the White House Web site.
Numerous radio stations played the audio of
the message during both national and local
news as well as holiday music specials.

DURATION: 30 seconds.

REMARKS ATTACHED: Speechwriting will draft remarks. Last
year's remarks attached.

STAFF CONTACT: Brenda Anders x6-5654

ORIGIN OF PROPOSAL: Brenda Anders

THE WHITE HOUSE

(1997)

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST LADY
IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I wish all of you a joyous holiday season -- one full of magical moments with friends and family, a celebration of the year just past, and hope for the year to come.

I'd also like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home and loved ones. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings of freedom we all hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of a homeless child who grew to become the Prince of Peace, let us all cherish the gift of every child among us. And let us pledge ourselves to building a better world where all children, no matter where they're born, can thrive and make their dreams come true.

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the new year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may God bless you all.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

(1997)

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION

THE PRESIDENT: Hillary and I wish all of you a joyous holiday season -- one full of magical moments with friends and family, a celebration of the year just past, and hope for the year to come.

MRS. CLINTON: This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of a homeless child who grew to become the Prince of Peace, let us pledge ourselves to building a better world where all children, no matter where they are born, can make their dreams come true.

THE PRESIDENT: Merry Christmas. Happy New Year. And God bless you all.

* * * * *

THE WHITE HOUSE (1997)

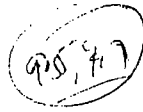
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN CHRISTMAS GREETING

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the holiday season be with you today and throughout the new year.

MRS. CLINTON: From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

* * * * *

Josh Gottheimer
Draft 12/3/98 8:30pm



**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
DECEMBER 25, 1998**

THE PRESIDENT: On this holiest of holiday for millions of Americans, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you good health, good cheer, and the fellowship of family and friends. [As we gather around our Christmas trees and dinner tables today, I'd like to send a special greeting to the brave men and women in uniform who are serving our country in lands far from home and loved ones. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for the greatest gift of the season -- for protecting our nation and safeguarding the blessings of freedom we all hold dear.

MRS. CLINTON: For Americans of all religious faiths, the holiday season reminds us that the values we share far outweigh whatever the differences there are between us. The twinkle of a child's eye, the joy of a grandmother's laughter, the love in the hearts of mothers and fathers for their children -- all these blessings are unwrapped on Christmas morning.

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the new year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE NATION
December 25, 1998
(30 seconds)**

THE PRESIDENT: On ~~this joyous occasion~~, Hillary and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas. Tonight, as we gather around our Christmas trees and dinner tables, let us take the time to give thanks to the blessings of the year just passed, to rejoice in our children, and to enjoy the company of family and friends.

MRS. CLINTON: The twinkle of a child's eye, the joy of a grandmother's laughter, the love in the hearts of mothers and fathers for their children -- all these blessings are unwrapped on Christmas morning.

THE PRESIDENT: May the spirit of the season be with you today and throughout the new year. From our family to yours, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and God bless you all.

Maureen — 11.18.96
6:42 pm

I hope this
draft is okay.
The graf about the
"American Dream"
is from one of Selb's
old Christmas drafts.

Have a wonderful
few days off! Don't
work too hard.
— Di

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

12/3/96

Todd --

Here is the proposed draft for this
year's Christmas message, with the
1994 and 1995 texts attached fyi.

Flo McAfee has cleared the language,
and Jim made the edits in red.

Thanks.


Maureen Hudson



Okay for Signature by
Staff Secretary Todd Stern
Date 12-4-96

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H0009

CHRISTMAS 1996

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Christmas.

Each year during this blessed season, the world pauses to look back across the centuries to the birth of a Child. This Child was born to poor but loving parents in the small town of Bethlehem -- born into a world where few noticed His coming, except for some simple shepherds and a few wise men. He was the Son of God and the King of Kings, but He chose to come among us as servant and Savior.

Though two thousand years have passed since Jesus first walked the earth, much remains the same. Today's world is still caught up in the challenges and cares of everyday existence, and too often we crowd God into the background of our experience. Too often we still ignore His loving presence in our lives and the precious gifts of peace and hope that He so freely offers to us all. And today, as on that first Christmas morning, He still reveals Himself to the loving, the wise, and the simple of heart.

As we gather with family and friends again this year to celebrate Christmas, let us welcome God wholeheartedly into our daily lives. Let us learn to recognize Him not only in the faces of our loved ones, but also in the faces of those who, like Jesus, are familiar with poverty, hardship, and rejection. And let us be inspired by His example to serve one another with generous hearts and open hands. In this way we will approach the dawn of a new century and a new millennium confident in God's abundant grace and strengthened by His timeless promise of salvation.

Hillary joins me in praying that the peace and joy of this holiday season will remain with you throughout the coming year. Merry Christmas, and God bless you.

BILL CLINTON A

BC/DIA/MAH/jfc-efr-ckb-ckb (Corres. #3241841)
(11.christmas96.msg)

cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOB

Xeroxed copy of personally signed original to NH through Todd Stern
CLEAR THRU TODD STERN

PRESIDENT TO SIGN

DO NOT MAIL -- RETURN TO CARMEN FOWLER, 91 OEOB, FOR DISPATCH

DRAFT OF BC MESSAGE

INITIALS: BC / dia /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/pm/christmas.96.mah

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Nov 29 1996 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3241841

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: For Distribution

ENCLOSURES AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

CHRISTMAS 1996

Warm greetings to everyone celebrating Christmas.

Each year during this blessed season, the world pauses in its headlong rush to the future to look back across the centuries to the birth of a Child. This Child was born to poor but loving parents in a small town in a distant corner of the Roman Empire. The world into which He was born was too crowded to make room for Him and too harried to notice His coming, except for some simple shepherds and a few wise men. He was the Son of God and the King of Kings, but He chose to come among us as servant and Savior.

Though two thousand years have passed since Jesus Christ first walked the earth, much remains the same. Today's world is still caught up in the challenges and cares of everyday existence, and too often we crowd God into the background of our experience. Too often we still ignore His loving presence in our lives and the precious gifts of peace and salvation that He so freely offers to us all. And today, as on that first Christmas morning, He still reveals Himself only to the loving, the wise, and the simple of heart.

NOV 29 1996

As we gather with family and friends again this year to celebrate Christmas, let us welcome God wholeheartedly into our daily lives. Let us learn to recognize Him not only in the faces of our loved ones, but also in the faces of those who, like Jesus, are familiar with poverty, hardship, and rejection. And let us be inspired by His example to serve one another with generous hearts and open hands. In this way we will enter the dawn of a new century and a new millenium confident in God's abundant grace and strengthened by His timeless promise of salvation.

Hillary joins me in praying that the peace and joy of this holiday season will remain with you throughout the coming year. Merry Christmas, and God bless you.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO:

Christmas 1996
Washington, D.C. 20500

DRAFT OF BC MESSAGE

INITIALS: BC / dia /

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/pm/christmas.di

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Nov 18 1996 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 3241841

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC: For Distribution

ENCLOSURES AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Warm holiday greetings to everyone during this joyous Christmas season.

More than 2,000 years ago, in a distant land where hardship, persecution, and exile prevailed, through God's everlasting love for all of us, He gave us His only Son on the holiest of all nights, the night that Christ, the Prince of Peace was born. On this blessed occasion, hope and faith were forever enkindled in the hearts and souls of all of humankind. Each Christmas we rejoice in Jesus' birth and draw comfort, guidance, and strength from His story of infinite miracle.

~~Not to be a Christmas message but...~~ *As friends and family gather to rejoice in the spirit of the holidays,*
Though this is a time of peace and prosperity, we must remember those who are still struggling to grasp hold of the American Dream. Let us remember from the example of the Prince of Peace how even the humblest of us can do extraordinary things through even the most simplest acts of goodness and reconciliation. Jesus' teachings of humility, charity, and compassion for each other's fellow neighbor and the lessons of the many other religions of the world, teach us that we belong to something greater than ourselves, that what happens to others affects what happens to us.

Let the dignity of Christ's birth and the timeless message of Christmas motivate us to nurture the peace in our neighborhoods and our homes. May we each dedicate ourselves to the true spirit of the season -- to peace

on earth with goodwill to all -- as we celebrate this holiday season with family and friends.

Hillary joins me in wishing you a memorable and meaningful Christmas.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO:

Christmas 1996
Washington, D.C. 20500