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Folder Title:

244707 Folder #1 [Rita Hayes - Jesse Helms]

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3301

January 21, 1997

The Honorable Erskine Bowles
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Erskine:

The President -- and Mrs. Clinton -- did exceedingly well all day yesterday (but where do they get that stamina!). Dot Helms and I agree that the silly criticism of them in the media this morning was tacky and uncalled for -- especially the outrageous comment about the First Lady's evening gown. It was lovely and Mrs. C. was perfectly radiant on television last evening as they went to -- what was it? -- fifteen balls!

The purpose of this letter: I suspect you have already heard from North Carolina's textile people but I wanted to pass along the enclosed letter of endorsement of Rita Hayes by Charlene Barshefsky, U.S. Trade Representative.

I am pleased to add my Amen to Ambassador Barshefsky's endorsement of Rita Hayes. (Both of these ladies are winners!)

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,



JESSE HELMS:pd

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

January 16, 1997

Mr. Robert J. Nash
Assistant to the President and
Director of Presidential Personnel
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Charles
(no sig)

Dear Bob:

When I signed the letter to you recommending Jennifer Hillman as Deputy to head the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in Geneva, I was unaware that Rita D. Hayes, our Chief Textile Negotiator, is interested in the position. I have since learned of Rita's interest. I have learned, in addition, that she is on your list of candidates. I write this letter to let you know that I regard Rita Hayes as well qualified for the office in Geneva and would be pleased if she were nominated. USTR (1)

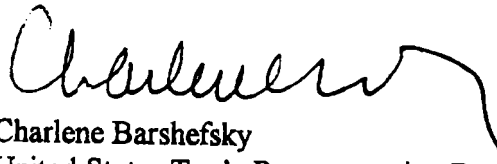
Before coming to USTR as Chief Textile Negotiator, Rita Hayes served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Textile, Apparel, and Consumer Goods. Both positions have taken her often to Geneva. She was there for the end-stage of the Uruguay Round and helped wrap up the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, which allowed us to conclude the Round. Since then, Rita has dealt extensively with the World Trade Organization (WTO). She has defended our trade decisions before the WTO's Textile Monitoring Body and its Council on Trade in Goods; and she has overseen appeals to dispute resolution panels of the WTO. In early 1996, she launched an initiative before the Council on Trade in Goods to improve market access for U.S. textile and apparel exports and to stiffen enforcement of existing agreements. Rita has also worked at length with the European Union on contentious issues like our rules of origin. (2)

Rita Hayes was one of the first appointees confirmed under Secretary Brown because of the many textile agreements that had to be negotiated before the end of the Uruguay Round. Over four years, she has negotiated numerous bilaterals and proven herself to be an exceptional negotiator. Her negotiations and activities in Geneva have acquainted her with principles in trade ministries around the world. This made her especially valuable to me during the Singapore Ministerial and would make her highly effective as our representative in Geneva as well.

Mr. Robert J. Nash
The White House
Page 2

Even though she is administering policies that are phasing out protection, Rita's performance and personality have won her extraordinary support from the domestic industry. She worked in the Congress for ten years and enjoys rapport with members in both parties who know her. She is a tireless worker and team player, and well-liked and respected throughout USTR, in Washington and Geneva. I was pleased to learn of her interest in Geneva. Rita Hayes is an excellent candidate for this position, and she too has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Charlene Barshefsky', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Charlene Barshefsky
United States Trade Representative-Designate