WEEKLY REPORTS FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

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WEEKLY REPORTS

FOR THE WEEK ENDING

September 29, 2000

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 2000

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MR. PRESIDENT:

Attached are the following weekly reports:

(A) **Weekly Economic Briefing**

(B) **Update on Global Markets/Interest Rates and Stock Prices**

(C) **NEC**

(D) **DPC**

(E) **CEQ**

(F) **Office of Environmental Initiatives**

(G) **OSTP**

(H) **Intergovernmental**

(I) **Cabinet Affairs (Classified Addendum Distributed Separately)**

(J) **Communications**

(K) **Legislative**

(L) **Public Liaison**

(M) **Race Initiative**

(N) **Indian Affairs**

(O) **Political Affairs**

Adam Rosman

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WEEKLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

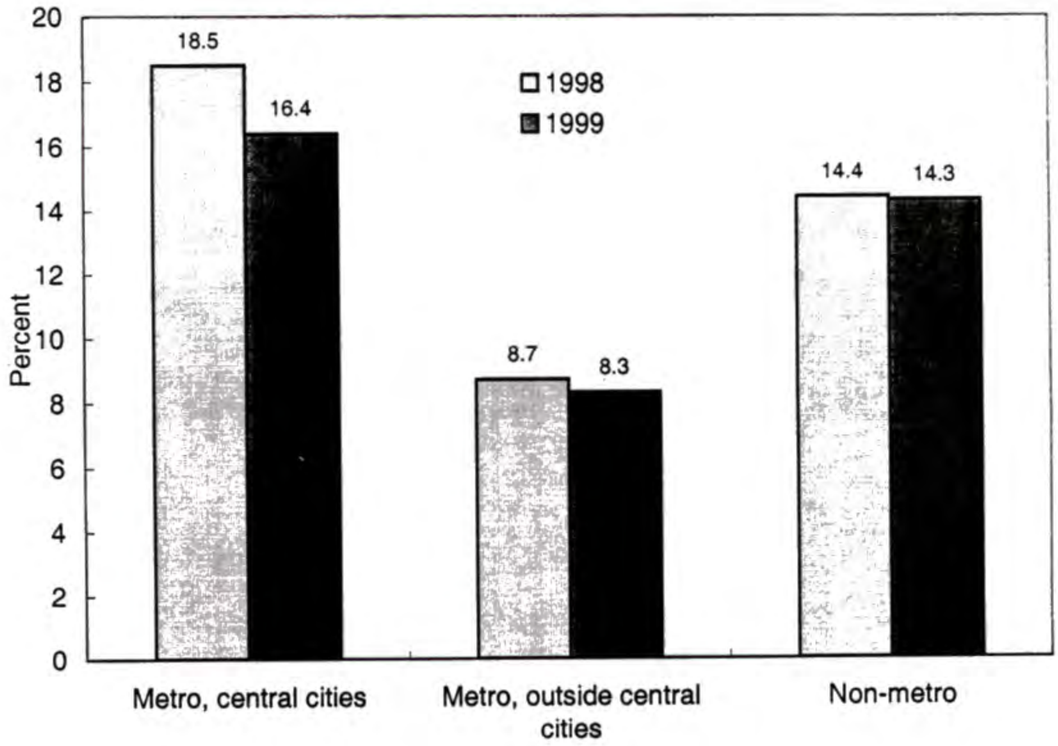
Prepared by the Council of Economic Advisers
with the assistance of the Office of the Vice President

September 29, 2000

Copied
Baily
Podesta

CHART OF THE WEEK

Metro and Non-Metro Poverty Rates



Poverty rates in central cities, while still relatively high, declined dramatically in 1999. This drop was large enough to account for over 80 percent of the overall decline in the number of people living in poverty. Non-metro areas showed the smallest decline.

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SPECIAL ANALYSES

ARTICLE

DEPARTMENTS

"Is this it? Are we going to spend the rest of our lives flailing around in the growing gap between rich and poor?"

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SPECIAL ANALYSIS

Welfare Reform and Spatial Mismatches

A Brookings Institution study released this summer found that welfare caseloads are increasingly concentrated in the largest urban centers. Thus, further progress in reducing poverty and welfare dependency will increasingly depend on facilitating the move from welfare to work in these areas. Fortunately the latest income and poverty data provide reasons for optimism.

Caseloads fell less in urban counties. The Brookings study found that welfare caseloads fell by 51.5 percent nationwide from 1994 to 1999, but by a somewhat smaller 40.6 percent in the 89 urban counties containing the 100 largest cities. As a result, the share of caseloads in these counties increased from 47.5 to 58.1 percent of the national total. While a 40.6 percent decline in urban welfare rolls is hardly "bad news," it is worth trying to understand why it is less than the decline in non-urban areas.

"Spatial mismatch" as a possible explanation. Spatial mismatch occurs when low-skilled workers tend to reside in urban areas, but growth in jobs suited to their skills occurs in suburban areas that are difficult for them to reach. Some evidence that there might have been a spatial mismatch for welfare recipients in the early 1990s comes from a recent study of four cities using 1990-94 data. The study found that about half of all families on public assistance lived in the central cities, yet only 19 percent of new jobs for the very low-skilled were generated in the central cities. Additionally, a recent HUD study found that job growth between 1992 and 1997 was slower in the cities than in the suburbs and that the job mix in cities is shifting toward high-tech jobs that are unavailable to low-skilled workers.

Spatial mismatch tends to be worse for African Americans. The study of four cities found that the black central city areas offered only 8 percent of all very low-skilled jobs, and only 5 percent of non-college jobs. However, the white suburbs offered 68 percent of all very low-skilled jobs and 65 percent of all non-college jobs. Yet the black central cities contained 42 percent of all female-headed households in poverty, while the white suburbs contained only 25 percent of these women. These differences suggest that low-skilled female inner-city residents should find that suburbs are a more attractive place to look for work than the inner city. Indeed, the study found that among firms located in the white suburbs, the percentage of African American applicants for low-skilled jobs exceeded the percentage of African American residents in those suburbs by a wide margin.

The importance of transportation. Spatial mismatch is not a problem if workers can easily get to where the jobs are. However, the study found that nearly half of all new low-skilled jobs in the white suburbs were inaccessible by public transportation. Since 65 to 70 percent of all low-skilled jobs were located in the white suburbs, this finding suggests that at least a third of all low-skilled

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jobs are not accessible by public transport. The study also found that African Americans are a higher percentage of new hires when jobs are accessible by public transport.

Implications. Spatial mismatch appears to have been a significant factor slowing the transition from welfare to work. However, urban areas are likely to experience a multitude of interrelated problems—in addition to spatial mismatch—that can limit job access for welfare recipients. Urban poverty goes hand-in-hand with higher incidence of social problems, such as low educational attainment and crime. Other factors that make it hard to make the transition to employment may include high child care and transportation expenses.

However, the latest data on income and poverty show some of the strongest gains in income and reductions in poverty occurring in the central cities (see the Chart of the Week). Thus, a combination of policies designed to aid the transition from welfare to work and a very strong economy appear to have borne fruit.

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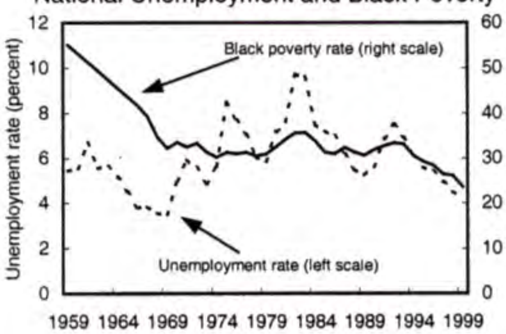
SPECIAL ANALYSIS

Tight Labor Markets and Black Poverty

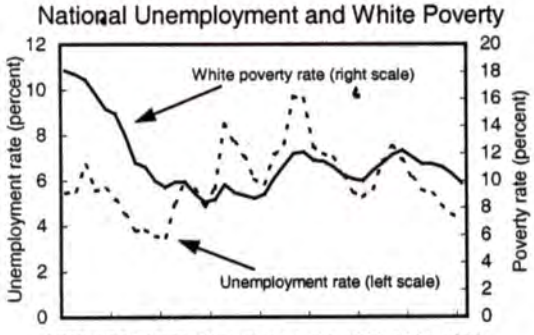
The latest income and poverty statistics show dramatic improvements in the economic status of American families. Gains for African Americans were particularly strong and mirror the gains of the 1960s that accompanied the enactment of civil rights legislation and the War on Poverty.

Trends. In the 1960s the black poverty rate fell 42 percent (22.9 percentage points) from its very high 1959 rate of 55.1 percent (see upper chart). The 29 percent decline between 1993 and 1999 from a rate of 33.1 percent to a rate of 23.6 percent represented an even faster drop on an annual basis. These declines stand in stark contrast to the relatively stable poverty rates of the 1970s, 1980s, and early 1990s.

National Unemployment and Black Poverty



National Unemployment and White Poverty



Cyclical changes. Changes in the unemployment rate might reasonably be expected to be associated with changes in the poverty rate—and they are for whites (see lower chart). But while the current cyclical decline in unemployment has brought the poverty rate for whites near prior cyclical troughs, the decline for blacks has been much sharper, with the poverty rate reaching an all-time low. A comparison with the trends of the 1960s suggests two possible explanations for this large drop: the extraordinary tightness of the labor market and the role of social policy.

Tight labor markets. In both the 1960s and the 1990s the unemployment rate fell to levels below standard estimates of the NAIRU. Under such conditions, employers compete strongly for workers, providing less skilled workers with new opportunities and higher wages that help reduce poverty. Expansions like those of the 1970s and 1980s, in which the drop in unemployment relative to the NAIRU is less dramatic, probably do not generate as much competition among employers or as many benefits for low-skilled workers.

The role of social policy. Just as the 1960s saw the War on Poverty and civil rights legislation, the current period has advanced a new policy of making work pay. Both the increase in the minimum wage and the expansions of the EITC have contributed to the reductions in poverty. While the direct income effect of

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the EITC is not included in the official poverty measure, an alternative poverty measure that does include the EITC suggests that in 1999 alone 1 million of the 4.1 million people moved out of poverty by the program were African Americans. Moreover, the EITC probably contributed indirectly to reducing poverty as officially measured by encouraging work. .

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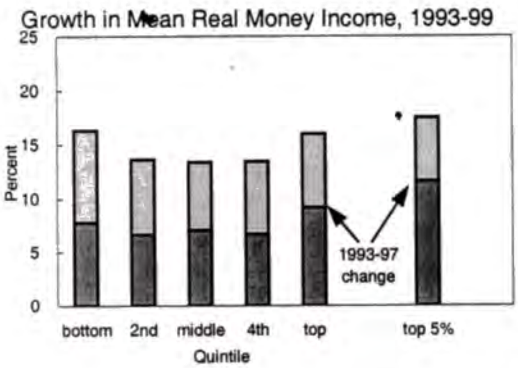
ARTICLE

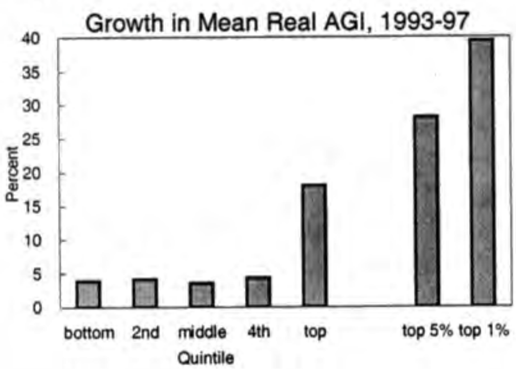
Capital Gains and Income Inequality

The latest data on money income from the Census show strong gains in income in all parts of the income distribution and that inequality has not changed much since 1993, after increasing over the previous two decades. Some observers have noted, however, that tax and wealth data show disproportionate growth in income at the very top of the distribution (which has contributed to recent revenue "surprises"). An analysis of differences between Census and tax data shows that the Census data probably do understate growth in income at the very top of the distribution. But this finding does not undermine the fact that income gains have been widely shared since 1993.

Trends in Census money income. Census money income measures are based on data collected in the annual March supplement to the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) used to estimate household employment. Census's official definition of income is based on money income before taxes and includes government cash transfers. It does not include realized capital gains or losses, nor does it include the EITC or non-cash benefits like food stamps. Using this definition, each fifth of the income distribution has experienced strong gains, since 1993, with the largest increase coming in the bottom fifth (see upper chart).



Census reports on income in the top 5 percent of the distribution (which did grow slightly faster than the rest of the distribution), but not the top 1 percent. One reason is that the data collected in the CPS is "top coded," so that, for example, earnings of $1 million or more are entered as $999,999 rather than as their actual value. (Top coding may reduce coding errors and enhance response rates by providing greater confidentiality protection.) While top coding does not affect calculations of median income or poverty status, it does affect most measures of inequality.



Trends in pre-tax income. IRS tax data provide a somewhat different picture of trends in income inequality. In particular, the IRS data (through 1997) show more rapid growth in mean adjusted gross income (AGI) for the top 20 percent and particularly the top 1 percent of taxpayers than for the rest of the distribution (see lower chart, which has a different scale from the upper chart). Unlike the census data, the IRS data are not top coded and include capital gains realizations; hence, they probably provide a better picture of income growth at the very top. However, they are not a satisfactory substitute for Census data in describing overall trends in household income for a number of reasons, including the following:

- AGI is not a household-based measure. A tax-filing unit is different from a household. For example, a married couple filing separately would constitute two tax units but only one household. There were 122 million individual income tax returns filed for 1997, but only 103 million households in the CPS.

- Taxable income excludes cash transfers. While AGI includes capital gains (a relatively more important source of income at the top), it does not include many cash transfers from means-tested programs like welfare and SSI or child support (relatively more important sources of income at the bottom).

- Not all low-income families file tax returns. Although many low-income families file tax returns in order to claim the EITC, those who do not are not reflected in income distributions based on AGI. Census data cover the entire non-institutionalized population.

The most complete picture of trends in income distribution would require an appropriate merging of IRS and Census data, but this is a technically daunting task because of the differences in coverage and income definition. While the Congressional Budget Office has attempted such exercises in the past, its most recent estimates based on actual data are for 1995.

Conclusion. Census data are most likely understating growth in income at the top of the distribution. Nevertheless, they provide an accurate and unmistakable picture of improvements for the vast majority of households, including those at the bottom of the distribution and traditionally disadvantaged groups.

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BUSINESS, CONSUMER, AND REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Are Managers and Professionals Working Longer Hours? Despite the perception that managers and professionals have been working longer and longer hours, average weekly hours for people in these occupations were nearly constant throughout the 1990s, following slight increases during the 1980s. In these occupations the greatest increase in number of hours worked occurred among professional women, who saw their average hours rise from 35 per week in 1982 to 37 per week in 1993, with no further changes since. The proportion of managers and professionals working very long hours has also been stable: about 18 percent of female and 38 percent of male managers and professionals worked more than 49 hours per week in 1999, nearly the same percentages as in 1989. However, there has been an increase in the number of Americans in managerial and professional occupations, especially among women. Growth in the total number of people who hold such jobs has averaged 3 percent per year since 1982, and 5 percent among women.

Impact of 401(k) Plans on Wealth Varies by Earnings Level. Eligibility for 401(k) plans rises steadily with earnings, and participation rates in 401(k) plans also increase somewhat with earnings. Thus, 401(k) balances are concentrated among higher-income Americans. However, a new study finds no evidence that the 70 to 80 percent of 401(k) contributions that come from households with annual earnings above $40,000 represent a net increase in saving by these households. Instead these households appear to finance their 401(k) contributions with some combination of reducing other assets, shifting saving that would have taken place anyway into 401(k) saving, or increasing debt. By contrast, the study found that the 401(k) contributions of households earning $30-40,000 per year probably were a net contribution to saving. The savings impact of 401(k) plans on households earning less than $30,000 annually was hard to discern, in part because the contributions were relatively small for this group. Thus, it is unlikely that more than 30 percent of 401(k) contributions represent new net private saving, with those earning less than $40,000 per year doing most new saving.

Hunger and Food Insecurity Fall. The number of Americans experiencing food insecurity fell by 11 percent between 1995 and 1999, based on sample responses to the question: at some time during the previous year, were you not certain of acquiring food adequate to meet your basic needs at all times. Of the 31 million people reporting food insecurity in 1999, 8 million were in households reporting that at least one member went hungry at some time during the year—a 30 percent decline since 1995 (the first year of the survey). All demographic, racial, and geographic groups saw declines in food insecurity, although people in income groups between 50 and 130 percent of poverty reported increases in food insecurity. Nonetheless, reports of hunger declined for all groups—especially for female-headed households, black households, Hispanic households, and households earning less than half of poverty income. However, in 1999, children were still about twice as likely as adults to live in households experiencing food insecurity, and were more likely to live in households experiencing hunger.

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INTERNATIONAL ROUNDUP

Oil Prices Expected to Lower OECD Growth. With a substantial increase in its estimates of world oil prices, the OECD has revised downward its growth predictions. It now forecasts that the U.S. economy will grow 4.8 percent in 2000, 0.1 percentage point less than previously projected. Growth in 2001 was revised downward a more substantial 0.3 percentage point to 2.7 percent. The EU and Japan, along with the OECD as a whole, are projected to follow a similar pattern, with relatively small declines of 0.1 or 0.2 percentage point in 2000 and a larger impact in 2001. Because of its high reliance on imported oil, Japan is predicted to grow at only 1.6 percent in 2001, down from the original forecast of 2.2 percent. The impact of sustained high oil prices on inflation is predicted to be small across the OECD in 2000, but to worsen in 2001, boosting the consumer price level by 0.8 percent in the EU and 0.5 percent in the United States.

Quality of Growth Matters for Living Standards. A new World Bank report argues that countries can dramatically improve the quality of peoples' lives by blending pro-growth policies with those that embrace wider access to education, protection of the environment, civil liberties, and anti-corruption. The report includes a new survey of the fairness of education availability. The United States and Poland are the top two countries based on this measure. The high degree of inequality in countries such as Algeria and Pakistan implies that vast numbers of people have very limited access to education, imposing a significant cost on society at large. The report also argues that environmental degradation disproportionately hurts the poor, who rely on such natural capital as land, forests, and biodiversity for survival. While global finance may provide benefits for developing countries, the poor suffer most during financial crises. Sound macroeconomic policies and strengthening domestic financial systems are thus an important component of alleviating poverty. Finally, the report argues, poor governance (corruption and bureaucratic harassment) allows elite vested interests to influence the policies of the state unduly, with potentially large social costs.

Entrepreneurship Is Greater in the United States than in Europe. A new study released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics examines the role of new firms in creating jobs in Europe and the United States. Entrepreneurship, or the birth of new establishments, is important to job growth in the United States, accounting for 57 percent of new jobs between 1995 and 1996. Small establishments (1 to 19 workers) play a much larger role in job growth in the U. S. service industry than they do in manufacturing. Similarly, in Europe most enterprises started in 1994-95 were in the trade, hotel and restaurant, and service industries. Nonetheless, a second study, based on international survey data, found that the rate of entrepreneurial activity (measured by the proportion of the population involved in startups) was higher in the United States than in nine other developed countries. While many factors are probably responsible, the study notes capital availability. In 1996 private equity exceeded $33 billion in the United States, compared with about $9 billion in Europe; in 1998 only 17 percent of Europe's fixed-income issues were considered high-risk, while 60 percent were in the United States.

RELEASES THIS WEEK

Gross Domestic Product

According to revised estimates, real gross domestic product grew at an annual rate of 5.6 percent in the second quarter.

Advance Durable Orders

Advance estimates show that new orders for durable goods rose 2.9 percent in August, following a decrease of 13.1 percent in July.

Consumer Confidence

Consumer confidence, as measured by The Conference Board, rose 1.1 index points in September, to 141.9 (1985=100).

MAJOR RELEASES NEXT WEEK

NAPM Report on Business (Monday)
Leading Indicators (Tuesday)
Employment (Friday)

U.S. ECONOMIC STATISTICS

	1970-1993	1999	1999:4	2000:1	2000:2
Percent growth (annual rate)					
Real GDP (chain-type)	2.9	5.0	8.3	4.8	**5.6**
GDP chain-type price index	5.2	1.6	1.6	3.3	**2.4**
Nonfarm business (NFB) sector:					
Productivity (chain-type)	1.7	4.1	8.0	1.9	5.7
Real compensation per hour:					
Using CPI	1.0	2.2	1.3	0.0	1.7
Using NFB deflator	1.5	3.3	2.9	1.1	2.9
Shares of Nominal GDP (percent)					
Business fixed investment	11.4	12.9	13.0	13.4	13.7
Residential investment	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
Exports	8.2	10.6	10.8	10.8	11.0
Imports	9.2	13.4	13.9	14.2	14.6
Personal saving	6.6	1.6	1.1	0.1	0.2
Federal surplus	-2.8	1.3	1.5	2.4	2.4

	1970-1993	1999	June 2000	July 2000	August 2000
Unemployment Rate (percent)	6.7**	4.2**	4.0	4.0	4.1
Payroll employment (thousands)					
increase per month			57	-51	-105
increase since Jan. 1993					21989
Inflation (percent per period)					
CPI	5.8	2.7	**0.5**	0.2	-0.1
PPI-Finished goods	5.0	2.9	0.6	0.0	-0.2

**Figures beginning 1994 are not comparable with earlier data.

New or revised data in **boldface.**

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

	1998	1999	July 2000	August 2000	Sept. 28, 2000
Dow-Jones Industrial Average	8626	10465	10663	11015	10824
Interest Rates (percent per annum)					
3-month T-bill	4.78	4.64	5.96	6.09	6.07
10-year T-bond	5.26	5.65	6.05	5.83	5.82
Mortgage rate, 30-year fixed	6.94	7.43	8.15	8.03	7.88
Prime rate	8.35	8.00	9.50	9.50	9.50

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

Exchange Rates	**Current level September 28, 2000**	**Percent Change from**	
		Week ago	**Year ago**
Euro (in U.S. dollars)	0.883	3.1	-16.0
Yen (per U.S. dollar)	107.6	1.0	1.4
Major currencies index (Mar. 1973=100) (trade-weighted value of the U.S. $)	100.6	-0.7	8.9

International Comparisons [1]	**Real GDP growth** (percent change last 4 quarters)	**Unemployment rate** (percent)	**CPI inflation** (percent change in index last 12 months)
United States	6.1 (Q2)	4.1 (Aug)	3.4 (Aug)
Canada	5.3 (Q2)	6.8 (Jul)	2.5 (Aug)
Japan	0.8 (Q2)	4.7 (Jul)	-0.5 (Jul)
France	3.4 (Q2)	9.6 (Jul) [2]	1.7 (Aug)
Germany	3.6 (Q2)	8.3 (Jul)	1.8 (Aug)
Italy	2.6 (Q2)	10.8 (Apr)	2.6 (Aug)
United Kingdom	3.2 (Q2)	5.5 (May)	3.0 (Aug)

1/ For unemployment data, rates approximating U.S. concepts as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, except as noted in footnote 2.
2/ Data from OECD standardized unemployment rates.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: GENE SPERLING

SUBJECT: NEC WEEKLY REPORT

G-7/G-8 Sherpas Meeting: With the departure of NEC Deputy Lael Brainard, I served as Sherpa this week at the G-7/G-8 meeting in Paris in order to ensure that your priority – the Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT Force) – gets off the ground. The meeting was very successful. While we need to negotiate further to nail down the framework, we won likely support for a plan to include in the DOT Force eight developing countries (in addition to the G-8 countries) which should give the initiative greater credibility. We also made progress on our goal of NGO participation, though that is not secure yet. As you know, the UNDP and World Bank will serve as DOT Force Secretariat, under the guidance of the country chairing the G-8 during the year. We are still in the beginning stages, but the outlook is promising that the DOT Force will be a lasting legacy of the Okinawa Summit.

H-1B: Senate Democrats succeeded in forcing a vote on whether to waive the rules barring immigrant fairness provisions from being added to H-1B visa legislation. The motion was defeated 55-43, along party lines with only Sen. Byrd (D-WVA) joining the Republicans in rejecting the proposal. Nevertheless, Senate Republicans were forced to take a position, and their arguments against the motion often reflected noticeable anti-Latino sentiment. As you suggested in your meeting with the CHC, 43 Senators and 152 Representatives have signed a letter to you saying they will sustain your veto of any CJS Approps bill that does not contain the immigrant fairness provisions. We confirmed this week that you will veto CJS if those provisions are not included.

Gene
Make sure
we check w/
relevant mem
Menen, Waxman,
Pa, Mink, etc

We have also made clear that the Latino fairness legislation's amendment of NACARA should include relief for Central Americans, Haitians, and **Liberians**. NACARA parity is not as expansive as the relief proposed by Sen. Jack Reed for Liberians, but his staff has indicated that he accepts this compromise with our assurance that the Liberians will not be thrown aside in any later negotiations over this provision. The Senate reached a Unanimous Consent agreement on H-1B, and is poised to pass an H-1B bill on Tuesday. The UC agreement comes closer to meeting our objectives by limiting to 195,000 the maximum number of visas that will be allowed. In addition, there is a bipartisan Senate agreement to support doubling the H1-B user fee as the bill proceeds – a step the Senate cannot take itself because revenue measures must originate in the House. Armey claims he will bring the Senate bill up in the House, precluding a conference. We would still prefer the bill go to conference committee to allow us an opportunity to further improve it.

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Oil: After falling for six consecutive sessions from a peak of $37.80 on Wednesday, September 20th to a closing price of $30.34 on Thursday September 28th, oil for November delivery rose 50 cents on Friday to close at $30.84 on Friday. Oil fell throughout the week following the announcement of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve exchange, an announcement by the Saudi Crown Prince that Saudi Arabia would pump additional oil to stabilize prices, and speculation that the Europeans may tap their reserves. The market rose on Friday on reports that the Europeans will not tap their reserves, at least for now. According to the International Energy Agency, European countries held 141 million barrels of crude oil reserves in July. At the OPEC meeting in Caracas, OPEC called for a constructive dialogue with consuming nations, echoing a European call for a dialogue with OPEC, while blaming oil taxes in consuming nations for contributing tot he high price of petroleum products to consumers. The Saudis' statement that they would pump more oil if necessary to stabilize the oil market suggested a slight fissure in OPEC's recent struggle for unanimity. Mexican Minister Tellez has also suggested the need to keep oil prices at acceptable levels. Finally, last Monday, DOE issued a bid solicitation for the SPR swap. Bids were due on Friday (September 29th) at 3 PM. DOE will begin evaluating bids over the weekend. It hopes to award contract by Friday October 6th, but may be able to act sooner, depending on the quality of the bids. Once contracts are awarded, oil may begin flowing as soon as customers can arrange for transportation, which could be within days if pipeline space or tankers are available, or as late as November if pipeline space for October is obligated and tankers are not available.

New Markets: After three postponements, on Wednesday, Senate Finance Chairman Roth decided that he could not mark up the New Markets/Empowerment Zone/Community Renewal package because Members would not refrain from offering non-germane amendments. But a number of issues still remained. In particular, Senator Gramm objected to a Roth-Moynihan provision to provide tax credit bonds to Amtrak. Gramm also insisted that full funding for existing Empowerment Zones should precede this package. Once Gramm's resistance was clear, other Senators insisted on offering their own favorite tax amendments. Roth then gave up, instead introducing his proposed mark, with the amendments he and Moynihan agreed to accept, as a stand-alone bill for consideration as the process moved forward. The next step will be for us to work with House and Senate leadership to negotiate an agreement that we will try to incorporate in a final budget package.

Charitable Choice: This week, the Senate voted to re-authorize the SAMHSA Charitable Choice language, clarifying conditions under which religious organizations can provide drug abuse counseling services. The House took similar action the week before, so this bill should arrive on your desk. We are assessing how this development will affect progress on the New Markets package. As you know, our agreement with Speaker Hastert provided similar (although not identical) Charitable Choice provisions for drug abuse counseling. The Santorum-Lieberman bill contains broader provisions we find constitutionally suspect, and that would apply to SAMHSA and other programs as well. It is unclear if passage of SAMHSA reauthorization with charitable choice will prompt the Republicans to drop it in New Markets, or to seek more far-reaching provisions in a final deal. The reauthorization language the House and Senate passed is acceptable. The drug abuse counseling community will be much happier with this language, because it does not intrude on state licensing of drug abuse counselors. The civil liberties groups will have the same concerns they did with our agreement, since it still contains the Title VII exemption for religious organizations.

Bankruptcy: Majority Leader Lott and Senators Hatch and Grassley continue to search for a strategy to send you the bankruptcy reform bill. There have been reports of a variety of possible approaches, including attaching it to an appropriations bill, such as Transportation or Energy & Water, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and, most recently, a sex trafficking victims bill. Women's groups made clear their opposition to linking VAWA with the bankruptcy bill. Lott's version of the bankruptcy bill would drop the two objectionable recent add-ons: the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act exemption for bad check collection and the rent-to-own provisions. The package would also include the means test safe harbor and the agreed-upon homestead exemption. In short, the issue has come down to the Republicans' failure to include the Schumer amendment addressing clinic violence, despite our September 22 letter to Majority Leader Lott stating that you would not sign any legislation that did not contain an effective means to ensure accountability and responsibility of perpetrators of clinic violence.

APEC: This week NEC coordinated with relevant agencies on preparations for your participation in the APEC Leaders Summit November 15-16 in Brunei. Dan Rosen of our staff traveled to Brunei for the APEC Senior Officials Meeting last week in order to clarify key issues for the Summit, and to communicate our enthusiasm for a broad agenda that will carry forward themes you have previously emphasized in other multilateral venues. Most notably, we hope to follow through on initiatives to build consensus for maximizing benefits of the New Economy. Building upon the G7/8 Okinawa Charter on Information Technology and working to close the digital divide appear to be two areas that have broad appeal among APEC nations. We will work to capitalize on this by proposing an APEC statement that reflects a commitment to embrace a strategy of market-oriented and developmental steps. This could also provide an excellent foundation for your final speech to APEC, which you were instrumental in energizing at the start of your Presidency.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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September 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Barbara Chow

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

1. Drunk Driving --.08 BAC: The Transportation conference did not meet this week, but is expected to convene Monday. Chairman Wolf is expected to offer a compromise on the .08 BAC issue. The original Lautenberg measure would give states three years to adopt .08 BAC, with failure to do so resulting in a 10% loss in federal highway funds and 5% each year thereafter. We understand that the Wolf compromise would create a growing sanction for failure to adopt the .08 standard, starting at 2%, and steadily increasing to an 8% loss of highway funds. Currently, 18 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico have .08 BAC as their impaired driving standard. Of the remaining states, 30 have .10 BAC as their impaired driving standard and two states (MA, SC) do not have a set BAC level (a "per se standard") at which someone is considered too impaired to drive. We are continuing to work closely with the Chief of Staff, OVP, Legislative Affairs and OMB on targeted outreach. On Friday, MADD President Millie Webb – who lost her daughter and nephew and suffered severe burns in a crash involving a .08 BAC driver – asked us to convey her personal thanks to you for your ongoing support and your Thursday .08 BAC remarks.

2. Guns - - Report on Gun Injuries: On October 8, the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics is planning to release a Gun Injury Report, which includes the total number of nonfatal gunshot injuries and firearm-related deaths from 1993 to 1997. The report includes data showing the number of shootings that were the result of an assault, suicide, homicide, or accident. Key findings from the report include: (1) the number of gunshot wounds from assaults treated in hospital emergency rooms fell 39%; (2) homicides committed with a firearm fell 29%; (3) 80% of all crime-related gunshot victims were male, almost half were black males and about one quarter were black males ages 18 to 24; (4) over half of the victims of nonfatal gunshot wounds from crime were younger than 25; and (5) 28% of all violent victimizations were committed with a firearm.

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3. Welfare - - Immigrant Access to Benefits: The Administration has taken two recent actions to reduce unnecessary collection and reporting of immigration and Social Security number (SSN) information related to immigrant benefits. Last week, five agencies issued a notice that a very rigorous standard of "knowledge" would have to be met before triggering the provision in the welfare reform act requiring agencies to report immigrants they know to be undocumented. This notice follows guidance issued the week before, clarifying that states have flexibility to design their application forms and procedures so that questions about the immigration status and SSN of non-applicant family members does not deter eligible family members in a mixed-status household from applying for benefits. While the agencies have and will continue to actively reach out to immigrant groups, advocates, and state officials on these matters, we opted for a low-key rollout to avoid Congressional backlash.

4. Welfare - - Food Stamps: In your FY 2001 budget, you proposed to make it easier for low-income working families to own vehicles and receive food stamps, as well as to restore food stamp eligibility to about 165,000 legal immigrants by 2005. We have been pursuing a number of avenues to get these items considered in final negotiations. In addition, we have been preparing for a possible event on October 4 where you could announce new food coupons for approximately 500,000 senior citizens to exchange for fresh produce at farmers markets, roadside stands, and community-supported farms. At the event you could also announce other efforts to reduce domestic hunger and call on Congress to adopt your food stamp initiatives.

5. Education - - Glenn Commission Report: The National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century, chaired by Senator John Glenn, issued a report on Wednesday examining the current state of math and science education. Specifically, the report recommends state, district and school level assessments of what teachers need to deliver high-quality math and science education; professional development aligned to meet those needs; reward and incentive programs for exemplary teaching; recruitment and retention efforts to bring more high-quality people into the classroom; and improved support for teachers including higher salaries. The report recommends an annual investment of $5 billion, with every dollar of state funds matched by two dollars on federal funds, to accomplish this effort

6. Education - - Cincinnati Merit Pay Program: Cincinnati has become what is believed to be the first public school district in the country to scrap its traditional teacher salary structure and replace it with a schedule that bases pay on classroom performance. In a 54%-46% vote, the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers approved the plan, which will be implemented in the 2002-2003 school year. Unlike plans in some districts and states, the Cincinnati model does not link teacher pay to student test performance. Instead, it increases pay for educators who meet teaching goals set by the district. The hallmark of the plan is the creation of five career categories. Beginning teachers will be labeled "apprentices" and can progress through the system to become "novice," "career," "advanced," and "accomplished" educators, provided they meet the district goals. Frequent, in-depth evaluations administered by a principal and a consulting teacher will determine whether teachers advance in the career categories, stay in the same categories, 10·2·00

or slide back into a lower one. In addition to classroom observations, teachers will be required to submit portfolios that include logs of parent contacts, sample lesson plans and student work, a list of professional development activities, and a grade book.

7. Children and Families - - Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization (VAWA): On Tuesday, after your event in New Mexico, highlighting the importance of VAWA programs, the House overwhelmingly voted to reauthorize VAWA 415-3. The next day, you sent a letter to the Senate, urging immediate consideration of freestanding VAWA, before its authorization expires on September 30. Senator Lott, however, has signaled that he plans to use VAWA as a "sweetener" to pass other legislation, including possibly bankruptcy reform. Women's groups are sending the message that VAWA should not be added to legislation that is harmful to women.

8. Health Care - - Update on Reallocation of CHIP Funds: After reading reports that 40 states are scheduled to lose the unspent portion of their 1998 CHIP funds, you asked whether we should take a position that would allow these states to keep a portion of their unspent funds. Obviously, this would have the impact of reducing the scheduled redistribution of CHIP funds to the 10 states that have spent their entire 1998 allotment. They will likely argue such an action would effectively reward states that have been slow to implement the program. From a pure policy perspective, we believe it would be advisable to allow states that have not spent all their money to retain a portion of their funds, ~~as~~ we do not want ~~these states to have any excuse for not~~ moving aggressively to implement their programs. In addition, states that have spent all their funds would still receive an increase in their allotment – just not as large as it would have otherwise been. However, we expect that the Congress will come to a consensus on what the formula for such a redistribution should be. In fact, earlier this week, the Commerce Committee marked up a compromise that allows the states that have not spent their entire allotments to keep approximately 60 percent of the $2 billion in unspent funds. The remaining $700 million would be divided amongst the 10 states (including NY) that have spent their entire 1998 allotments. We would advise that HHS provide technical assistance to the states, with an acknowledgement that there should probably be a reallocation of dollars, but that the principle of rewarding "good states" should not be significantly undermined. Within that construct, we would strongly recommend that we not specify the percentage split, but instead defer to the legislative process.

agree

ok

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

September 29, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

'00 SEP 29 PM5:27

CC: JOHN PODESTA

FROM: GEORGE T. FRAMPTON, JR.

SUBJECT: CEQ WEEKLY REPORT

BUDGET

Interior Appropriations/Conservation Funding

The Interior Appropriations bill filed on Friday will provide guaranteed funding for conservation, natural resources protection, and recreation totaling $1.6 billion for 2001 and growing to $2.4 billion in 2006. This more than doubles existing funding for these purposes, and provides up to 2/3 of the funding for state and local use. The bill was described in the press today as a "triumph for President Clinton." In addition, because of your willingness to take a hard line against anti-environmental riders, the Congress eliminated all language on which we would have recommended veto, including that involving limitations on forest planning, treatment of northwest dams for salmon protection, and hard rock mining rulemaking.

This is a real environmental victory, and most environmental groups see it that way. However, as you know, efforts to provide this funding were proceeding on both authorizing and appropriations tracks. The "CARA" authorization legislation would have provided funding more generous or predictable for particular constituent groups such as mayors and state fish and game departments than the appropriations bill. For that reason, some of these groups continue to press for progress on the authorization legislation, despite the demonstrated refusal of congressional Republican leadership to bring that legislation to the floor this year. It is unclear what position these groups will take on the appropriations bill, which is expected to come to the floor for votes early next week.

Small Business Bill Fails in House

On Tuesday, September 26, the House failed to garner the two-thirds vote necessary to pass the Small Business Liability Relief Act under suspension of the rules. Although there were enough votes to pass the bill under a rule, Republicans refused to take the bill off of the suspension calendar, and House Democrats opposed the bill largely on procedural grounds. The bill would have provided Superfund liability relief for small businesses that send "household waste" and de micromis amounts of hazardous waste to Superfund sites. As introduced, however, the bill was opposed by the Administration, the majority of House Democrats, environmental groups, and other interest groups.

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RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

New York/New Jersey Harbor

In an effort to resolve continued controversy over the disposal of dredged material off the coast of New Jersey, EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers have entered into an MOA that outlines steps to be taken by the two agencies to advance the goals of the 1966 agreement designed to limit materials that could be deposited at the off-shore Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS). The MOA sets a schedule for developing and peer-reviewing new standards for those materials and establishes a new lower standard for PCBs that would be applied immediately and prospectively. The MOA is supported by New Jersey, including its congressional delegations as well as environmental interests. We do not expect opposition from port and labor interests.

JP
should we do a signing ceremony?

BEACH Bill Passed

On September 26, Congress passed the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Bill, or BEACH Bill. The bill, which has had the long-standing support of the Clinton-Gore Administration and the environmental community, will improve the health of America's beaches and ensure the public that future trips to the beach will be healthy ones. The BEACH Bill amends the Clean Water Act to require states to adopt minimum standards for water quality, regularly test beaches for pathogens and notify the public of unsafe conditions. According to an August 2000 report by the Natural Resources Defense Council, only 11 states comprehensively test their beach waters and notify the public of their safety. In 1999, these states issued over 6,000 beach closures and advisories due to polluted waters.

County Payments

After nine months of negotiations between CEQ, USDA, Forest Service staff and Senate staff (primarily Senators Craig's and Wyden's office), the Senate unanimously passed S. 1608 on September 13. S. 1608, as passed by the Senate, is decent compromise legislation this Administration can support. It *de facto de-couples* payments to counties from timber receipts and will provide counties with $1.1 billion in new safety net payments over the next five years. We are now trying to convince the House to pass the Senate's version of S. 1608 without changes. This may prove difficult, but we will know more about where the House stands after a meeting between Administration negotiators and House and Senate staff today.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROGER BALLENTINE

RE: OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES WEEKLY

Climate Change

Press, Science and Industry

Honda Motor Co. has developed a four-seater fuel cell car, and Toyota Motor Corp. announced it would market a gas-electric hybrid minivan, *The Wall Street Journal* and others reported (9/29). Honda said its new FCX-V3 has a motor that is 25 percent lighter and offers 22 percent more power than two-seater versions of the car unveiled last September. Toyota said it plans to introduce a hybrid version of its popular Estima minivan to the Japanese market next spring. Toyota Chairman Hiroshi Okuda said the company intends to eventually use hybrid engines to power everything from compact cars to luxury sedans, sport utility vehicles and commercial trucks.

We held our first large meeting with members of the business community to hear their views as we begin to prepare in earnest for COP-6 in The Hague in November. Representatives from the oil, utility, forest products and auto sectors voiced specific concerns about a host of issues pertaining to the Kyoto Protocol.

The Kyoto Protocol

Next week in the Netherlands, our negotiators will attend the last Ministerial level meeting prior to COP-6. We intend to have frank discussions with the EU and with our "Umbrella Group" allies (including Canada, Japan and Australia) about our priorities and expectations for The Hague.

Legislative

Senator Roth's mark for the New Markets tax package contained not only our tax credit for hybrid autos (albeit reduced to one year), but also Administration tax credit priorities related to landfill methane-to-electricity projects and open-loop biomass energy production. We are working to include these provisions in any year-end tax vehicle.

Good.

Testifying before a joint hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations and Energy and Natural Resources Committees, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Frank Loy stressed the importance we attach to negotiating a Kyoto Protocol that is cost-effective in its approach to combating the effects of greenhouse gas accumulations in the atmosphere. Significantly, even those Majority members who have been climate change skeptics indicated acceptance that climate change is happening and that it requires a solution. However, few agreed that the Kyoto Protocol is the answer, and several cited the lack of developing country participation as a major stumbling block to Senate ratification.

Lands

Our success in adding guaranteed conservation funding in the Interior Appropriations Bill is being greeted with mixed reviews by those who have pushed for the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA). In addition to Members of Congress from the producing coastal states, others who think that the deal is inadequate are those who had hoped for a higher priority in the package for state fish and wildlife agencies and state-directed land acquisition. A significant bipartisan coalition will likely continue to push for passage of CARA in the remaining days of the session. On the other hand, many environmental and conservation groups have hailed the agreement as an historic achievement for the environment.

cc: The Vice President
John Podesta
Steve Ricchetti
Sandy Berger
Martin Baily
Chuck Brain
Charles Burson
George Frampton
Neal Lane
Robert Lawrence

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MICKEY IBARRA

SUBJECT: OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WEEKLY REPORT

GOVERNORS

CARA: State and local officials have been pushing hard for the Administration not to waiver in its support of the CARA legislation. After CARA's easy victory in the House last Spring, governors and mayors were hopeful that the bill would sail through the Senate as a free-standing measure. They are disappointed that we have seemingly backed down from our vocal support of CARA and would be willing to accept something less than the complete CARA bill. NGA sent a letter to Congress and the White House today opposing the current compromise, which in their view does not adequately guarantee funding for state and local conservation programs.

NGA: On Thursday, the NGA wrote to you outlining their highest priorities for the remainder of the Congressional session. Their priorities include increased funding for TANF, SSBG and S-CHIP. They also seek restoration of the fully authorized levels for TANF transferability (10%) and Special Education (IDEA) funding. The governors also strongly support the New Markets bill. As for the Patients' Bill of Rights, the governors have reiterated their strong opposition to proposals that would exempt associated health plans (AHPs), HealthMarts, and similar entities from state consumer protection. IGA is meeting with the NGA on October 2 to address their concerns.

S-CHIP reallocation: As Governor Davis mentioned last week, several of the 40 states that stand to lose their S-CHIP allocations for FY'98 & '99 are lobbying for our help in securing legislation that would allow them to keep some or all of that money. On the other hand, the 10 states that succeeded in spending their entire S-CHIP allotments have made it clear that they expect to receive the reallocated funds (7 of those 10 have Democratic governors). As you know, the House Commerce Committee recently reported out a bill that would provide only a partial redistribution. The Administration has remained neutral given the cross-cutting equities in this matter

LIHEAP: On Saturday, September 23, IGA notified every governor about your decision to release $400 million in LIHEAP funds. I spoke to eleven governors personally on Friday night. Governors from both parties were very grateful for this timely and important action.

FEMA: On September 26, IGA notified Governor Taft's office that you had approved his disaster declaration request for the severe storms that swept through Greene County, Ohio on September 20.

Governors Carnahan and Vilsack: Governor Carnahan's office called requesting our assistance for a 60-day review and comment period on a Draft Biological Opinion from the Army Corp regarding

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the Missouri River Navigation Project. The Corps agreed to grant a 10 day extension. The governors greatly appreciated our help on this matter.

U.S. HISPANIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

IGA will participate in the U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute's (USHLI) 18th annual conference in Chicago this week. This year's theme is: "Latinos in the New Millennium: Building on the Past to Provide Promise for the Future." Over 8,000 present and future leaders, representing over 500 cities in 40 states, are expected to attend various events throughout the four days. On September 30, former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros will be the luncheon keynote speaker to honor Hispanic elected officials. I will host a roundtable discussion with elected officials from around the country who are attending the conference.

INSULAR AREAS

Vieques: Governor Rosselló called to say that the Defense bill conferees decision, to transfer most Navy land to another federal agency, would not fulfill your Vieques agreement. If this decision is agreed to, he would consider the agreement broken and the police would no longer prevent Navy training opponents from entering the Vieques range. Meanwhile, House Resources Committee Chairman Don Young and Representative Rick Lazio opposed the proposed change.

Puerto Rico Investment Incentive: The Senate Finance Committee agreed to increase the tax credit caps that companies can take for wages and other spending in Puerto Rico. However, Chairman Roth refused to open the credit to new investments or extend it from 2005 through 2008 as you and Senator Moynihan have advocated.

IN THE NEWS

San Francisco/Oakland Bay Bridge: On September 21, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a report finding that the Eastern span of the Bay Bridge should be entirely replaced to meet seismic standards. The Corps found that replacement, as favored by Governor Davis and the State, was a safer and more cost-effective alternative to an attempted retrofit of the existing span, which Mayor Willie Brown had advocated. Although Mayor Brown had no comment on this finding, he is expected to review his protest to the bridge replacement once the Navy and Federal DOT begin the process of permitting for the new span.

Corporation for National Service: Led by Governor Racicot of Montana, forty-nine governors sent a letter to Congress urging the passage of the National and Community Service Amendment Act. (Governor Owens was the only holdout.) The governors emphasized the value of national service programs. Passage of H.R. 4740 in the House would reauthorize and extend AmeriCorps and other national service programs for the next five years.

California Internet Sales Tax: On September 25, Governor Gray Davis vetoed a bill that would have forced Internet retailers to charge sales tax. The Governor indicated his view that adding a sales tax now would not allow for the full potential of the Internet to mature. Governor Davis signed a bill creating a commission to study the issues of sales tax and the Internet. He feels the issue should be revisited in three to five years.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 2000

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. T.M.
KRIS M. BALDERSTON

SUBJECT: Summary of Cabinet Weekly Reports
September 23 – 29, 2000

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

- **Pennsylvania Avenue:** On September 27, Secretary Summers met with Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton and representatives of the Federal City Council (FCC) regarding an FCC proposal, which is supported by a Rand Corporation study, to reopen Pennsylvania Avenue. After a briefing by the FCC representatives on the proposal, Secretary Summers made clear that he is committed to evaluating the proposal. However, he noted that, over time, many of its recommendations have received extensive consideration and were found insufficient to ensure the security of the White House Complex and its occupants and visitors. On September 28, Deputy Secretary Eizenstat and Secret Service Director Stafford met with Senator Moynihan, a member of the FCC. The Secret Service will provide Senator Moynihan with a classified briefing, which sets forth the factual underpinnings of the decision to close Pennsylvania Avenue. Classified briefings will also be offered to former Senator Dole, president of the FCC, and Delegate Norton.

- **Money Laundering:** On October 4-6, Treasury will lead the U.S. delegation at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary in Madrid. Among the principal topics to be considered will be continuation of the work on non-cooperative countries and territories (NCCT), consideration of revising the FATF's 40 anti-money laundering recommendations, and collaboration with international financial institutions in the fight against money laundering. On October 16-20, Treasury's Financial Crime and Enforcement Network (FinCEN) will host a money laundering conference focusing on money laundering issues in Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and other African countries. FinCEN's goals include the creation of financial intelligence units and the integration of African countries into international anti-money laundering fora.

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- **HIPC:** On September 24 and 25, at the Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank in Prague, the G-7 and the international financial community took stock of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt relief initiative. Ten countries have received debt relief thus far under the Initiative, and as many as ten more countries are expected to begin receiving debt relief by the end of the year. It was noted that for debt relief to be effective, the implementation of successful economic and social reform is imperative. Most countries reiterated the importance, mainly aimed at the U.S., of fully financing the HIPC initiative. Without a significant U.S. contribution, it is likely that the HIPC initiative will come to a halt late this year or early next year.

Department of Justice

- **FL Hate Crime Sentencing:** On September 15, Lawrence Lombardi was sentenced to life in prison following his June conviction on multiple felony counts stemming from bombings on the campus of Florida A&M University, a predominantly black public university. On two occasions Lombardi detonated pipe bombs at the university. After each bombing, violent racist telephone calls were made to a local television news station attacking the right of black students to attend the University.

- **Elian Gonzalez, Ruby Ridge Hearings:** Senator Specter's DOJ Oversight Task Force has scheduled a hearing for October 3 tentatively entitled, Lessons Learned from Crisis Situations. The two case examples the task force wants to examine are DOJ's actions in the Elian Gonzalez and Ruby Ridge cases. Senator Specter's staff has not yet indicated who will be asked to testify.

- **Illegal Alien Smuggling:** On September 20, a Manhattan immigration lawyer and five other defendants were charged with participating in a racketeering enterprise that aided alien smugglers in bringing illegal Chinese aliens into the U.S., typically by filing fraudulent applications for political asylum. The government is seeking forfeiture of $13.5M, the alleged illicit proceeds of the law firm's criminal activities. The Chinese aliens, who could not otherwise lawfully enter the country, paid the smugglers approximately $50,000 in return for passage.

Department of the Interior

- **NPS Establishment Claim Suit:** The ACLU has threatened to sue NPS for allowing a five-foot-tall cross to remain on a visible location on a hilltop in Mojave National Preserve, near San Bernardino, CA. The ACLU complains that the permanent placement of the cross on Federal property (put in place by the VFW before the land was part of the National Park System) is a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. Members of the local community participate in religious observances, including Easter sunrise services, at the site, and will contest any NPS decision to remove it.

- **National Conservation Area/Monument Legislation:** Several bills in Congress would create national monuments or national conservation areas in AZ, CA, CO, NV, OR, and UT, most of which have Administration support. Closest to fruition are bills to create Colorado Canyons conservation areas in CO, passed by the House and reported out of the Forests and Public Land Management subcommittee in the Senate; Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountain monument in CA, passed by the House and set for markup in the Senate subcommittee on October 4; Las Cienegas conservation areas in AZ, reported out of the House Resources Committee and for which DOI recently testified in a Senate subcommittee hearing; and Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area in OR, which has been reported out of committee in the House.

- **West Nile Virus (WNV):** USGS has expressed concern that the WNV outbreak area may spread along Atlantic and Gulf coast states as millions of migratory birds move south this fall and winter. Not only have more wild bird species tested positive for the virus this year, but the outbreak is much more geographically widespread than last year. WNV has been isolated from 48 species of birds, including 42 free-ranging species. In addition to birds, three bat species have tested positive for the virus in the New York City area. Should the virus move southward to states where mosquitos are active all year, it could dramatically change the impact of the virus. The current outbreak area is about 500 miles wide, extending from NY's Canadian border to southern NJ. MD officials recently reported their first cases of the year from birds found in Howard and Baltimore counties.

- **Dam Removal Event:** On October 6, Secretary Babbitt will participate in an event to initiate the removal of Northern CA's Saeltzer Dam, owned and previously operated by the Townsend Flat Water Ditch Company. Saeltzer Dam's removal is part of an important project to improve fish passage in the middle reach of Clear Creek and protect in-stream flows, while maintaining water supplies. The completed project will allow spring-run salmon and steelhead access to valuable spawning and nursery habitat in Clear Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento River.

- **Mercury in Northern CA Fish:** A USGS report documents elevated levels of mercury in bass and catfish in the Bear and South Yuba River watersheds in the Sierra Nevada of northern CA. Elemental mercury or quicksilver was used in these rivers by gold miners in the 1800s. The USGS report contains data from 141 fish samples collected in September and October 1999 from reservoirs and streams in Nevada, Placer, and Yuba Counties.

- **New Grand Canyon Plaza:** On October 26, NPS will open Canyon View Information Plaza, a new transportation/orientation hub representing the first major commitment to the future of Grand Canyon National Park. The facility will serve as the in-park connection to other points in the park with the completion of a mass transit system in early 2004.

- **Snowmobiles in Parks:** Publication in the *Federal Register* of a proposed rule governing snowmobile use in parks (a general regulation for all parks without specific rules) is expected in late October. Forty-three NPS units currently allow some snowmobile use.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- **Wildfires:** As of September 24, new fires continue to start with most occurring in the southern tier of the U.S. Fourteen fires are currently reported, covering over 1,000 acres. Changes in the weather have greatly diminished the size of most fires, but there is increased fire danger in southwest OR, and northern/central CA as temperatures climb above 100 degrees later this week. The El Dorado fire is burning on state and private lands near Boulder, CO. Approximately 175 homes have been evacuated in the area. Airtankers assisted fire crews with burnout operations to stop the fire and protect the communities; the fire has been contained.

- **Emergency Farm Payments:** On September 26, Secretary Glickman announced that USDA has dispensed $5.5B in supplemental income payments to almost 1.4 million eligible farmers. USDA began issuing payments on September 1, the first day authorized, and more than 97 percent of the payments were issued within the first two weeks. The balance of the payments will be made by September 30. In his statement, Glickman also reminded farmers that they should soon decide whether to receive their 2001 payments all at once, or in two equal payments during the fiscal year.

- **Anthrax Detected in MN:** On September 14, seven cases of anthrax were confirmed in cattle in five MN counties. One of the affected animals had been butchered for human consumption. Six people were considered at high risk after ingesting the meat and were given vaccine and preventative treatments. Animal anthrax had never been reported from the northern third of the state where this outbreak took place, with records going back to 1909.

- **Commodity Markets:** Improved planting conditions and weak exports sent wheat prices slightly lower for the week. Corn and cash prices fell last week from increases in freight costs, but futures rallied on news of lower-than-expected yields in harvested areas and reports that China's crop could fall short of expectations. Soybean cash prices followed corn down, but futures surged on solid new-crop export sales. Rice cash prices moved higher on a pickup in mill demand and slow farmer selling, even as futures dropped with harvest pressure. Rising boxed beef prices helped boost cattle. Harvest distractions and improving cutout prices lifted hogs. Weakening food service demand sent broilers lower. Cheese prices were unchanged. Tightening milk supplies in the East and Midwest helped send up butter prices.

- ***Salmonella* Reduction:** On September 20, Secretary Glickman testified before the Senate Agriculture Committee on food safety and how microbial contamination is addressed. Secretary Glickman reported that there are continued *Salmonella* reductions in raw meat and poultry products under the Hazard Analysis and Critical Points system, (HACCP). The new data covering large and small meat and poultry plants ending June 30 indicates that 88 percent of large and small plants met the HACCP performance standards.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- **Digital Divide Events:** On September 28, Secretary Mineta announced the rollout of 35 grants under DOC's Technology Opportunities Program. The event was held at Washington, DC's Maya Angelou Charter School, which is home to the See Forever Foundation, one of the organizations slated to receive awards totaling $16.9M this year. DOC's National Telecommunications and Information Administration received 662 grant applications as part of its FY2000 grant competition.

- **Global Business Dialogue on E-Commerce (GBDe):** On September 26, Secretary Mineta delivered a keynote address on Internet privacy, cyber security, and digital inclusion at the GBDe conference in Miami, FL. Mineta also held bilateral meetings with several other Ministers on key e-commerce issues.

- **Digital Inclusion Tour:** During the week of October 16, Secretary Mineta is scheduled to make several stops on his Digital Inclusion Tour. On October 17, he will participate in an event with San Jose's mayor focusing on the need to train young Silicon Valley residents from under-served communities to perform high-tech jobs that would otherwise go to foreign workers. On October 18, Mineta will be a panelist at the Creating Digital Dividends: Applying Digital Technology for Sustainable Development conference in Seattle, WA. Mineta will be in San Francisco and Oakland, CA, on October 19. While in San Francisco, he will visit the San Francisco library's computer center, which is serving as a model for providing access to individuals with disabilities. He will also visit a SeniorNet Center that caters to elderly, low-income Asian immigrants. In Oakland, he will visit a center that is training East Oakland residents to gain the knowledge and skills to be competitive in the high-tech job market. The Secretary will conclude his tour in NM on October 20 where he will meet with several tribal leaders to discuss telecommunication infrastructure issues and needs.

- **Sanctions Against Cuba:** On September 19-20, a representative from DOC's Bureau of Export Administration attended hearings on the Economic Impact of U.S. Sanctions with Respect to Cuba. Thirty-five witnesses representing business interests, economists, non-governmental organizations and the Cuban-American community testified. The major themes voiced at the hearing include: that lifting the embargo would allow American

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companies to participate in the Cuban market, that major U.S. investment in the non-market Cuban economy would not prove successful, that U.S. subsidies would be needed as a part of any serious attempt to trade with Cuba, and that the politics of the U.S.-Cuba bilateral relationship heavily impact questions surrounding the embargo.

- **Sale of Aircraft to Iran:** The Bureau of Export Administration is responding to questions regarding the possibility of Cyprus Air selling its Airbus A310 aircraft with U.S.-origin engines to Iran. Cyprus Air wants to do this to raise cash for the purchase of new Airbus or Boeing aircraft. BXA is drafting a response to a cable received from the U.S. Embassy in Cyprus and to questions submitted by the attorneys for Cyprus Air. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control has jurisdiction to issue any licenses required, but BXA provides Treasury and State the technical review of the regulations relating to the re-export of foreign aircraft incorporating U.S. origin controlled parts, components, software, and technology. A Presidential waiver may be necessary to complete the proposed sale.

cc Sandy
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- **Export Administration Legislation:** On September 21, the House International Relations Committee approved a bill to re-authorize certain critical provisions of the Export Administration Act for one year. The legislation would increase penalties for export violations while reaffirming the existing confidentiality provision. The full House approved the bill on September 25.

- **"Falling through the Net" Report:** DOC's National Telecommunications and Information Administration is working with DOC's Economics and Statistics Administration on the next report in the series of "Falling through the Net" reports that document the digital divide. The report is scheduled to be released this Fall. You released the third report with Secretary Daley in July 1999.

- **Electronic Book Conference:** On September 25-27, DOC's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) sponsored the third annual conference to discuss the latest trends, technologies, and standards for electronic books. NIST will unveil the second-generation Braille reader developed by NIST researchers and students.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- **CPI Revision:** DOL's Bureau of Labor Statistics held a news briefing on September 28 to discuss revisions in the Consumer Price Index data for the January-August 2000 period. The revisions to the CPI correct an error recently discovered in the software used to calculate its residential rent and owner's equivalent rent components.

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- **Bath Iron Works Strike:** In the strike against the Bath Iron Works, the company has fired seven workers for misconduct and police have responded to more than 100 complaints since the strike began on August 28. About 4,800 skilled trades people, who build ships for the Navy, rejected the company's last offer on September 3, which proposed a wage increase of about 11.5 percent over a three-year term. Negotiations are expected to continue next week.

- **Bridgestone/Firestone Labor Agreements:** More than 8,000 union members have ratified agreements with the troubled Bridgestone/Firestone in secret balloting over the past two weeks. Highlights of the new master agreement include a possible wage increase of $2.30 an hour over a three-year term, pension increases of about $50 per month per year of service, and a nearly 700-percent increase in a retirement benefits package.

- **New H-1C Program:** DOL's Division of Foreign Labor Certification reports that on September 21, the new H-1C program for nurses became effective. The Workforce Security website for Foreign Labor Certification now contains a new reference to this program, which provides a brief synopsis of the program. Individuals can now download copies of the form, instructions, and regulations.

- **H-1B Grants:** The third round of Competitive H-1B and Minority College and Universities Grant Winners will be announced October 24. The $23M grant competition closed on September 19.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities:** On October 6, the Inaugural Meeting of the Steering Committee to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health will be held at the White House. The purpose of the meeting is to issue a "Call to the Nation to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health," and to establish a national, broad-based coalition to develop and implement a national strategy to eliminate these disparities.

- **Graduate Medical Education:** On October 4, HHS's Health Resources and Services Administration expects to announce $40M in payments to children's teaching hospitals.

- **Rift Valley Fever Outbreak:** The CDC continues to work with Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Health as the reported number of suspected cases of Rift Valley Fever (RVF) hemorrhagic disease continues to increase. As of September 23, 129 cases and 27 deaths have been reported from four southern regions. In addition, officials from Yemen's Ministry of Health have reported 103 cases and 28 deaths. On September 25, CDC received a formal letter of request from Saudi Arabia for assistance in prevention, epidemiology and surveillance, and laboratory diagnosis of RVF; a CDC team departed for Saudi Arabia on September 26. CDC is working with the National Institute of Virology in Johannesburg, South Africa, and U.S. Naval Medical Research Unit No. 3 in Cairo, Egypt, to coordinate assistance to Saudi Arabia and Yemen. CDC has also been working with Saudi Arabia to facilitate the therapeutic use of the drug Ribavirin and with the Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases and Saudi Arabia to facilitate the use of a vaccine for high-risk individuals in Saudi Arabia. CDC has issued a travel advisory for Saudi Arabia and Yemen, which provides updated information on the RVF outbreak as well as preventive measures for those traveling to the affected area.

- **State Planning Grants:** On September 22, HHS announced that eleven states have received one-year Federal grants totaling $13.6M to develop plans for providing their uninsured citizens access to affordable health insurance. Under the new State Planning Grants program, administered by HHS's Health Resources and Services Administration, grantees from state agencies first will conduct studies to better identify the characteristics of uninsured citizens. The grantees -- AR, DE, IL, IA, KS, MA, MN, NH, OR, VT, and WI -- will then use that data to determine the most effective methods to provide high-quality, affordable health insurance similar to plans that cover government employees or other benchmark plans.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **Healthy Hospitals Plan:** Secretary Cuomo unveiled two initiatives at a conference of hospital executives in NY that will provide hospitals more than $1B in savings and new working capital over the next five years. The HUD Healthy Hospitals Plan will permit hospitals throughout the country to realize significant savings of more than $850M over the next five years through HUD-insured mortgage refinancings. It will allow hospitals already insured by HUD to reduce excess mortgage reserves, estimated at about $165M.

- **Gun Buyback in Flagstaff, AZ:** The Flagstaff Housing Authority will reprogram $3,500 of its FY1999 Public and Indian Housing Drug Elimination Program grant funding and will receive $1,505 in matching funds from HUD for a total of $5,005 for its Gun BuyBack Initiative. The Housing Authority anticipates removing approximately 100 guns off the street at a cost of $50 each. To increase public awareness of firearm safety and other areas that are crucial to public safety, members of local TV, radio and newspaper media have already pledged their support to publicize this program.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- **Firestone Steeltex Tires:** On September 29, NHTSA opened an investigation into an alleged defect involving a Firestone tire, named Steeltex. NHTSA initiated this action following consumer complaints over the past two months from 160-plus consumers, involving nearly 275 incidents of tread separation, blow out or other major failures. There were twelve reported injuries and two reported fatalities from these tires found mainly on blazers, pick-ups, and large trucks. This investigation is unrelated to the Firestone tire investigation opened on May 2, but will garner media attention based on recent events.

- **Los Angeles Transit Strike:** On September 26, negotiations collapsed. The strike began on September 16, hours after drivers abruptly walked out of negotiations in a similar fashion. No new talks have been scheduled to date. Another problem is legislation awaiting Governor Davis's signature that would allow the creation of separate transit districts in the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. Davis has until September 30 to act on the bill. The measure, which is ardently opposed by San Fernando Valley business interests, would require any breakaway transit district to honor existing Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) labor contracts. Union members plan to stage a rally at City Hall on September 29 to urge the mayor and county supervisors to pressure the MTA board. The MTA "lifeline" service is still not operating, but other county operations, Los Angeles DOT commuter buses, Metrolink, and other transit services are operating.

- **EEZ Violation in Bering Sea:** On September 21, the Coast Guard observed the Russian fishing vessel Gemini fishing 2,000 yards inside the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The Coast Guard is working with Russia to determine jurisdiction and further handling of the case. While standing by the Gemini, the Coast Guard cutter Jarvis observed a South Korean vessel Orchid also fishing in the EEZ. The vessel fled into Russian waters. A Russian Border Patrol vessel arrived on scene and boarded the vessel. The Jarvis also boarded the vessel and seized it for fishing illegally in the EEZ. Russia agreed to assess penalties against the master and owner of the Orchid, in lieu of seizing it. The Coast Guard is escorting the vessel to Dutch Harbor for further processing.

- **Open Container Programs:** The TEA-21 Restoration Act, enacted in July 1998, established two new transfer programs to encourage states to enact open container laws and repeat intoxicated driver laws. Any state that does not enact and enforce an open container and a repeat intoxicated driver law is subject to a transfer of Federal highway funds. As a result of not enacting both laws, 32 states and Puerto Rico will have approximately $300M transferred on October 1 from Federal to state highway safety programs. The transferred funds must be used for alcohol-impaired driving programs, enforcement of laws prohibiting driving while intoxicated, or activities designed to eliminate highway hazards.

- **Partnerships with Minority Universities:** During the week of September 25, Secretary Slater will announce 15 Federal Highway Administration cooperative agreements with Minority Institutions of Higher Education for transportation research and technology

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activities valued at more than $1.2M. These cooperative agreements will lead to improved highway safety and help protect the environment and underscore the Administration's commitment to education and the application of technology to transportation. The agreements, made through DOT's Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) new competitive assistance program, are part of an ongoing commitment to educational and minority outreach. The agreements matched the expertise and capabilities of ten Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions with FHWA's specific research needs.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

- **Commercial Building Roadmap:** On October 3-4, DOE will announce the completion of the Commercial Building Roadmap, which will help chart the course of the U.S. commercial building industry for the next 20 years. The Roadmap, an industry-led initiative facilitated by DOE, provides strategies for achieving the industry vision of successful public-private partnerships that will result in highly adaptable and sustainable commercial buildings.

- **Energy Efficiency Standards:** Next week, Secretary Richardson will announce the proposed energy efficiency standards for residential central air conditioners and heat pumps. By 2020, the standards are expected to save enough energy to negate the need for four new power plants.

- **Gasoline Prices Down, Stocks Up:** Gasoline spot and futures prices dropped sharply on September 25 largely due to a rapid decline in crude oil prices before and after the DOE's announcement of a 30-million-barrel crude oil release from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The swap will add crude oil to U.S. markets in October and November, for repayment at a later date, and is expected to help relieve concerns over heating oil supplies this winter. The U.S. average retail price for regular gasoline fell for the first time since mid-August, dropping 1.4 cents to 154.8 cents per gallon as of September 25. The average stands 28.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. Price changes were mixed across regions and formulations, with significant decreases in the Midwest. Total motor gasoline stocks rose 3.0 million barrels on September 22 to 190.6 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline increased 2.4 million barrels to 39.7 million barrels as stocks of other finished gasoline were up 1.1 million barrels to 108.5 million barrels.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- **Student Loan Default Rates:** DOEd is working with the White House on the release of school-by-school default rates, which are down and at the lowest rate ever.

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- **Student Loan Repayment Symposium:** On October 2-4, DOEd will convene a symposium to solicit innovative recommendations and strategies for improving the future management of the student loan programs. Intended to bring together the best minds of the Higher Education Community, the symposium will include invited participants and speakers from schools, lenders, guaranty agencies, servicers, secondary markets, and Higher Education Community associations.

- **National College Week:** DOEd has sent letters to college presidents, chancellors, administrators, and students encouraging them to go out into the community to talk to middle and high school students about the importance of a college on October 16-23. In 1999, over five hundred colleges and universities participated.

- **Charter Schools Report:** DOEd will soon release the report, *Charter Schools and Student Achievement*, which provides case studies of 32 charter schools with particular emphasis on student achievement.

- **Public Charter School Program Report:** DOEd will soon release the report, *Year One Report of the Public Charter School Program Evaluation*, which explores the Public Charter School Program, charter school flexibility, and charter school accountability.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- **VA Medical Center Chosen for Research Program:** VA's San Francisco, CA, Medical Center was chosen to host a core laboratory for a major $50M research program that was launched this month to begin the task of mapping the thousands of interactions that cells use in responding to their environment. The San Francisco center is one of five core research laboratories that will collaborate on the project. This project marks the first coordinated effort to describe the hundreds of pathways used by cells to convert a message from outside the cell into an appropriate response. This knowledge is essential to the more efficient development of new drug treatments. The National Institute for General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) plans to provide $25M over five years for the Alliance. Biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies will contribute an equal amount. Unlike most research projects, scientists in the Alliance will publish their data on the Internet immediately after the data have been analyzed, instead of waiting to publish peer-reviewed papers.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- **Mercury Emission Regulation:** In the coming weeks, EPA plans to issue a regulatory determination on whether to proceed with the development of regulations to control and reduce emissions of mercury and other hazardous air pollutants from electric power plants. EPA is required to make this determination by December 15.

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- **Brownfields Showcase Community:** An interagency group is preparing to announce twelve new Brownfields Showcase Communities on October 11, at the Brownfields 2000 Conference in Atlantic City, NJ. The interagency group, coordinated by EPA, includes more than 20 Federal agencies involved in community revitalization. The Showcase Communities receive targeted financial, technical, and staff support for their efforts to cleanup and reuse brownfields. The twelve communities are geographically diverse and include big cities, rural areas, base closure communities, and Indian Tribes. More than half are in Federal Empowerment Zones or Enterprise Communities. Each new Showcase will receive $200,000 for brownfields assessment and $200,000 to support a Federal staff person loaned to the community for two years, for a total initial commitment of $4.8M.

- **TX Air Quality Plan:** On September 25, EPA submitted written comments on the TX Natural Resource Conservation Commission's proposed plan for attaining the smog standard for the Houston-Galveston area. Houston-Galveston is one of four metropolitan regions in TX that do not meet the EPA ozone smog standard. The TX Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) and others are developing extensive plans for these areas to control smog emissions. The proposed plan for the Houston-Galveston area may not go far enough to attain EPA's ozone standard. EPA's comments propose exploring the potential for achieving additional reductions to improve air quality.

Office of National Drug Control Policy

- **Community Anti-Drug Coalitions:** On September 27, the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign launched a major national initiative to promote Community Anti-Drug Coalitions. Messages are being distributed by over 15,000 media outlets for pro bono placement and support. A Community Anti-Drug Tool Kit has been distributed to thousands of community coalitions and organizations to help them capitalize on this increased visibility.

Small Business Administration

- **Contract Bundling Study:** On September 21, the House unanimously voted to study contract bundling, a process by which Federal agencies combine and streamline lucrative government contracts. The process has been criticized for elbowing out small businesses. Legislation sponsored by Representative Talent, Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, will require Federal agencies to prove that bundled contracts save taxpayers money. The legislation would allow SBA to begin to gather data about the financial impact of contract bundling and the effect it has on small companies trying to compete for a share of government contacting dollars. Talent and Ranking Minority Member Nydia Velazquez have stated they will likely seek more legislation barring or prohibiting contract bundling depending on the outcome of the study.

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

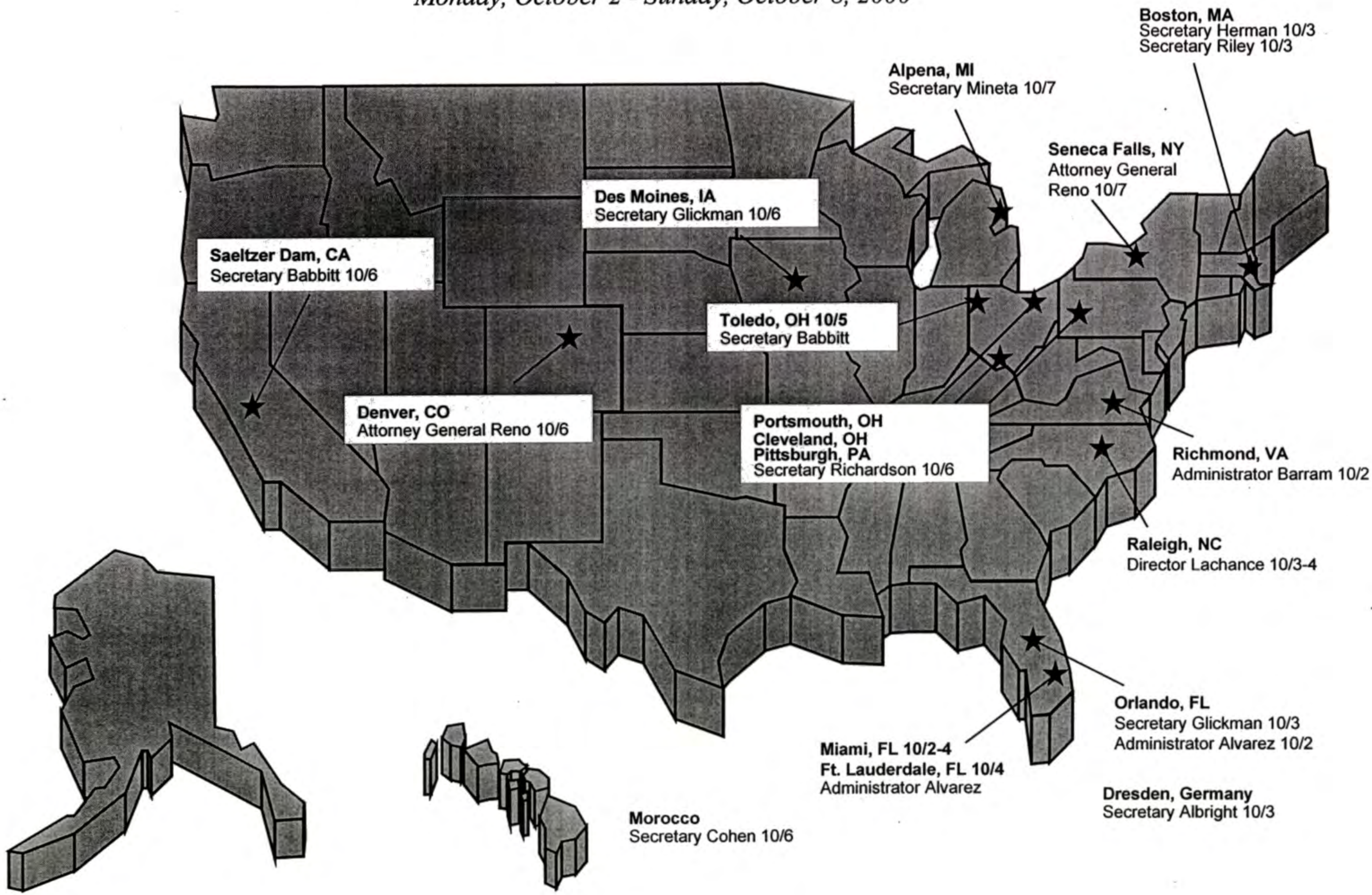
- **Federal Overtime Pay Legislation:** On September 22, Director Lachance sent to Congress the Federal Employees' Overtime Pay Limitation Amendments Act of 2000. This legislation is intended to help address the challenges posed in responding to emergencies and disasters such as the western wildfires. The legislative proposal recognizes the special demands and difficult circumstances involving emergencies that threaten life or property by increasing the hourly overtime pay rate limitation for Fair Labor Standards Act-exempt employees who perform emergency overtime duties.

JR
can we pass this quickly (R)

cc:
The Vice President
John Podesta
Martin Baily
Sandy Berger
Sidney Blumenthal
Chuck Brain
Charles Burson
Mary Beth Cahill
Maria Echaveste
George Frampton
Mickey Ibarra
Ben Johnson
Joel Johnson
Janis Kearney
Neal Lane
Jack Lew
Lisel Loy
Buddy MacKay
Minyon Moore
Bruce Reed
Steve Ricchetti
Jake Siewert
Gene Sperling
Lauren Supina
Loretta Ucelli
Melanne Verveer

Cabinet Affairs Travel

Monday, October 2 - Sunday, October 8, 2000



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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

September 29, 2000

TO: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LORETTA UCELLI
STEPHANIE CUTTER

RE: Communications Weekly Report

Overview

This week, we pushed out the message that you continue to lead the nation on issues important to the American people. Through events and other message vehicles, we conveyed your leadership and commitment to preserving precious American lands; protecting women from domestic violence; expanding access to health care for more Americans; and improving education for America's children. As Congress heads toward recess, next week we will continue to use message opportunities to urge Congress to keep the nation on a path of prosperity by passing a budget that invests in our nation's priorities, strengthens Social Security and Medicare, and continues to pay down the debt.

Education

On Monday, at a White House event, you will announce the historic drop in the student loan default rate from 22.4% in 1993 to a record low of 6.9% – saving American taxpayers billions of dollars over the last 7 years. This event will give you the opportunity to highlight your commitment to expanding college opportunity for Americans and urge Congress to fund your FY2001 budget proposals on education – underscoring the need to modernize our nation's schools, reduce class sizes, provide after school programs for our youth, and improve teacher quality.

Debt Relief

On Monday, you will meet with a broad coalition of supporters of your debt relief budget proposals, including key religious leaders and bipartisan Members of Congress, to discuss the moral and economic importance of providing debt relief to impoverished nations around the world. In your remarks, you will urge Congress to fully fund and authorize your FY2001 budget proposal for $435 million to relieve the burden of debt on the world's poorest countries – thereby promoting economic development, reducing poverty, and improving health conditions. This event will demonstrate your commitment to promoting prosperity around the world and broadening participation in the benefits of the global economy.

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Farmers' Market Event

On Wednesday, at a farmers market in Jacksonville, Florida, you will announce new executive actions to alleviate domestic hunger by improving nutrition among America's seniors and working families. We are working with DPC on various deliverables, including new coupons for approximately 500,000 seniors to exchange for fresh produce at farmers markets, roadside stands, and community supported farms; pilot projects to combine SSI and food stamp applications to reduce hunger among seniors, and other federal efforts to strengthen the nutrition safety net. You will call on Congress to help working families and seniors in America by enacting your food stamp budget initiatives and other priorities.

China PNTR

On Thursday, in an event at the White House, you will sign historic legislation granting China Permanent Normal Trade Relations. Through your remarks, you will convey the extraordinary significance that granting Permanent Normal Trade Relations to China will have on the future of our nation and around the world.

Woodrow Wilson Center Event

On Thursday, at an event at the Princeton University Woodrow Wilson Center commemorating progressive presidencies, you will give remarks on the role of progressive governance in American history, focusing in part on Roosevelt's and Wilson's presidencies and specifically discussing the value of progressive policies in American history in empowering individuals, defending the public interest over private interest, and ensuring active leadership in the world. In demonstrating your leadership in promoting progressive policies, you will discuss the impact of progressive governance in improving the lives of millions of Americans over the last 8 years.

Make sure From, Sid to have input

Budget and Congressional Activity

On Friday, we are holding time for a statement to play into congressional activity on budget and other priority issues. We are also working with the Chief of Staff's Office, OMB, the Press Office and others to ensure that our budget message is incorporated in all communications, including events, fact sheets, talking points and other message materials – underscoring the importance of Congress passing your budget proposals and investing in America's priorities. We are also working with the policy offices to push out different daily budget messages, ensuring steady pressure on Congress to fund your FY2001 budget and provide for the public interest, rather than the special interests.

Radio Address

Next Saturday, October 7, the *1st WebMD Rock N Race To Fight Colon Cancer March* – a daylong festival to generate awareness and raise funds for colorectal cancer research – will take place on the National Mall. Thousands of supporters, including Katie Couric, Rosie O'Donnell, Dennis Franz, and Lilly Tartikoff, are expected to join together to demonstrate their support for the fight against colon cancer. We are working with the DPC on new deliverables to potentially announce in your Saturday Radio Address on increasing colon cancer screenings and other cancer prevention measures, demonstrating your commitment to expanding awareness on this important issue.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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September 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: JOHN PODESTA

FROM: LYNN CUTLER

CC: MARIA ECHAVESTE

SUBJECT: WEEKLY REPORT

FCC INDIAN TELECOM TRAINING INITIATIVE 2000

- As you noted last week, it is clear that the telecom world is the future for economic development on the reservations. This week, I participated in the first two days of a four-day conference sponsored by the Federal Communications Commission. Under Chairman Kennard's leadership, the Commission held a training conference with 100 tribes and over fifty companies on how to get telecommunications opportunities onto the reservations. It was incredibly exciting and historic.

- Lucent Technologies is working with several tribes, notably the Gila River, and is helping to set up telephone service to everyone on the reservation. There is money from the Rural Utilities Service at the Department of Agriculture helping to make it work. Both were partners in the conference, along with BIA, Department of Commerce, and many other companies and foundations.

- There were dozens of examples of firms reaching out to Indian country to help close the gap in telephone service--you will recall that only 40-50% of Native American homes have telephone service (30% at Navajo)--the worst for any group in America. The conference helped the tribes to learn about ways to obtain digital and satellite infrastructure so that they can have phone, internet access and be able to work with companies to set up call centers, data processing operations, and other forms of economic development. There are a growing number of native-owned companies that are partnering with the large companies. I heard talk of "mentoring" and met people with unbelievable commitment to Indian country. Like many of us, once they know the problems and the opportunities, they are hooked.

- A great example is the TAMSCO company. Working through GSA Region X, they provide satellite connectivity to Native American schools. They have just completed access for 54

should at least finance all of those which could be "linked" to neighbors, a la Grameen Bank or analogous networks

Indian schools, including the Havasupai, located at the bottom of the Grand Canyon!! The lead man for them had tears in his eyes as he described the reaction of the children as they first hooked up to the rest of the world. (By the way, GSA was fabulous in their part of this conference. They provided scholarship money for tribes to attend, so that many of our poorest tribes were able to come to St. Paul).

- TAMSCO also just provided ongoing satellite access for the school of the 13 year old Navajo girl who had won the computer at Shiprock. Now she can use her prize.

- They were setting up a working group to follow-up on the conference and develop an action plan. I told them they could have future meetings here at the White House and we would help to bring these connections forward.

- The E-Rate has been a critically important piece of all of this as well. I could really see where all of your and the VP's initiatives are working. New Markets helped sell the business community on their responsibilities. Our government programs have been partners, and the incredible work that the FCC has undertaken because of your Executive Orders are all making a difference.

- I introduced the video that you did for the conference and brought your wishes that all of this bring good things. You will love knowing that the tribes now refer to you as "Grandfather Clinton". As you know, that is the highest honor.

NECA
NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION

Telecom Conference Alert
Indian Telecom Training Initiative 2000
(ITTI 2000)

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in cooperation with the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) presents Indian Telecom Training Initiative 2000. ITTI 2000 is a comprehensive telecommunications conference to help tribal leadership increase telecommunications services for Indian Country.

WHEN: September 25-28, 2000

WHERE: The Radisson Hotel Saint Paul, St. Paul, Minnesota

WHY: There is currently a telecommunications divide that exists between areas within Indian Country and the rest of the United States. Service rates on tribal lands are extremely low. The FCC is conducting this conference, in addition to two rulemaking initiatives, to bridge this telecommunications divide for tribal residents.

The Federal Communications Commission offers ITTI 2000 to provide Tribal Government Leaders with information to increase their options for finding telecommunications service solutions and to make decisions about telecommunications services for their tribal residents.

ITTI 2000 brings together FCC experts and tribal representatives along with experts from other federal government agencies, telecommunications companies, and emerging technology firms to inform tribal governments about various facets of telecommunications services and how different technologies, regulatory rules, and government programs can be used to benefit tribal communities.

ITTI 2000 will also identify various programs and resources available to tribal residents and governments to assist their efforts to secure access to and improve the affordability of telecommunications services on tribal reservations.

ITTI 2000 will discuss:

- Potential business plans, marketing campaigns, and tribal empowerment strategies
- The tribal experience in implementing wireline and wireless telecom services
- The feasibility of joint venturing with current service providers
- Infrastructure purchases and accounting strategies
- How to obtain the lowest cost debt and equity financing
- FCC spectrum auctions
- Network configuration
- Construction and maintenance of towers
- Partitioning and disaggregation of spectrum

For more information on the seminar please call (888) CALL FCC (888) 225-5322, and select option 2 after the recorded message; (717) 338-2888; or, email the FCC at ITTI2000@fcc.gov, or visit the FCC Indian Initiatives website at: www.fcc.gov/indians.

Native American Schools - Satellite Service

The schools listed below are receiving satellite based Internet connectivity from the TAMSCO team. TAMSCO - Tachyon and Dakota 2000 are proud to be the providers of their part in providing access to the Internet to more than 10,000 Native American students locate in remote areas.

School Name	State
Black Mesa Community School	AZ
Cibecue Community School	AZ
Cove Day School	AZ
Dennehotso Boarding School	AZ
Havasupai School	AZ
Hopi Day School	AZ
Hopi High School	AZ
Hotevilla Bacavi Community School	AZ
Hunters Point Boarding School	AZ
John F. Kennedy Day School	AZ
Keams Canyon Boarding School	AZ
Kin Dah Lichi'I Olta School (Kinlichee)	AZ
Moencopi Day School	AZ
Naa tsis' aan (Navajo Mountain)	AZ
Nazlini Boarding School	AZ
Pine Springs Boarding School	AZ
Red Rock Day School	AZ
Seba Delkai Boarding School	AZ
Second Mesa Day School	AZ
Tonalea (Red Lake) Day School	AZ
Wide Ruins Community School	AZ

Coeur d'Alene Tribal School	ID
Behweting Saulte Ojibwa School	MI
Circle of Life Survival School	MN
Dunseith Day School	ND
Tate Topa Tribal School	ND
Atsa Biyaazh Community School	NM
Beclabito Day School	NM
Bread Springs Day School	NM
Crystal Boarding School	NM
Dibe Yazhi Habitiin Otta (Borrego Pass)	NM
Dlo'Ay Azhi School (Thoreau)	NM
Dzilth-na-o-dith-hle School (Blanco)	NM
Hanaa'dli School (Huerfano)	NM
Lake Valley Navajo School	NM
Mariano Lake Community School	NM
Mescalero Apache Schools	NM
Na'Neelzhiin Ji'Olta (Torreon)	NM
Nenahnezad Boarding School	NM
Ojo Encino Day School	NM
Pine Hill Schools	NM
Pueblo Pintado Community School	NM
Sanostee Day School	NM
Taos Day School	NM
Te Tsu Geh Oweenge Day School	NM
T'iists'oozi' Bi'O'Lta (Crownpoint)	NM
To'haali' Community School (Toadlenal)	NM

Tse'ii'ahi' School (Standing Rock)	NM
Little Eagle Day School	SD
Rock Creek Day School	SD
Takini School	SD
Tiospaye Topa School	SD
Muckleshoot Tribal School	WA
Yakima Tribal School (Yakama)	WA

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

Chris
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HCFA?

FROM: Chris Jennings

Cc: Bruce Lindsey

RE: Status of Arkansas / UAMS State Medicaid Amendment

This memo is written as a follow-up to Bruce Lindsey's memo regarding the Arkansas state plan amendment to provide supplemental payments for outpatient services at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). The State and UAMS have raised concerns that the upcoming upper payment limit regulation that we are considering (see memo submitted on September 29) will prohibit their proposed financing mechanism and its associated revenue for UAMS.

After reviewing their situation and the draft regulation, it does appear that the Arkansas financing proposal – like all other approved UPL arrangement – would have to be phased out. However, because of the way that we are structuring the regulation, the State and UAMS would receive the benefit of their financing plan for a full two years. Our draft proposal would give states that have been approved in between last year and the effective date of the regulation two years to prepare to comply with the regulation. Since Arkansas's amendment is scheduled to be approved on December 7, it will qualify for this transition.

In addition, the State may benefit from proposals in the Medicare provider payment restoration package that would raise the State's Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) allotment. In fact, just this last week, the House Commerce Committee marked up its provider payment restoration package that would raise Arkansas's Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) allotment.

Yesterday, I reviewed the status of the legislation and regulation with Medicaid Director Ray Hanley. He was surprised and pleased to learn that the draft regulation would benefit Arkansas and UAMS for two years. Although he stated that they would, of course, prefer a permanent funding stream from UPL, he felt that UAMS would be quite satisfied with this approach. He also was encouraged about the House Commerce Committee action.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: BRUCE R. LINDSEY

RE: HCFA REGULATIONS AND UAMS

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) is in financial crisis. UAMS has run a deficit for 8 straight quarters, FY 2000 ended with a $20 million shortfall, its line of credit has been exhausted, substantial layoffs have already taken place reducing services, and there are concerns about its ability to meet payroll next quarter. Chancellor Harry Ward is retiring October 16, 2000 and a new chancellor, Dodd Wilson, M.D., will begin on that date. Additional new leadership and new procedures are rapidly coming on board with multiple steps being taken to rectify the situation.

The causes for the crisis are many including the general nation-wide tightening of healthcare expenditures, slow UAMS reaction to the new fiscal realities, an enormous load of uninsured patients, and the perennial under-funding of UAMS by the General Assembly.

Early last fall a UAMS team composed of Rick Smith, M.D., Ray Scott, Tom Butler, and Barbara Eyman (Washington-based attorney) begin work on multiple mechanisms to develop new sources of support for UAMS through the Medicaid system. With the assistance and support of the Arkansas Medicaid Program, two state plan amendments were proposed to use UAMS' general revenue as match in order to access federal funds in the form of a State Operated Teaching Hospital payment. One of these plans for an inpatient payment of $2.4 million/year has been approved by HCFA. The other outpatient plan for $34 million/year is in the final stages of review by HCFA, which is expected to allow the plan to take effect in December. These plans are very small in relation to how other states are using Medicaid funds for their teaching hospitals, especially those that care for many indigent patients.

While Arkansas was pursuing these state plan amendments, HCFA became concerned about how some states were using the same mechanism, the "Upper Payment Limit" methodology, to draw down federal funds. The Medicaid Administrator, Timothy Westmoreland, has announced his agency's intention to issue regulations to severely curtail a state's ability to receive these funds. HCFA does not appear, in principle, to object to how Arkansas is proposing to use its funds, it is simply trying to close what it considers a loophole in the federal regulations. While these new regulations will not prevent Arkansas' plan from initially taking effect, they will end Arkansas' ability to fund UAMS through this mechanism unless the rules are crafted with some attention to the state's plight.

HCFA has said that it is "modeling" new rules and is eager to release them. Some states such as California, which accesses $1.1 billion/year through this mechanism, are likely to remain relatively untouched while other states will likely be severely restricted by the new rules. From UAMS' point of view, it is imperative that the new rules make some allowance so that the state may continue to use this mechanism.

UAMS has proposed several options that would allow HCFA to issue its new rules limiting inappropriate use of the Upper Payment Limit methodology while at the same time allowing Arkansas and states in similar situations to continue to use this mechanism. UAMS, however, believes that without some direction from us, HCFA will move forward with new regulations limiting Arkansas' ability to use this mechanism.

Harry Ward, Rick Smith and others have requested a meeting with you to discuss this problem. Governor Huckabee, former Senator Pryor, former Senator Bumpers and others have written you urging some relief. If you don't have time to meet with UAMS officials, maybe a meeting with Chris would suffice.

cc: Chris Jennings

To Scheduling for Reply

SCHOOLTOWORK OPPORTUNITIES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ★ U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

TO (Name/Organization):

Betty Currie

Fax: 456-1210

Phone:

Staff Secretary

DID YOU KNOW_

- Businesses involved with schools have a 25% turnover rate of youth employees compared to a 50% rate in businesses that have no involvement in schools. (Source: National Center on the Educational Quality of the Workforce, Connecting Work and School, 1998).

FROM:

Amy Bennett

National School-to-Work Office
400 Virginia Avenue, S.W., Suite 210
Washington, DC 20024
Main: 202-401-6222 or 800-251-7236
Fax: 202-401-6211

Number of pages to follow this sheet: ____________ Date: 10/2/00

Message: Thanks very much! Please see attached.

SCHOOL TO WORK OPPORTUNITIES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

October 2, 2000

Ms. Betty Curry
Secretary to the President
The Executive Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC

Dear Betty,

Thanks for checking whether the President did actually receive my letter. Maureen Garde, of the Democratic Governor's Association, and I handed it to his staff aide the evening I saw him at New Hampshire Gov. Jeanne Shaheen's event, September 20.

The National School-to-Work office is working diligently with the States to sustain our Administration's STW efforts and lots of good things are happening around the country for kids. I am anxious for the President to know there is a legacy for him with his STW initiative! If his schedule will permit, I think he would find an appearance at the last Administration STW event very heartwarming and gratifying.

Also, you might want to know that the attached copy of President's letter to my friend, Ambassador Terry Shumaker was quite delayed in getting to him, and thus in getting to me. I believe Terry received it in early June and he then faxed it to me. And it was STW matters about which I was anxious to communicate with the President, this conference appearance being one of them.

So, again, I and my staff would be most appreciative of any assistance you might lend in getting this invite to the President. For your information, we are also submitting a formal request through the Departments of Labor and Education to the Office of Presidential Scheduling (leaving no stone unturned!).

Sincerely,

Stephanie

Stephanie J. Powers
National Director

400 Virginia Ave., SW, Rm. 210 ★ Washington, DC 20024 ★ 202/401-6222 ★ 202/401-6211 (fax)
www.stw.ed.gov

AMERICA'S WORKFORCE NETWORK

SCHOOL TO WORK OPPORTUNITIES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

September 19, 2000

President Bill Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

The National School-to-Work Opportunities Act is alive and well across the country! In the twilight of your Administration, I want you to know that the implementation of School-to-Work has created a legacy for our Administration...with resounding success!

The School-to-Work family would like to extend its gratitude to you at our last Administration event celebrating School-to-Work's accomplishments. I hope you will accept my invitation to appear at our STW 2000 Conference in October. (I think you will recognize the conference theme...reminiscent of the early days!) As a special guest at the Youth Recognition Luncheon, seven outstanding School-to-Work youth from across the country will present to you the *School-to-Work Legacy Book* on behalf of the 1,300 conference attendees, the 50 States, and the vast network of STW supporters and advocates across the country.

Since you signed the Act on May 4, 1994, the Departments of Labor and Education have come together in an unprecedented way to fulfill your vision of strengthening the pathways by which all youth can achieve their "American Dream." Almost **18 million students in 50,000 schools** across our great nation now have access to learning opportunities that position them for meaningful transitions to college and to the workplace. At least **250,000 businesses** across the country are actively involved in School-to-Work activities, many testifying that they have found something in education that really works! **All 50 States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, the Island Territories, and several of the Indian Nations** are incorporating the basic tenets of School-to-Work into their education and workforce development systems. An incredible accomplishment in such a short amount of time!

Now that the Act is moving toward its sunset date of October 1, 2001, we are vigorously working with the States to solidly anchor their efforts for long-term sustainability as we complete the federal capital investment. I am encouraged that $91 million of State general fund revenues have been appropriated toward sustaining what the federal venture capital seeded, up from $42 million last year!

400 Virginia Ave., SW, Rm. 210 ★ Washington, DC 20024 ★ 202/401-6222 ★ 202/401-6211 (fax)
www.stw.ed.gov

Mr. President, you talked about "crossing that bridge into the 21st Century" during the 1992 campaign, by putting people first and by creating partnerships between government and the people to help Americans find better lives. Because of your vision and leadership, we have young people across the country whose lives and futures have been forever changed by their School-to-Work experiences!

When I last saw you in New Hampshire year, I asked if you would do something help me promote School-to-Work. You said you would. And I saved the best for last! I hope your schedule will permit you to join us as we celebrate the accomplishments and successes of your promise of STW opportunities for all students.

Sincerely,

Stephanie J. Powers

Stephanie J. Powers
Director

Enclosure (1)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 29, 2000

The Honorable Edward Shumaker III
157 Page Road
Bow, New Hampshire 03304-4712

Dear Terry:

It's always good to hear from you. Thank you for taking the time to share some of your thoughts with me.

I've asked Betty to contact Stephanie Powers regarding her interest in writing to me.

Thanks, too, for the interesting op-ed. I sent it to James Carville.

It was good of you to keep Hillary in mind, and I will be sure to pass along your observations. Also, I was happy to hear of your interest in the library and am pleased that you've been in touch with Skip about helping.

I remain grateful for all your hard work and support. All the best to you and Polly.

Sincerely,

Bill

Canadian Embassy   Ambassade du Canada 00 OCT 12 PM 3:41

SEND TO
NSC WWDESK
FOR REPLY
PER
JUSTIN
SIBERELL
10-2

501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

September 25, 2000

Ok to forward to Potus? op

The Honourable Samuel R. Berger
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House
First Floor, West Wing
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. ~~Berger~~ Sandy,

I have the honour to transmit the attached letter from The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, the Prime Minister of Canada, to the President.

Yours sincerely,

M. K.

Michael Kergin
Ambassador (Designate)

OTTAWA, K1A 0A2

September 8, 2000

Bill

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter of September 1, 2000, indicating your decision to not commit now to the deployment of a National Missile Defence (NMD) system.

I believe your decision is a prudent one in light of the circumstances. There are very real security concerns for all countries in your proposal which we will now be able to explore more fully, and I welcome your indication that the US will continue to work with Canada and others on this question. I am confident that we will find a way forward that advances the security of the US, as well as of its allies, and that maintains global strategic stability.

Yours sincerely,

Jean Chrétien

The President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C.

10-2-00

JAMES PEDRO
CHAIRMAN

CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA

P.O. Box 38
Concho, Oklahoma 73022
(405) 262-0345
Fax (405) 422-1184

September 26, 2000

The White House
Attn: Ms. Hillary Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20003

RE: FORT RENO

Dear Ms. Clinton:

On behalf of the Cheyenne-Arapaho people I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the help you have provided to the Native American Community over the past several years. We especially wish you well in your current quest to be the United States Senator from New York. The gifts we offer you are a token of our appreciation for your efforts during these past years.

One of the issues that our Tribes have fought to have closure on over the last several decades is the recovery of the last piece of our Sacred land that was taken from us in 1883 with a promise that it would be returned when the United States military left the property . This land is know as the Fort Reno lands. These lands are located in the west central Oklahoma and are solemn symbol to all that our people had to sacrifice so that America could prosper. As you may know our people were forced to give up just over fifty-one million acres of land throughout the great plains in Americas expansion west. In 1891, when the last of these lands were taken we were compensated just three cents ($.03) an acre for these properties. In today's terms we were compensated approximately one dollar and ninety cents ($1.90) an acre for these lands which include downtown Denver. The irony of this situation is that out of all these lands that were forcibly ceded to the United States, Fort Reno was never given up. According to a recent legal opinion by the Government it should have been returned some fifty years ago when the military left.

As you know our Tribes have had many battles withe the Oklahoma Congressional delegation. On several occasions representatives of our Tribes even met with the President himself to try to get the issue resolved. Still yet our prayers have been unanswered as the Oklahoma politicians continue to thwart the cause of justice. Therefore, on behalf of a grateful Tribe I am asking you to please help us get our land back before the President leaves office.

copied
Cutler
Podesta

Sincerely,

James Pedro
Chairman
Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma

Ed Coulter requests your help in the project to provide a Community Center/Auditorium for Arkansas State University Mountain Home and to name it in honor of former Senator Vada Sheid. Her health is declining, and they want to honor her while she is still alive. (cc Sylvia Matthews, Lisa Kountoupes) cc: POTUS

Find out what he wants me to do—

UNIVERSITY
MOUNTAIN HOME

1600 South College
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Phone:
870-508-6101

Fax:
870-508-6288

10-2-00

September 26, 2000

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20510

Dear ~~President~~ BILL Clinton:

We urgently need your help! Our project to provide a Community Center/Auditorium for Arkansas State University Mountain Home and to name it in honor of former Senator Vada Sheid is currently in the VA/HUD funding for one million dollars. This center will have a significant economic impact in five counties in Arkansas and Missouri. We sincerely hope that you can contact OMB and congressional leaders to encourage their support **to significantly increase this amount** to the 12 million requested.

We are indebted to Senator Lincoln for taking the lead in this project, and when we look back on our accomplishments, I know that we will be pleased if we have helped honor this wonderful lady. Bill, Vada's health is declining, and we want to honor her while she is still with us. **Please help.**

Sincerely,

Ed

Ed Coulter

mc

copied
Lisa K.
Podesta

09/25/2000 12:36 PAGE 02/02

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

ASU

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
MOUNTAIN HOME

1600 South College
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Phone:
870-508-6101

Fax:
870-508-6288

10-2-00

September 26, 2000

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20510

Dear ~~President~~ BILL Clinton:

We urgently need your help! Our project to provide a Community Center/Auditorium for Arkansas State University Mountain Home and to name it in honor of former Senator Vada Sheid is currently in the VA/HUD funding for one million dollars. This center will have a significant economic impact in five counties in Arkansas and Missouri. We sincerely hope that you can contact OMB and congressional leaders to encourage their support **to significantly increase this amount** to the 12 million requested.

We are indebted to Senator Lincoln for taking the lead in this project, and when we look back on our accomplishments, I know that we will be pleased if we have helped honor this wonderful lady. Bill, Vada's health is declining, and we want to honor her while she is still with us. **Please help.**

Sincerely,

Ed

Ed Coulter

mc

copied
Lisa K.
Podesta

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
MOUNTAIN HOME

1600 South College
Mountain Home, AR 72653

Phone:
870-508-6101

Fax:
870-508-6288

September 26, 2000

Ms. Mary Morrison
Office of the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mary:

Thanks for your assistance and pledge to deliver this letter to the President. I know you are overwhelmed with requests, and therefore we are indebted to you. This is a very important project to honor a special lady, and I believe the President will want this information.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Ed

Ed Coulter

mc

Weinstein letter | 8th 4/24
cleared by L. Shimabukuro

copied 10/2
Street

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Mr. Paul J. Weinstein, Jr.
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Paul:

I have received your letter of September 8, and I want to thank you for your dedicated service to our nation and the American people.

From your work on my 1992 campaign to your tenure in the Domestic Policy Council, you carried out your many responsibilities with great energy and skill. Whether working to expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, reform the Community Reinvestment Act, or create Empowerment Zones and the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, you demonstrated a firm commitment to excellence and public service. I'm especially grateful for your efforts to reform campaign finance laws. You have helped to change America for the better, and you can be proud of your many accomplishments.

On behalf of all those who have benefited from your service, I thank you for a job well done. Hillary joins me in wishing you every happiness and continued success.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

September 8, 2000

Debi /
BC sig.

-DL
9/12

'00 SEP 11 AM 11:20

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In the excitement of my transition to my new position in the Office of the Vice President (OVP), I neglected to submit my letter of resignation. This letter is an attempt to compensate for that oversight.

In July, I joined OVP, thus ending more than eight years of service to you, first as a senior policy adviser on your 1992 campaign in the War Room in Little Rock followed by seven years wonderful years at the Domestic Policy Council. I wanted to write and express my most heartfelt thanks for the incredible opportunity you gave me these past years. The chance to work on issues of profound significance and to help you create real change for our country has been an indescribable experience. I am proud that I was able to help you enact and make better so many important programs that help people meet the challenges they face everday: from the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Empowerment Zones; reform of the Community Reinvestment Act; welfare-to-work housing vouchers; expansion of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit; and the "brownfields" program to the Unfunded Mandate Reform law and the Lobby Disclosure Act. I also take great satisfaction in having revamped the Domestic Policy Council (DPC) during your second term as Chief of Staff under Bruce Reed. DPC staffers are among the hardest working individuals in the White House and they serve you faithfully each and every day.

When I joined your Presidential campaign in the winter of 1992, I never imagined this day. As I start a new journey, I will take with me the lessons I have learned: to work for the American people every day and fight to bring opportunity to all.

With warmest regards,

Paul Weinstein Jr.

Paul J. Weinstein Jr.
Senior Advisor to the Chief of Staff for
Policy Planning and Coordination
Office of the Vice President
Eisenhower Building
Room 214
Washington, DC 20502

9-11-00

Send to CoS?
Yes ✓
No

CW

SEP 12 2000
NOT LOGGED & OUT OF TICKLER - JOHN W. WILL LOG ON HIS LOG (Resignation)

Lewis letter
9/29
8th

cc HT

copied
Hernreich
10.2

Mr. Richard Lewis
8001 Hemet Place
Los Angeles, California 90046

Dear Richard:

Thanks so much for your letter. I was deeply touched by your warm words -- your continued kindness and support mean more to me than you can know.

Hillary and I send our best.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 2, 2000

Mr. Richard Lewis
8001 Hemet Place
Los Angeles, California 90046

Dear Richard:

Thanks so much for your letter. I was deeply touched by your warm words -- your continued kindness and support mean more to me than you can know.

Hillary and I send our best.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

9-11-00

9/12

'00 SEP 11 AM9:09

Send to Cohen & BC sig

Yes ✓

No ______

-DL

cj [redacted]

9/13

Dear Mr. President,

After almost three years of writing an autobiography that is out this Christmas, I pray that I can keep this missive to the point considering the first draft of my memoir was about 100,000 pages and I do have a tendency to talk a lot. One of the greatest Presidents in our country's history was known to have the same tendency. You might know him.

Anyway, your note I received so soon after we saw one another briefly in Los Angeles at *your Gala* in August, was amazingly considerate of you and meant the world to me.

I think you know how much it has meant to me, by now-- to do whatever it was I could do to get out your message out from day one. I am writing now to tell you that *after* you leave your Presidency—when no doubt you will have other goals that you will want to achieve --please know that I will *always* be on "your team"-- so never hesitate to personally or your staff to reach out to me for any assistance.

I now, of course, continue to spread the word for the Vice President and the First Lady, in what I anticipate will be a huge win for both of them in November and likewise for the Democrats in the House and the Senate.

You are an astonishing man *and a great President* and I eagerly look forward to perhaps one day actually breaking bread and sharing a few laughs.

In fact, when we both get old and gray, and if I'm still performing live, you have an open invitation to co-headline with me with your band, anywhere, anytime, any venue---for charity of course. Hey, the letter was getting too serious—I tried to sneak in a little humor—oh, and—now that I think of it, how grandiose of me—I certainly should be the opening act—unless I can persuade Roger to open—then I'll do 45 minutes—then intermission—and then you come out and bring the house down. Oh-oh—I'm starting to ramble. Have joy and health and gratitude—you so deserve it.

With Endless Respect,

Richard Lewis

PS: FYI—for your staff—

Phone—3238519626

Fax ----323 8741855

(spokeswoman) Michelle Marx 3106459717

Munro letter
SH 9/29

Thru Shoes

copied
gift unit
10-2

501-262-6000

[THE WH]ITE HOUSE
[WAS]HINGTON

requested
10-2-00

[...]2, 2000

PERSONAL

Mr. Neil Munro
Munro & Company, Inc.
Post Office Box 1157
Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902

Dear Neil:

Thanks so much for the golf shoes. I was delighted to receive them, and I'm deeply grateful for your continued thoughtfulness and support.

Hillary and I send our best.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

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Sincerely,

Neil

Neil Munro

Munro
& COMPANY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1157 • HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS 71902
501-262-6000

Mr. Bill Clinton
President of The United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

September 12, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

I am sorry it has taken so long to get these shoes to you. I realize it must seem like a ridiculously long time to make a single pair of golf shoes, but the size 12 required a new outsole mold, which had to be modeled by hand and cast out of aluminum. Unfortunately, this is a several month process.

I hope Mrs. Clinton is enjoying her Icons. If she hasn't worked up enough nerve to wear them out in public, please tell her that Don and I won't be offended.(We haven't either.) I must tell you, however, the rest of the world absolutely loves them.

I believe we may actually be developing some Icon shoes for the Gore family, but please don't quote me on that. The last word I had was that our partners at Icon had received an image from the DNC and were developing the artwork for production. If Mrs. Clinton needs a pair developed for the campaign trail or to help her promote a worthy cause we would be honored to contribute the time and resources.

I hope you were not too embarrassed by our presentation of the Icon shoes at the fundraiser. It struck me as a rather awkward and opportunistic venue, but Barbara and David Pryor convinced us that given your personal familiarity my father, this would not be misinterpreted. I believe the Pryors, in a very thoughtful way, were trying to ad an element of surprise and fun to a necessarily arduous affair.

Good luck with your golf game and thank you for everything.

Sincerely,

Neil

Neil Munro

Munro & COMPANY, INC.
P.O. BOX 1157 • HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS 71902
501-262-6000

9-12-00

Mr. Kris Engskov
The President's Aide
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Kris,

Please find enclosed the Icon shoes that I promised the President during the fundraiser for Hillary in May.

Thank you for your help in getting them to him.

Sincerely,

Neil

Neil Munro

White House Gift Record

Presented: 09/18/2000
Arrival: 09/18/2000
Entered: 09/18/2000

Gift ID: 5043145/GIFTINT1

Donor Information

Mr. Neil Munro
Munro & Company, Incorporated
Post Office Box 1157
Hot Springs National Park, AR 71902

Acknowledged By: Pending Bill Clinton draft letter

Comments:
Appears that Don Munro is the donor's father. Don Munro has received PNL drafts early in the administration and an AP draft in July 2000. Per Eugenie the draft should be a Possible BC SIG.

Gift Information

Intended: President
Description:
Two pairs of size 13 Icon shoes. Big Horns Image, colorfull design.

Disposition: Archives
Location:
The gift is in Archives.

Total Gift Value is $200

NOTES:

- Appears that the donor's father is Don Munro, see attached letter from donor -> draft of previous for Don Munroe attached.
- Possible BC Sig per Eugenie
- Address per donor's letterhead
- Gifts arrived in the mail although it appears from the donor's letters to POTUS and Kris Engskov that he had discussed the gifts w/ POTUS at Hillary Fundraiser.
- No previous drafts for Neil Munro

Printed On: 09/22/2000 2:11 PM

JP

can we fix this
at least make it
better —

BB

10-2-00

copied
Podesta

Proposals in Retirement-Savings Bill D

measures such as increased contribution limits for individual retirement accounts and 401(k)s.

But other provisions are attracting criticism from activists and some administration officials, who say the measures primarily will benefit employers while potentially costing workers money.

The growing debate comes late in the show, which so far has played to mostly cheering audiences, as attention has focused on provisions to allow workers to contribute more money to retirement plans. In the House version, IRA limits would rise to $5,000 from $2,000, and limits on 401(k) plans would increase to $15,000 from $10,500, for example. As a result, the bill has enjoyed broad bipartisan support, racking up 401 votes in the House in July, and unanimously passing the Senate Finance Committee earlier this month.

The increases are long overdue, proponents of the legislation say, because the value of the contributions has been eroded by inflation since the limits were set years ago. They say the increases also give employers more reason to set up plans.

Critics contend, however, that some of the other 40 little-understood measures in the bill won't do much to improve retirement security for most workers. Specifically, some key Treasury and Labor Department officials are concerned that certain provisions effectively would roll back laws enacted in the 1980s to increase retirement-plan coverage, and that the changes would allow companies to exclude more moderate and low-income workers from pension and retirement plans.

With Congress rushing toward adjournment on Friday and facing a long list of must-do legislation, passage of the bill isn't guaranteed. Still, the package has a chance of winning approval because it is appealing to members of Congress, who could point to it as a rare accomplishment on retirement issues in a year that has been largely devoid of progress on Social Security and prescription-drug benefits.

Even the White House, while critical of some provisions, is sounding a conciliatory note—for the time being. "Our approach is to be supportive of pro-savings measures like these, while fighting to make [the bill] more equitable for low-income savers and removing provisions that could reduce income for average and low-income workers," Gene Sperling, director of President Clinton's National Economic Council, said last week. For example, Mr. Clinton wants a tax credit to encourage lower-income people to save more.

With more than 70 million Americans lacking any employer-sponsored plan, retirement security is a growing concern, and versions of the pension bill have been building momentum for several years.

Advocates of the proposed legislation dismiss critics' concerns. "Picking at some of the details of our plan and coming up with what I think are unrealistic scenarios as to how it could possibly be a problem is not a good way to begin to address the problem," says Rep. Rob Portman (R., Ohio), the lead sponsor of the House version of the package.

Some government officials are worried by provisions that would roll back the 1980s laws, which were enacted to stop business owners from using pension and retirement plans primarily as personal tax shelters. These laws required companies to cover at least a percentage of workers and provide a minimum level of benefits

accounts of other employees and vest it over three years. The proposed law would eliminate top-heavy rules in some retirement plans and dilute them in others.

Employer groups say the complexity and expense of administering the rules discourage small-business owners from setting up the plans. However, a draft of a report that the General Accounting Office is releasing today concluded there is "little evidence" that the rules discourage small employers from providing pension benefits. "Practitioners explained that computer software makes running top-heavy tests as routine as hitting a key on a computer," noted the report, which concluded that the cost of the tests are insignificant.

Last week, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R., Iowa), whose office received a copy of the study in August, sent the GAO a letter rejecting its conclusions, saying the "accuracy and thoroughness" of the report was "unclear." A staff member for Mr. Grassley had no comment about the senator's position on the bill's top-heavy provisions.

Mr. Portman and advocates of the proposed legislation counter criticism by saying it is unlikely that businesses would start cutting workers' benefits in the midst of the current strong economy and tight labor market. In the meantime, they say, the objections are slowing down a solution to the problem of lack of pension coverage. Mr. Portman points to the already steep decline in the number of pension plans, to 45,000 in 1997 from 114,000 in 1987, as proof of the need to take action.

Labor Department statistics show, however, that the number of pension plans at medium and large companies has remained steady since the 1980s, while the majority of terminated plans covered only one or a few people. Most of the "pension" plans that terminated essentially tax shelters that lost their luster when the pension reforms of the 1980s were enacted, says Prof. Halperin.

At the same time, some government officials say that rolling back the nondiscrimination and other rules, while simultaneously increasing contribution limits for 401(k)s and IRAs, would invite small-business owners to abandon other types of plans. That is because a small-business owner then would be able to save more money for himself in an IRA and a 401(k).

Economists are divided about the impact on overall savings. Some say it would

butions of $7,500. The provisions would be phased in over time.

Sponsors say the measure "enhances fairness to women," arguing that women who spent time out of the work force to take care of children could use this provision to make up for dollars that weren't put away during those child-rearing days. Critics say the measure is championed by financial-services firms eager to attract more money into accounts they manage, and that those most likely to take advantage of this are those who have been contributing the maximum amounts for years. "They wouldn't be catching up, but bulking up," says a government official.

If the intent was to help women returning to work, the provision should be limited to people returning to the work force, critics say, not to anyone over age 50. "They dress it up as a women's proposal, but it wears pants," says Norman Stein, professor of pensions at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. Women's groups including OWL (Older Women's League) also have criticized the provision.

Some unions, including the Communication Workers of America and the AFL-CIO, are objecting to certain cash-balance pension measures that appeared in the Senate version several weeks ago. Those provisions would help employers fight legal challenges to their cash-balance plans and continue the practice of "wearing away" the early-retirement subsidies of older workers, a practice to which the Treasury objects.

The cash-balance measures also are drawing the ire of grass-roots groups, who are pelting elected officials with complaints. "A number of them are up for reelection in tight races, and they'll hear about it at election time," says Janet Kruger, a spokeswoman for an employee coalition. The AARP, the Pension Rights Center, the National Senior Citizen's Law Center, the National Urban League and the Center for Budget and Policy Priority also oppose major measures in the package.

An additional 30 or so provisions have received almost no attention. They include measures that would allow companies to put more money into overfunded pension plans; permit owners of businesses with no employees to shelter all of their income in employee stock-ownership plans; and stop requiring companies to provide detailed pension documents automatically to employees.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2000

10-2-00

copied Podesta

JP / can we do anything on this? / [illegible]

GOP Divided Over New U.S. Standard

By JULIET EILPERIN
and ERIC PIANIN
Washington Post Staff Writers

Just as Congress appears poised to impose a national drunk driving standard for the first time, opponents are launching a furious, last-minute lobbying campaign to derail the measure.

The proposal—which would define someone with a blood alcohol level of 0.08 percent as legally drunk—is still under negotiation as part of a broader transportation spending bill and remains one of the most contentious items in this year's budget battle. It has created a serious fissure within the GOP, pitting allies of the alcohol and restaurant industries against some prominent social conservatives.

"We always thought it would be a close vote," said Mothers Against Drunk Driving's Brandy Anderson. "We're optimistic, and we see this as a vote to save lives."

Alcohol is involved in almost 40 percent of fatal crashes, and public health experts have argued for years that lowering the legal drunk driving limit to .08 percent blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) would save hundreds of lives each year.

Canada, Japan, Australia and most European countries have legal limits of .08 percent BAC or lower. Nineteen states, containing more than 45 percent of the U.S. population, have passed laws adopting the .08 percent limit. In Virginia and the District, the limit is .08 percent; in Maryland it is .10 percent.

An agreement to set a national .08 standard would mark a major victory for traffic safety groups that have relentlessly lobbied for the tougher standard. After years of frustration in battling the liquor lobby and restaurant owners over the drunk driving issue in state legislatures across the country, advocates of .08 turned their focus to Washington two years ago, in a bid to add the mandate to the highway reauthorization bill.

The Senate approved the language, providing stiff highway spending sanctions for states that refused to adopt the new standard. But House leaders and the alcoholic beverage and restaurant industries were adamant about killing the measure and prevailed in a final showdown in conference.

Opponents found it much tougher this time, in a crucial election year, to stand in the way of a proposal that advocates claim would save 500 lives a year. Moreover, President Clinton has endorsed the plan and has repeatedly spoken out in favor of it.

The Senate led the way again this year, approving as part of a huge transportation spending bill a measure giving states three years to adopt the new standard or face the loss of up to 10 percent of their annual highway funds. While the House has not approved similar language, negotiators tentatively agreed on Thursday to a compromise plan giving states nearly seven years to adopt the standard or lose as much as eight percent of their highway aid.

The bulk of the House and Senate leadership opposes the measure on the grounds that it violates states' rights. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.) and House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) have worked actively behind the scenes to pull the provision off the transportation bill. But lawmakers hope to finish negotiations on the bill today, and any compromise on the new standards could be changed.

"Just about any conservative is opposed to all these federal mandates," said Michele Davis, spokeswoman for House Majority Leader Richard K. Armey (R-Tex.).

As one lobbyist involved in the issue put it, "This is going to be the nastiest internal fight you have seen all year."

But Rep. Frank R. Wolf (R-Va.), who chairs the House Appropriations transportation subcommittee, has enlisted the support of several key Republicans on his panel, and House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) has not used his influence to torpedo the measure.

"Illinois already has .08, but it would be unfair to penalize other states that haven't gone to that standard yet without giving them a chance to debate it in their legislatures," said Hastert spokesman John Feehery.

A coalition opposed to the new standard, encompassing construction groups as well as restaurants and beer and liquor wholesalers, has continued to press lawmakers on the issue. They have warned Republicans they could face electoral repercussions for allowing the provision to make it into law.

"The Republican leadership has forgotten what that word means," declared Rick Berman, general counsel for the American Beverage Institute.

Berman added that his group is considering running advertising campaigns in individual lawmakers' districts, attacking them for criminalizing social drinking.

"There are a lot of opportunities to communicate with social drinkers," Berman said. "If this passes, this fight isn't over for me."

To reach a blood-alcohol level of .08 percent, a 170-pound man would have to drink four drinks in an hour on an empty stomach, while a 135-pound woman would have to consume three drinks in the same period. Laboratory studies show that driving skills are significantly impaired at this level in people of all ages and sexes, said Ralph Hingson, a professor of public health at Boston University.

At least nine studies have evaluated the impact on alcohol-related traffic deaths in states that have adopted a .08 percent limit. Most have found that such laws reduce deaths, although they are most effective when combined with public education campaigns and other safety measures.

A recent study by Hingson and two colleagues, comparing six states with such laws to six geographically similar states without them, found that states adopting the lower limit experienced a 5 percent greater decline in the proportion of alcohol-related fatal crashes. If all states adopted the .08 percent legal blood alcohol level, there would be 400 to 500 fewer deaths per year from automobile crashes, Hingson estimated.

Staff writer Susan Okie contributed to this report.

The Washington Post
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2000

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-2-00

Wonderful book

given by letter girl
whose name is on the
inside, niece of a man
who works here. Pls do
reply for me that answers
the questions in letter —

BC

10-2-00
To Cohen for
Reply

St. Joseph Parish School

2675 Third Street

Trenton Michigan 48183

Faculty and Staff

Ms. Wanda Rovenskie	Principal
Mrs. Nancy Redwine	Secretary
Mrs. Jeanne Mason	Librarian
Mrs. Holly Johnson	Bus Driver
Mrs. Penny Zukowski	Kindergarten
Ms. Patricia Szymecko	Grade 1
Mrs. Christine Menna	Grade 2
Mrs. Phyllis Reed	Grade 3
Mrs. Joyce Bentley	Grade 4
Mr. David Richards	Grade 5
Mrs. Nancy Bartus	Grade 6
Ms. Tina Waterstradt	Grade 7
Mr. Frank Bozenski	Grade 8

Vira Gibei
2450 Wallace Ave,
Apt 2F
BRONX, N.Y. 10462

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
10-2-00

This is a [illegible] immigration
important – [illegible] Harry
[illegible] – [illegible]
advice — BC

10-2-00
To Cohen for
Reply/
AGENCY LIAISON

To: President of United States
Bill Clinton

1600 Pensylvania
Washington

September 24, 2000

To: President of United States
Bill Clinton
1600 Pensylvania
Washington

10-2-00

From: Vira Gibei
2150 Wallace Ave
Apt 2F
BRONX, N.Y. 10462

Honorable President of United States:

Excuse me for incorrect my English.

I'm writing to you in regard to my case. I used all possibilities, but I can't resolve my problem.

Immigration deportation unit from INS gave me deportation on January 12, 2000.

I sent letter to many institutions about my problem. I didn't get responds.

Local post office undeliveres special correspondence to me! (please, see proof)

- President Dennis Rivera 1199 Union in December 18, 1999
- Commissioner AARP Service in December, 1999

Governor George Pataki - in February 10, 2000
. Senator 34 District Senior Assistant Majority
Leader Guy J. Velella in February 17, 2000
. Senator Charles Shumer - March 15, 2000
. President Dennis Rivera 1199 Union in March 15, 2000
. Commissioner N.Y Department of Labor March 7, 2000
. District Adjudication Officer INS Mr. Charles Skalski,
April 6, 2000
. Senate Washington in April 21, 2000
. New York State unemployment Insurance Appeal Board
June 25, 2000
. Congressman Jose E. Serrano in June 29, 2000
. Congressman Joseph Crowley in June 29, 2000
. Federal Bureau of Investigation in July 6, 2000
I didn't get responds.

I live in United States 7,5 years. I worked 6 years as home attendant in Health Home Agency. I'm alien Register nurse and American's certificate Nursing assistant.

You to ammend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the requirements for admission of non immigrant nurses who will practice in health professional health agencies.
// Note: November 12, 1999

Be it enacted by the Senate and House Representatives.

please, reverse

of the United States of America in Congress.
"Nurse Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act of 1999" assembled.

Director former employer said to me:
"I'm illegaly, close door, you complain even President!"

I can't looking for new job, because employer gives wrong reference about me.

I had 3 times hearing of Department of Labor. When I asked Administrative Law Judge about Public Law 106-95 106th Congress. She answered: "This Law is nothing for me".

I requested Appeal of unemployment Insurance they refused. I have earned unemployment benefit for period 10/01/98 through 09/30/99. Department of Labor and hearing refused it. (please, see proof).

Honorable President:
I would appreciate if you could give me your assistance.

Excuse me for incorrect my English again.

THANK you very much for your attention to poor people.

Sincerely
Vira Gibei

Dear Member,

The Post Office has stated that material sent to you is undeliverable at the address that appears on your AARP records. It's the address used to send you this notice by first-class mail. We hope it reaches you so you can either confirm that we have the right address...or send us your correct address.

Please fill in the form, detach it, and drop it in the mail. It needs no postage. Do it today so we can be sure you receive your AARP materials promptly and correctly.

Thank you,

AARP Membership Center

JOSEPH CROWLEY
7TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AND TRADE

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND FOREST HEALTH

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–3207

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1517 LONGWORTH HOUSE ...
WASHINGTON, DC 2051...
(202) 225-3965

QUEENS OFFICE
82-11 37TH AVENUE, SUITE ...
JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11...
(718) 779-1400

BRONX OFFICE
2114 WILLIAMSBRIDGE R...
BRONX, NY 10461
(718) 931-1400

E-MAIL
write2joecrowley@mail.hou...

INTERNET WEB PAGE
http://www.house.gov/cro...

November 22, 1999

Mr.Charles Akalski
District Adjudication Officer
Immigration and Naturalization Service
26 Federal Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10278

RE: Vera Gibei
A# 73-049-238

Dear Mr.Akalski:

I'm writing to you in regard to the above constituent who resides in my Bronx Congressional district.

From what I can ascertain, Ms.Gibei has been given a date for deportation from the United States by Immigration's deportation unit.

I would appreciate if you could review her case and possibly give her case closer attention.

All pertinent information regarding this case has been enclosed. I would appreciate if you could inform my office of any assistance that can be given to my constituent.

Sincerely,

Joseph Crowley

Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress

JC/fm
Enclosure

United States Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

HAND DELIVERED

File No. A73 049 238 TUL
Date: November 17, 1999

Vira Gibei
2150 Wallace Avenue 2nd flr.
Bronx, NY 10462

Please present this notice at the Worth Street Entrance of 26 Federal Plaza for faster entry into the building.

BRING VALID PASSPORT

As you know, following a hearing in your case you were found deportable and the hearing officer has entered an order of deportation. A review of your file indicates there is no administrative relief which may be extended to you, and it now incumbent upon this Service to enforce your departure from the United States.

Arrangements have been made for your departure to Ukraine (Country)

on ________ (date) from New York, NY (port of departure) on the

BY TRANSPORTATION WHICH HAS BEEN ARRANGED
(name of vessel, airline or other transportation)

You should report to a United States Immigration Officer at Room 12-110
26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278, 12th Floor.
(address)

at 9:00AM (hour), January 12th, 2000 (date) completely ready for deportation.

At the time of your departure from **New York, N.Y**. you will be limited to 44 pounds of baggage. Should you have personal effects in excess of this amount you must immediately contact a **Transportation Officer** in person at the address noted above, and appropriate disposition of your excess baggage will be discussed with you.

Very truly yours,

Yvonne A. Smalls
Assistant District Director
For Detention & Deportation

cc: Boris Kogan, Esq.
98-26 64th Avenue Suite #8-F
Rego Park, NY 11374

ALIEN REFUSED TO SIGN

Respondant's Signature

Officer's Signature

Form I-166 Witness: Robert Siegel
(Rev. 4-1-69)

GPO 873-570

U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

Notice of Action

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Request That Applicant Appear For Naturalization Initial Interview			NOTICE DATE October 04, 1999
CASE TYPE N400 Application For Naturalization			INS A# A 073 049 238
APPLICATION NUMBER NYC*000162519	RECEIVED DATE December 09, 1997	PRIORITY DATE December 09, 1997	PAGE 1 of 1

APPLICANT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS
VIRA GIBEL
2150 WALLACE AVE #2F
BRONX NY 10462

Please come to:
US INS MANHATTAN CENTER
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
US INS MANHATTAN
MAIN ROOM
NEW YORK NY 10278
On (Date): Wednesday, November 17, 1999
At (Time): 01:30 PM

You are hereby notified to appear for an interview on your Application for Naturalization at the date, time, and place indicated above. The proceeding will take about two hours. If for any reason you cannot keep this appointment, return this letter immediately with your explanation and a request for a new appointment; otherwise, no further action will be taken on your application.

If you are applying for citizenship for yourself, you will be tested on your knowledge of the government and history of the United States. You will also be tested on reading, writing, and speaking English, unless on the day you filed your application, you have been living in the United States for a total of at least 20 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 50 years old, or you have been living in the United States for a total of 15 years as a lawful permanent resident and are over 55 years old, or unless you have a medically determinable disability (you must have filed form N648 Medical Certification for Disability Exception, with your N400 Application for Naturalization).

You MUST BRING the following with you to the interview:

- This letter.
- Your Alien Registration Card (green card).
- Any evidence of Selective Service Registration.
- Your passport and/or any other documents you used in connection with any entries into the United States.
- Those items noted below which are applicable to you:

If applying for NATURALIZATION AS THE SPOUSE of a United States Citizen:

- Your marriage certificate.
- Proof of death or divorce for each prior marriage of yourself or spouse.
- Your spouse's birth or naturalization certificate or certificate of citizenship.

If applying for NATURALIZATION as a member of the United States Armed Forces:

- Your discharge certificate, or form DD 214.

If copies of a document were submitted as evidence with your N400 application, the originals of those documents should be brought to the interview.

PLEASE keep this appointment, even if you do not have all the items indicated above.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this notice or the status of your case, please contact our office at the below address or customer service number. You will be notified separately about any other cases you may have filed.

INS Office Address:
US IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
75 LOWER WELDON STREET
ST. ALBANS, VT 05479-0001

INS Customer Service Number:
(802) 527-3160

APPLICANT COPY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

A 73049238
NYC 99-11808

JUL - 1

29-Jun-99

HONORABLE JOSEPH CROWLEY
MEMBER OF U.S. CONGRESS
2114 WILLIAMSBRIDGE ROAD
BRONX, NY 10461

Subject: GIBEI, VIRA

Dear CONGRESSMAN CROWLEY

We received your request for information relating to the subject on **6/29/99**

Your request is being handled in chronological order. It has been assigned the following record number: **99-11808**
Please cite this number in any further inquiry concerning this request.

We will respond to your request as quickly as possible.
Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Sincerely,

Edward J. McElroy
District Director
New York District
EJM/ m. correy

Congressional Unit

GIVE THIS YOUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION ! ! !

RECEIVED JUL - 2 ...

File No: 73049238
Date : 6/29/99
Ctrl : 99-11808

In Re: GIBEI, VIRA

Information requested by CROWLEY, JOSEPH

[ ] Attorney [ ] Congressional [ ] Consulate [ ] Other ________

Inquiry: [ ] Telephone [ ] By Letter [ ] Appeared in person

To: CON

Information requested:

FOR REVIEW AND RESPONSE. DUE BY 7/29/99

STATUS ON N-400 APPLICATION.

Controls Cleared
Congressional Liaison Unit
date 7/1/99

Information furnished:

ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, YOUR CONSTITUENT WAS SCHEDULED TO HAVE FINGERPRINTED TAKEN ON MAY 27, 1999 @ 8:00 A.M. AT THE BRONX ASC, (2378 GRAND CONCOURSE). UPON THE DEFINITIVE RESPONSE FROM THE FBI, THE SUBJECT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF A PRELIMINARY OR FINAL HEARING BY MAIL.

(Signature of Officer or Employee)

Approved by: ______________________
(Signature of Supervisor)

Location: ______________________

Notice of Action

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

APPLICANT NUMBER A073049238		CASE TYPE N400 - APPLICATION FOR NATURALIZATION
CLOCKIN DATE 12/09/97		APPLICANT VIRA GIBEI
NOTICE DATE 10/02/98	PAGE 1 of 1	

VIRA GIBEI
2150 WALLACE AVE #2F
BRONX NY 10462

NOTICE TYPE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT NOTICE

The above application has been received. You will be notified of the date and place of your appearance for fingerprints and interview for naturalization. Your case is being processed by the office listed at the bottom of this notice.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: All naturalization applicants who were between the ages of 14 and 75 at the time of filing must have their fingerprints taken at an INS Application Support Center (ASC) so they can be submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a criminal history check.

If we received your application without a fingerprint card (FD-258), or your fingerprint card was received on or after December 03 1997, you will need to go to an ASC to be fingerprinted.

Do not have your fingerprints taken anywhere else.

You will receive a notice that will provide you with information about when and where to go to have your fingerprints taken, and what you will need to bring with you.

Please inform the office listed below immediately of any address changes.

You will be notified separately about any other cases you have filed.

IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE
NEW YORK DISTRICT OFFICE
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10278

August 17, 1998

To: Acting Center Director
Paul E. Novak, Jr.

From: Vira Gibei
2150 Wallace Ave,
Apt 2F
BRONX, N.Y. 10462

Dear Paul E. Novak.

Excuse me for incorrect my English.
I got respond from your office about
my processing case
On October 7, 1998 I will be have hearing
(copy from notice about hearing I sent you)
I don't know, what is my next action?
may be my hearing is cancellation?
Please, help me resolve my question?

THANK you kindly

Sincerely
Vira Gibei

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER
75 LOWER WELDEN STREET
ST. ALBANS, VERMONT 05479-0001
(802) 527-3160

May 13, 1998

VIRA GIBEI
2150 WALLACE AVE APT 2F
BRONX NY 10462

RE: ATTACHED

The following is in response to your inquiry.

Your case is still pending at this office waiting for an interview to be scheduled at your local office. At this time, this office is processing cases filed in August and September of 1996.

For future inquiries of this nature you may want to utilize our automated phone system by calling (802)527-3160 for status of a petition or application filed at this Center or for live assistance from an Information Officer.

Att#1
BLD
07-2860

Acting Center Director
Paul E. Novak, Jr.
Acting Center Director

INFO/hla

The Vermont Service Center, through teamwork, continuous process improvements, and personal development, will produce a product that is timely and of high quality which will promote satisfaction and employee self-esteem

U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service

Notice of Action

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIPT NUMBER		CASE TYPE I765
EAC-99-059-52478		APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION
RECEIVED DATE: December 11, 1998	PRIORITY DATE	APPLICANT A73 049 238 GIBEI, VIRA O.
NOTICE DATE: December 17, 1998	PAGE: 1 of 1	

VIRA O. GIBEI
2150 WALLACE AVE 2F
BRONX NY 10462

Notice Type: Receipt Notice

Amount received: $ 100.00

Class requested: C08

The above application for an Employment Authorization Document (EAD), Form I-765, has been received. Processing time is approximately 90 days from the date of this receipt notice.

A Notice of Action, Form I-797, will be sent to you at the address listed above when a decision on this case is made.

If any of the above information is incorrect, or you do not receive a decision on this application within 90 days, please notify us immediately at the number listed below.

Case status information is available 24 hours a day by calling the number below from a touch-tone phone. You will need the receipt number listed on this notice to obtain the information.

If inquiry is written, please attach a copy of this notice.

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.

IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER
75 LOWER WELDEN STREET
SAINT ALBANS VT 05479-0001
Customer Service Telephone: (802) 527-3160

RECEIPT NUMBER		CASE TYPE 1765
EAC-99-048-51967		APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION
RECEIPT DATE	PRIORITY DATE	APPLICANT A73 049 238
		GIBEI, VIRA O.
NOTICE DATE	PAGE	
December 2, 1998	1 of 1	

VIRA O. GIBEI
2150 WALLACE AVE 2F
BRONX NY 10462

Notice Type: Rejection Notice

The above application or petition, along with any check or other form of fee payment, is attached. The application or petition cannot be accepted because the proper fee of $100.00 U.S. is not attached. Since the case is not properly filed, a priority or processing date cannot be assigned.

Please attach a check or money order for this amount and resubmit this entire package to the address listed below. To speed processing, please leave this notice on top.

Enclosures

C# 2
BFW
07-28-00

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.

IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER
75 LOWER WELDEN STREET
SAINT ALBANS VT 05479-0001
Customer Service Telephone: (802) 527-3160

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
VERMONT SERVICE CENTER
75 LOWER WELDEN STREET
ST. ALBANS, VERMONT 05479-0001
(802) 527-3160

April 21, 1998

VIRA GIBEI
2150 WALLACE AVE APT 2F
BRONX NY 10462

98 APR 27 PM 9:38
ST ALBANS VT 05479-0001

RE: ATTACHED

The following is in response to your inquiry.

We are unable to locate a petition or application based on the information you provided.

In order to locate your petition or application, please submit <u>one or all of the following</u> to this office along with your original inquiry:

-- EAC fee receipt or a receipt from another INS office; or
-- A copy of both front and back of a canceled check; or
-- Evidence that a money order pertaining to the case in question, has been cashed by an INS office; or
-- Name and date of birth of the relative or employee being petitioned for;
-- Name/Title of the application/petition that was filed (or form number) at this Center; or
-- Copies of prior notices from <u>this</u> Center about the case in question; or
-- Copy of the application/petition you filed at <u>this</u> Center; or
-- Alien registration number(s); or
-- Any other information you feel will help to locate the case

For future inquiries of this nature you may want to utilize our automated phone system by calling (802)527-3160 for status of a petition or application filed at this Center or for live assistance from an Information Officer.

Paul E Novak Jr
Acting Center Director

Paul E. Novak, Jr.
Acting Center Director

INFO/DCB

The Vermont Service Center, through teamwork, continuous process improvements, and personal development, will produce a product that is timely and of high quality which will promote satisfaction and employee self-esteem

N-400
1
12/17/97

Dr. King's dream is alive!

1199

NATIONAL HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION, AFL-CIO
310 West 43rd Street • New York, NY 10036-6407
Telephone 212/582-1890 • Fax 212/262-4985

October 22, 1997

Dear 1199 Member:

We are pleased to announce that 1199 is offering two (2) new Citizenship Workshops during the month of November. The dates are Wednesday, November 19 and Saturday, November 22. Choose the one (1) date that is most convenient for you. You only need to attend one workshop!. See attached coupon for registration.

In the workshops we will help you get your application ready, review elementary aspects of US history and government and prepare you for your interview with an Immigration and Naturalization officer.

The workshops are taught in English only. The reason for this is because the interview is conducted in English (with some exceptions).

The 1199 citizenship workshops are free for all 1199 members and their immediate family. However, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will require you to pay a fee of $95.00 when you mail your application. **The Union cannot cover this fee.** Do not bring any money with you to the workshop.

To apply for citizenship you must meet the following minimum standards determined by the INS (these are not all the requirements). You must have been a legal resident for at least five years; be at least 18 years old, able to read, write and understand basic English, have a basic knowledge of U.S. history, government and the Constitution, and be willing to take an oath of loyalty to the U.S.

If you are interested in registering for these workshops complete the attached coupon and mail it back to us or call the number listed. Be sure to select only 1 workshop date. Class size is limited and applications are accepted on a first-come first-serve basis. Respond as soon as possible to insure yourself a space.

Sincerely,

Jose Matta, Celeste Douglass, and Nedelka McLean

To register, please complete the coupon and mail to:

1199 Citizenship Program/Political Action Department
330 West 42nd Street- 7th fl.
New York, NY 10036
or call (212) 631-4579

Check the workshop date you wish to enroll in:

September 24, 2000

To: Mrs Hillary Clinton:
Candidate in Senate of United States

From: Vira Bibei
2150 Wallace Ave
Apt 2 F
BRONX, N.Y. 10462

Dear Mrs Hillary Clinton:

Excuse me for incorrect my English.

I'm writing to you about my specific situation again.

THANK you so much for your assistance before.

I sent letter First-class mail to Federal Bureau of investigation on July 1, 2000. Since I didn't get respond.

I went to congressman Joseph Crowley office several times. Director his office said to me: „I'm deportation because I'm not have right visit to Congressman.

I don't work 9 months, and I can't looking for new job because my former employer

(please, rever

gives wrong reference about me.

Department of Labor refused my earned unemployment benefit and refused appeal of the hearing.

I'm alien Register nurse and American's certificate Nursing assistant.

President of United States amend in Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to requirements for the nurses who practice in health professional agencies

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress « Note: Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Area Act of 1999 » assembled.
Public Law 106-95 106 th Congress.

I had 3 times hearing of Department of Labor. When I asked Administrative Law Judge Beverly Diego about this law. She answered: „This law means nothing for me"

Dear Mrs Hillary Clinton:
I would appreciate if you could sent my information about my case to President of United States.
The postal office undeliveres special correspondence to me. (please, see proof)

(please reverse)

All pertinent information regarding my case I sent to you.

I would appreciate if you could inform me about your any assistance.

my Best wishes to you as candidate to Senate.

Excuse me for incorrect my English.

THANK you so much.

Sincerelly
Vira Gibee

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 29, 2000

Copied
Berger
Sperling
Brain
Podesta
NSC ww
desk

ACTION

Do our Africa folks agree - should we try to put this out on before [illegible]?

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: THE EXECUTIVE CLERK

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER for
GENE SPERLING for
CHARLES M. BRAIN CMB

SUBJECT: Implementing the African Growth and Opportunity Act

Purpose

Issue a proclamation that will designate eligibility for trade benefits of the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

Background

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) will ultimately establish duty-free and quota-free treatment for virtually all imports from eligible countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. The eligibility for these enhanced trade benefits is limited to countries that you designate after consideration of certain statutory criteria, including: economic conditions, observance of the rule of law, protection of workers rights and human rights, support for international terrorism, and national security and foreign policy factors. Eligible countries must also have in place or be adopting sound customs procedures and must have put in place certain measures intended to prevent transshipment of eligible textile and apparel articles.

The attached proclamation will begin implementation of the Act by modifying the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule to reflect the new textile and apparel trade benefits, designating 34 African countries as eligible to receive these benefits, designating Eritrea as a beneficiary country under the underlying Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program (a prerequisite for obtaining AGOA benefits), and delegating authority to the United States Trade Representative to determine whether the

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

beneficiary countries have adopted the required customs procedures and have put in place measures to prevent transshipment of eligible textile and apparel articles. One of these countries, Sierra Leone, would be designated as eligible but with delayed implementation due to the ongoing crisis there. We would emphasize to the governments of two others, Ethiopia and Eritrea, that their eligibility will be reviewed in a year with a focus on examining their progress in certain areas, including protection of workers rights and child labor, and, in the case of Eritrea, commercial issues. Fourteen countries will not been designated to receive AGOA benefits at this time: Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, The Gambia, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, and Zimbabwe. Three of them -- Comoros, Somalia, and Sudan -- did not request consideration.

The proclamation reflects the recommendations of the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the interagency Trade Policy Staff Committee. The proclamation will permit designated countries to begin receiving the textile and apparel benefits of the Act upon adopting appropriate customs procedures. Tariffs will be eliminated early next year on virtually all other products that are not already duty-free under the GSP program once the U.S. International Trade Commission has concluded its examination of whether any are import sensitive in the context of U.S. trade with the region.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the proclamation at Tab A.

Attachments

Tab A Presidential Proclamation

Tab B Memorandum from Ambassador Barshefsky

Tab C Memorandum from the Assistant Attorney General

TO IMPLEMENT THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT
AND TO DESIGNATE ERITREA AS A BENEFICIARY DEVELOPING COUNTRY
FOR PURPOSES OF THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

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BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

1. Section 111(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of Public Law 106-200) (AGOA) amends Title V of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act"), to provide, in new section 506A(a) (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)), that the President is authorized to designate countries listed in section 107 of the AGOA as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

2. Section 112(a) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(a)) provides that eligible textile and apparel articles that are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country shall enter the United States free of duty and free of quantitative limitations, provided that the country has satisfied the requirements of section 113(a) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3722(a)) relating to the establishment of procedures to protect against unlawful transshipments, and section 113(b)(1)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3722(b)(1)(B)) relating to the implementation of procedures and requirements similar to those in chapter 5 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

3. Section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)) provides special rules for certain apparel articles imported from "lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

4. Section 112(c) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(c)) provides that the President shall eliminate the existing quotas on textile and apparel articles imported into the United States (a) from Kenya within 30 days after that country adopts an effective visa system to prevent unlawful transshipment of textile and apparel articles and the use of counterfeit documents relating to the importation of the articles into the United States, and (b) from Mauritius within 30 days after that country adopts such a visa system.

5. In order to implement the tariff treatment provided under the AGOA, it is necessary to modify the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS), thereby incorporating the substance of the relevant provisions of the AGOA.

6. Sections 501 and 502 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2462) authorize the President to designate countries as beneficiary developing countries for purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP).

7. Section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in the HTS the substance of the relevant provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder, including the removal, modification, continuance, or imposition of any rate of duty or other import restriction.

8. I have determined that it is appropriate to authorize the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to perform the functions specified in sections 112(c) and 113(b)(1)(B) of the AGOA and to make the findings identified in section 113(a) of the AGOA and to perform certain functions under section 604 of the 1974 Act.

9. For Sierra Leone, I have determined that it is appropriate to authorize the USTR to determine the effective date of its designation as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, sections 111, 112, and 113 of the AGOA, and sections 501, 502, 506A, and 604 of the 1974 Act, do proclaim that:

(1) In order to provide for the preferential treatment provided for in section 112(a) of the AGOA, the HTS is modified as provided in the Annex to this proclamation.

(2) The following countries are designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries pursuant to section 506A(a) of the 1974 Act:

Republic of Benin
Republic of Botswana
Republic of Cape Verde
Republic of Cameroon
Central African Republic
Republic of Chad
Republic of Congo
Republic of Djibouti
State of Eritrea
Ethiopia
Gabonese Republic
Republic of Ghana
Republic of Guinea
Republic of Guinea-Bissau
Republic of Kenya
Kingdom of Lesotho
Republic of Madagascar
Republic of Malawi
Republic of Mali
Islamic Republic of Mauritania
Republic of Mauritius
Republic of Mozambique
Republic of Namibia
Republic of Niger
Federal Republic of Nigeria
Republic of Rwanda
Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Principe
Republic of Senegal
Republic of Seychelles
Republic of Sierra Leone
Republic of South Africa
United Republic of Tanzania
Republic of Uganda
Republic of Zambia

(3) For purposes of section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA, the following designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries shall be considered lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries:

Republic of Benin
Republic of Cape Verde
Republic of Cameroon
Central African Republic
Republic of Chad
Republic of Congo
Republic of Djibouti
State of Eritrea
Ethiopia
Republic of Ghana
Republic of Guinea
Republic of Guinea-Bissau
Republic of Kenya
Kingdom of Lesotho
Republic of Madagascar
Republic of Malawi
Republic of Mali
Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Republic of Mozambique
Republic of Niger
Federal Republic of Nigeria
Republic of Rwanda
Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Principe
Republic of Senegal
Republic of Sierra Leone
United Republic of Tanzania
Republic of Uganda
Republic of Zambia

(4) The USTR is authorized to determine whether each designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African country has satisfied the requirements of section 113(a) of the AGOA relating to the establishment of procedures to protect against unlawful transshipments and section 113(b)(1)(B) of the AGOA relating to the implementation of procedures and requirements similar in all material respects to the relevant procedures and requirements under chapter 5 of the NAFTA. The determination or determinations of the USTR under this paragraph shall be set forth in a notice or notices that the USTR shall cause to be published in the Federal Register. Such notice or notices shall modify the HTS by listing the countries that satisfy the requirements of sections 113(a) and 113(b)(1)(B) of the AGOA. To implement such determination or determinations, the USTR is authorized to exercise the authority provided to the President under section 604 of the 1974 Act to embody modifications and technical or conforming changes in the HTS.

(5) The USTR is authorized to determine whether Kenya and Mauritius have satisfied the requirements of section 112(c) of the AGOA. The determination or determinations of the USTR under this paragraph shall be set forth in a notice or notices that the USTR shall cause to be published in the Federal Register. Within 30 days after any such determination by the USTR, the USTR shall cause the existing quotas on textile and apparel articles imported into the United States from such country to be eliminated by direction to the appropriate agencies or departments. To implement such determination or determinations,

the USTR is authorized to exercise the authority provided to the President under section 604 of the 1974 Act to embody modifications and technical or conforming changes in the HTS.

(6) The USTR is authorized to determine the effective date of the designation of the Republic of Sierra Leone as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country and, therefore, the date upon which Sierra Leone will be considered a lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country. The determination of the USTR under this paragraph shall be set forth in a notice that the USTR shall cause to be published in the Federal Register. To implement such determination, the USTR is authorized to exercise the authority provided to the President under section 604 of the 1974 Act to embody modifications and technical or conforming changes in the HTS.

(7) Pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the 1974 Act, Eritrea is designated as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP.

(8) In order to reflect in the HTS the designation of Eritrea as a beneficiary developing country under the GSP, general note 4(a) to the HTS is modified by inserting in alphabetical sequence "Eritrea" in the list of independent countries.

(9) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive orders that are inconsistent with the actions taken in this proclamation are superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(10) This proclamation is effective on the date of signature of this proclamation, except that (a) the modifications to the HTS made by the Annex to this proclamation, as further modified by any notice to be published in the Federal Register as described in paragraph 4 of this proclamation, shall be effective on the date announced by the USTR in such notice, and (b) the designation of the Republic of Sierra Leone as

a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country shall be effective on the date announced by the USTR in the Federal Register.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of , in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

ANNEX

Effective with respect to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the date published in the Federal Register by the United States Trade Representative, chapter 98 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is modified as set forth herein, with the material in the new tariff provisions being inserted in the columns labeled "Heading/Subheading", "Article Description", and "Rates of Duty 1-Special".

(1). The following new U.S. note is inserted in numerical sequence in subchapter II of chapter 98 of the tariff schedule:

"7. For purposes of the special tariff treatment authorized by the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) (title I of Pub.L. No. 106-200) for certain goods of heading 9802.00.80 imported directly from those beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries previously designated by proclamation that are subsequently enumerated in a notice published in the Federal Register by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) as having been determined to have satisfied the requirements of the AGOA and therefore to be afforded such tariff treatment, the duty-free treatment indicated for such heading shall apply only to apparel articles assembled in one or more such beneficiary countries from fabrics wholly formed and cut in the United States, from yarns wholly formed in the United States (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 of chapter 56 and are wholly formed and cut in the United States). Articles otherwise eligible to enter under this heading, and which satisfy the conditions set forth in U.S. note 3 to subchapter XIX of this chapter, shall not be ineligible to enter under this heading. Such countries shall be enumerated in this note whenever the USTR issues a Federal Register notice as described herein. Articles covered by the provisions of this note shall be eligible to enter the customs territory of the United States free of quantitative limitations."

(2). (a) The article description of heading 9802.00.80 is modified by inserting immediately after "heading 9802.00.90" the expression "and goods imported under provisions of subchapter XIX of this chapter".

(b) The Rates of Duty 1-Special subcolumn for such heading is modified by inserting below the last rate in such subcolumn the expression "Free, for qualifying articles from sub-Saharan African countries enumerated in U.S. note 7 to this subchapter".

(3). The following new subchapter XIX is inserted in chapter 98 of the HTS, together with its U.S. notes and tariff provisions:

"SUBCHAPTER XIX
TEXTILE AND APPAREL GOODS ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL TARIFF BENEFITS
UNDER THE AFRICA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

U.S. Notes

1. For purposes of this subchapter, the tariff treatment provided herein shall be accorded only to textile and apparel articles that are described in such subheadings and imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from those beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries previously designated by proclamation which have subsequently been determined in a Federal Register notice issued by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to have satisfied the requirements of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) (title I of Pub.L. No. 106-200) and therefore should be afforded the tariff treatment authorized in such Act and set forth in the provisions of this subchapter. Such countries shall be enumerated in this note whenever the USTR issues a Federal Register notice as described herein. Such articles shall be eligible to enter free of duty and free of any quantitative limitations, except as provided in the notes to this subchapter.

2. (a) Imports of apparel articles under subheadings 9819.11.09 and 9819.11.12 shall be limited, in the period beginning on the date announced in a notice published in the Federal Register by the United States Trade Representative and continuing through the close of September 30, 2001, to an aggregate quantity not to exceed 1.5 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States in the preceding 12-month period for which data are available. Of that aggregate quantity, an amount not to exceed 1 percent of such aggregate square meter equivalents shall be eligible to enter under such subheadings during the period beginning on the date announced in such Federal Register notice and continuing through the close of December 31, 2000. The remaining 0.5 percent of such aggregate square meter equivalents, together with any quantity remaining unfilled from the 1 percent eligible to enter prior to January 1, 2001, shall be eligible to enter under such subheadings during the period beginning on January 1, 2001 and continuing through the close of September 30, 2001.

(b) Such imports of apparel articles under subheadings 9819.11.09 and 9819.11.12 shall be limited, in each of the seven one-year periods beginning on October 1, 2001, to an aggregate quantity not to exceed the applicable percentage set forth herein of aggregate square meter equivalents of all apparel articles imported into the United States in the preceding 12-month period for which data are available:

12-Month Period	Applicable Percentage
October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002	1.7857
October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003	2.0714
October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004	2.3571
October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005	2.6428
October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006	2.9285
October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007	3.2142
October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008	3.5

(c) The aggregate quantity of imports allowed during each enumerated 12-month period shall be published in the Federal Register by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

(d) For purposes of subheading 9819.11.12, only those designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries that have been enumerated in U.S. note 1 to this subchapter, following publication of a notice by the United States Trade Representative, shall be eligible to be treated as lesser developed beneficiary countries pursuant to section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)). Countries qualifying for designation as a lesser developed beneficiary country shall be enumerated in this note whenever the USTR issues a Federal Register notice as described herein and shall be eligible to enter goods under such subheading as of the effective date announced in such notice.

3. (a) An article otherwise eligible for preferential treatment under any provision of this subchapter shall not be ineligible for such treatment because the article contains--

(i) findings or trimmings of foreign origin, if the value of such findings and trimmings does not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the components of the assembled article; or

(ii) certain interlinings of foreign origin, if the value of such interlinings (and any findings and trimmings of foreign origin) does not exceed 25 percent of the cost of the components of the assembled article; or

(iii) fibers or yarns not wholly formed in the United States or in one or more designated beneficiary countries enumerated in U.S. note 1 to this subchapter, provided that the total weight of all such fibers and yarns is not more than 7 percent of the total weight of the article.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (a)(i) above, findings or trimmings eligible under such subdivision include sewing thread, hooks and eyes, snaps, buttons, "bow buds", decorative lace trim, elastic strips, and zippers, including zipper tapes and labels. Elastic strips are considered findings or trimmings only if they are each less than 2.54 cm in width and used in the production of brassieres. For purposes of articles described in subheading 9819.11.06, sewing thread shall not be considered to be findings or trimmings.

(c) For purposes of subdivision (a)(ii) above, the interlinings eligible under such subdivision include only a chest type plate, a "hymo" piece, or "sleeve header", of woven or weft-inserted warp knit construction and of coarse animal hair or man-made filaments.

4. For purposes of subheading 9819.11.27, goods entered under this provision must be certified, by a competent authority of a designated beneficiary country enumerated in U.S. note 1 to this subchapter, as eligible products of such country, in accordance with any requirements established by the appropriate U.S. government authority.

	Articles imported from a designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African country enumerated in U.S. note 1 to this subchapter:			
9819.11.03	Apparel articles of chapter 61 or 62 assembled in one or more such countries from fabrics wholly formed and cut in the United States, from yarns wholly formed in the United States (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable in heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed and cut in the United States), the foregoing which (1) are embroidered or were subjected to stone-washing, enzyme-washing, acid washing, permapressing, oven-baking, bleaching, garment-dyeing, screen printing or other similar processes, and (2) but for such embroidery or processing are of a type otherwise described in heading 9802.00.80 of the tariff schedule.		Free	
9819.11.06	Apparel articles cut in one or more such countries from fabric wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable in heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed in the United States), where such articles are assembled in one or more such countries with thread formed in the United States.		Free	

	[Articles...(con.):]	
9819.11.09	Apparel articles wholly assembled in one or more such countries from fabric wholly formed in one or more such countries from yarn originating in either the United States or one or more such countries (including fabrics not formed from yarns, if such fabrics are classifiable under heading 5602 or 5603 and are wholly formed and cut in one or more such countries), subject to the provisions of U.S. note 2 to this subchapter	Free
9819.11.12	Apparel articles wholly assembled in a lesser developed such country enumerated in U.S. note 2(d) to this subchapter, subject to the provisions of U.S. note 2 to this subchapter, if entered during the period beginning on the date announced in a <u>Federal</u> <u>Register</u> notice issued by the United States Trade Representative and continuing through September 30, 2004, inclusive	Free
9819.11.15	Sweaters, in chief weight of cashmere, knit-to-shape in one or more such countries, the foregoing classifiable in subheading 6110.10	Free
9819.11.18	Sweaters containing 50 percent or more by weight of wool measuring 18.5 microns in diameter or finer, knit-to-shape in one or more such countries	Free
9819.11.21	Apparel articles both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more such countries from fabrics or yarn that is not formed in the United States or a beneficiary country, provided that such apparel articles of such fabrics or yarn would be considered an originating good under the terms of general note 12(t) to the tariff schedule without regard to the source of the fabric or yarn if such apparel article had been imported from the territory of Canada or the territory of Mexico directly into the customs territory of the United States	Free
9819.11.24	Apparel articles both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more such countries from fabrics or yarn designated by the appropriate U.S. government authority in the <u>Federal</u> <u>Register</u> as fabrics or yarn not available in commercial quantities in the United States, under any terms as such authority may provide	Free
9819.11.27	Handloomed, handmade or folklore textile and apparel goods, under the provisions of U.S. note 4 to this subchapter	Free

0163

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

SEP 28 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky Charlene

SUBJECT: Proclamation to Implement the Textile and Apparel Benefits of the African Growth and Opportunity Act

Issue

Whether to sign the attached draft proclamation to implement the textile and apparel provisions of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

Background

The AGOA (Title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000) provides trade benefits to the countries of sub-Saharan Africa to promote increased trade and investment between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa and economic development in the region. The AGOA offers new benefits for goods previously excluded from preferential treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences ("GSP"), including certain textile and apparel products from sub-Saharan African countries. The modifications needed to implement the new benefits for textile and apparel products in the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) are set forth in the Annex to the draft proclamation. At a later date, we will be forwarding a proposed proclamation to implement the benefits provided by the AGOA for other products.

Eligibility for enhanced trade benefits under the AGOA is limited to countries that you designate as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries." There are 48 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. In considering which of these countries should be designated as beneficiary countries, the AGOA requires you to apply the existing criteria under the GSP program, as well as several new criteria. These new criteria include whether these countries have established or are making continual progress toward establishing, a market-based economy, the rule of law, the elimination of barriers to U.S. trade and investment, economic policies to reduce poverty, the protection of internationally recognized worker rights, and a system to combat corruption. Additionally, countries (1) cannot engage in activities that undermine U.S. national security, (2) cannot engage in gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights, (3) cannot provide support for acts of international terrorism, and (4) must have implemented their commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

The Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) conducted a detailed review of each sub-Saharan African country that expressed an interest in receiving benefits under the AGOA. The TPSC and U.S. Embassy officials conducted extensive consultations with these countries regarding concerns identified during the eligibility review process and established specific policy objectives to be pursued with specific governments. Based on these efforts, the TPSC recommends that the following 34 countries be designated as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries: Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. The NEC Deputies and I concur.

The TPSC recommends Sierra Leone be designated as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country, but with delayed implementation. The Government of Sierra Leone is democratically elected, market-oriented and strongly supported by the international community. However, rebels fighting to control the country's diamond resources have taken control of parts of the country and the resultant civil war has destroyed much of the institutional and physical infrastructure in the country. The Government of Sierra Leone is struggling to resolve the crisis, but until there is some resolution, the TPSC recommends that benefits to Sierra Leone be delayed. Again, the NEC Deputies and I concur.

I had serious reservations about recommending Ethiopia as a beneficiary country. Its worker rights record, both on child labor and the right of association, has been poor. Due to these concerns, we will continue to monitor Ethiopia's compliance with internationally recognized worker rights and its progress in eliminating the worst forms of child labor. We plan to communicate our reservations to the Government of Ethiopia, propose a high level bilateral labor dialogue, and offer technical assistance. To emphasize the seriousness of our concerns we will inform Ethiopia that we will reconsider its status as a beneficiary in twelve months.

The following 14 countries will not be designated to receive AGOA benefits at this time. They are: Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, The Gambia, Liberia, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, and Zimbabwe.

Before granting tariff benefits, the AGOA also requires that designated countries put in place certain measures intended to prevent transshipment of eligible textile and apparel articles and have adopted appropriate customs procedures to verify the origin of those products they ship to us. Given the technical nature of these issues, I recommend that you delegate to USTR authority to make these additional determinations. We expect that at least some of the countries will have the requisite procedures in place shortly. Once we determine that these countries meet the criteria, they will begin receiving the textile and apparel benefits.

Finally, the attached proclamation also amends the HTS to designate Eritrea as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the GSP program. Eritrea is the only one of the 34 countries discussed above that is not a GSP beneficiary country. As noted, satisfaction of the GSP eligibility criteria is a requirement for designation as a beneficiary country under the AGOA.

Recommendation

I recommend that you sign the attached proclamation:

1. Modifying the HTS to reflect the new textile and apparel benefits provided by the AGOA;

2. Designating 34 sub-Saharan African countries as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries" under the AGOA;

3. Delegating to the USTR the authority to determine whether the beneficiary countries you have designated have adopted the required customs procedures and may begin receiving benefits under the program; and

4. Modifying the HTS to designate Eritrea as a GSP beneficiary developing country.

Decision

____________Approve Recommendation   __________Discuss Further

Attachments

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Counsel

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

September 28, 2000

The President,

The White House.

My dear Mr. President:

I am herewith transmitting a proposed Proclamation entitled "To Implement the African Growth and Opportunity Act and to Designate Eritrea as a Beneficiary Developing Country for Purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences." The proposed Proclamation has been prepared by the United States Trade Representative, who forwarded it to this Department for review with respect to form and legality.

The proposed Proclamation is approved with respect to form and legality.

Respectfully,

Randolph D. Moss

Randolph D. Moss
Assistant Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legal Counsel

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

September 28, 2000

MEMORANDUM

Re: Proposed Presidential Proclamation Entitled
"To Implement the African Growth and Opportunity Act
and to Designate Eritrea as a Beneficiary Developing Country
for the Purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences"

The attached proposed Presidential Proclamation was prepared by the United States Trade Representative, and forwarded to this Office for review of its form and legality.

The proposed Proclamation would designate certain countries as "sub-Saharan African beneficiary countries" pursuant to sections 111, 112, and 113 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act ("AGOA") (19 U.S.C. §§ 2466a, 3721, 3722). The proposed Proclamation also would designate certain countries as "lesser developed sub-Saharan African beneficiary countries" pursuant to sections 111, 112, and 113 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. §§ 2466a, 3721, 3722). Those designations allow certain eligible articles from those countries to receive preferential tariff treatment. Pursuant to section 604 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. § 2483), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, the proposed Proclamation would authorize the United States Trade Representative to modify the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States ("HTS") accordingly.

Pursuant to section 113 of the AGOA and to section 604 of the 1974 Act (19 U.S.C. § 2483) and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, the proposed Proclamation also would authorize the United States Trade Representative to determine whether Kenya and Mauritius meet the requirements of section 113 of the AGOA and to make corresponding changes in the quotas for certain goods.

In addition, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the 1974 Act, the proposed Proclamation would designate Eritrea as a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences and make a corresponding change in the HTS.

We rely upon the Trade Representative for the accuracy of all non-legal provisions of the Proclamation.

The proposed Proclamation is approved with respect to form and legality.

Randolph D. Moss

Randolph D. Moss
Assistant Attorney General

10-2-00

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

'00 SEP 30 PM4:35

September 30, 2000

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

JP

wants a letter

of support – [illegible] in CARA

in St, Justice, Commerce –

BG [illegible]

400m to 575m

$ to coastal sts.

TO: Rep. Norm Dicks (D-WA)

DATE: As soon as possible.

RECOMMENDED BY: Chuck Brain
Martha Foley

PURPOSE: To return a call to Rep. Norm Dicks.

BACKGROUND:

copied
Podesta
Brain
Foley

The Congressman called you this morning to express his happiness with the Interior Appropriations bill.

The Administration reached agreement with Congressional negotiators on the Interior bill this morning. Based on our current knowledge the bill should be signable. Although we have not been able to read the text yet, we believe it includes good language on Lands Legacy, increased funding in many areas including the National Endowment for the Arts, and that many objectionable riders were dropped. Congressman Dicks is the ranking Democrat on the subcommittee and played a critical role in improving the bill.

TALKING POINTS:

- You should thank Congressman Dicks for his critical role in supporting the Administration in seeking improvements in the bill.
- In particular, he authored the original amendment in conference to add Lands Legacy funding, he (along with Rep. Obey) fought to increase funding for the NEA, and helped to drop or modify many objectionable riders.
- Although we have not seen the bill text yet, what we know about the bill looks very good.

- We need to make sure that the fish and wildlife crowd (Dingell especially) feel like this is a good base on which they can build.

CONTACT PERSON AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Rep. Norm Dicks
Work: 202-225-5916
DC Home: 202-225-2524
District Home: 253-273-7582

DATE OF SUBMISSION: September 30, 2000

[illegible] HAS SEEN
10-2-00

Sandy
Interesting
[illegible]
WJC

Copied
Berger
Podesta

Washington Post Staff Writer

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan

"Did you know millions of people will die between now and next week in Africa and no one cares?" Gen. Anthony C. Zinni asks abruptly during one of his final tours of his "CINCdom," the vast swath of Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa known as the U.S. Central Command. "When you go out there and see these people, you're their only hope sometimes. You feel bad 'cause you're delivering peanuts."

"Millions" of weekly African deaths may be an exaggeration, but Zinni's sense of sometimes being the "only hope" for countries in his military realm reflects both the expanse of his mission and the skepticism he and other CINCs sometimes feel about the foreign policy they increasingly help to shape.

U.S. efforts to train regional African peacekeepers are so small and "half-baked" that "they don't prepare anyone to be a peacekeeper."

As for his attempts to nudge Washington to address Africa's problems, his voice becomes cynical. "You assume there's someone back there who cares," Zinni says.

Diplomats in Foggy Bottom for years have wrestled with popular and political indifference to their priorities. Now, as congressional funding for overseas missions increasingly favors the Pentagon's regional commanders-in-chief, or CINCs, Zinni and other semiautonomous generals and admirals abroad find themselves taking on tasks previously handled by civilians. They too are confronting the limits of American engagement and attention spans overseas.

Until he retired last month, Zinni was a leader in redefining the U.S. military's role in the post-Cold War era and understanding the global context in which it must operate. For 32 years, Zinni's combat skills propelled him to the military's top ranks. In his last three, he became one of America's most important diplomats.

"War is the easy part," says the bulldog-shouldered Marine who endured vodka-drenched toasts in Turkmenistan, tribal dancing in Kenya and hand-holding with princes in Saudi Arabia who called him "our commander."

The Washington Post joined Zinni on one of his last tours of his theater, a two-week trip across 10 time zones that took 44 hours in the air to reach a conference in Bahrain, with stops in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and England.

Often unglamorous, the endless meetings Zinni held with military and civilian leaders were the farthest thing imaginable from the tempo of combat or the predictable rote of military drills. Yet as the 20 American ambassadors interviewed along the trip confirmed, no other U.S. official in the region spent more time trying to build relationships with nations where virtually none existed.

It was a testament "to the time Zinni has to think about these issues," said one ambassador in Central Asia. "Not us, we're firefighters."

The 'Godfather'

Out of context, it is hard to picture Zinni as statesman. Still bench-pressing 300 pounds, he more resembles his nickname, "The Godfather," recalling a time when he collected debts in Philadelphia's Italian section with a stick-carrying goon as sidekick.

Just about everything is a competition with his staff: Spades, exercise, eating. "Did you try the horse meat?" he prods. "Did you eat the camels-milk yogurt? His stories, marinated with cigars and cognac, teem with heroic violence, naked women and soldiering humor.

ics, two navigators, a ... ton of spare parts.

On the April trip, Col. Manny Shaves, the trip coordinator, tracked expenses and monitored a computer printer spitting out schedule changes. Two-week trip for 40: $98,700, plus $1,500 an hour flying time. Conference in Bahrain: $450,000.

In flight, Zinni occupied himself with a thick book of poetry, foreign policy magazines and arguments with a senior civilian defense official that dragged into the night. He held briefings, talked about his career and reflected on the world.

"As the sole remaining superpower, everybody is turning to us," he said one afternoon. "Everybody thinks we're going to help in the reordering of the world. But it's all self-ordering now, and when you self-order, it's like the roll of the dice. We are not doing enough to direct or structure a new order.

"We don't have a way to say, 'Okay, Central Asia is a problem, let's all get together, each agency, then build a program.' The geography of the agencies [doesn't] even match up. If I go over to the State Department, I have four bureaus to visit."

"For me, it was a discovery over time," he said, heading to Uzbekistan. "We need to revamp the entire engagement program."

The 'Klingons'

Walking down the ramp of his converted 707 in Bahrain, Zinni's size 46 jacket sparkled with medals and stars. Security men with wireless earphones rushed before him, and a line of foreign uniforms snapped to attention.

A dozen aides fanned out, encasing him in an invisible bubble. Zinni's political adviser, Ambassador Lawrence Pope, jokingly calls them the 'Klingons,' majors and colonels obsessed with seating charts and punctuality. For the entire trip, they protected Zinni's stride, walking within earshot of his quietest request. Three "communicators" with cell phones and a 90-pound encrypted satellite phone in a backpack stood ready to dial anywhere at anytime, as they did once when Zinni, riding atop a camel in the Saudi desert, had to return an emergency call to Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The only time Zinni was ever incommunicado was for several hours when he and an United Arab Emirates prince motored out on a yacht to an oil platform in Iranian territorial waters to go fishing, a daring, if short, escape from his handlers.

Zinni's aide-de-camp, Marine Maj. Jeff Haynes, was charged with anticipating his needs: messages from the answering machine, gifts for dignitaries, his must-have peppermint Lifesavers. Haynes also scripted Zinni's uniforms, which one day called for five complete changes. Zinni grumbled loudly the next day, "We're not changing again today!"

When Zinni arrived in Bahrain, the officer in charge of directing major wars was ushered onto a pink satin settee in the airport's VIP room.

His entourage moved about the city in a motorcade of a dozen black armored BMWs, its appearance creating a local sensation. On one shopping trip to nearby Dubai—where Zinni added to his collection of 120 Oriental rugs—even the local souk closed. "Who is it? Who is it?" merchants speculated. "It's Madonna! Madonna!"

At the Bahrain conference, 70 U.S. military and civilian officials and hundreds of Persian Gulf officers gathered to discuss sharing a computerized early warning system for biological and chemical weapons attacks. On the surface, it was a slow-burn event. "It's like paint drying, isn't it?" Zinni whispered.

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THE WASHINGTON POST
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2000

according to one classified report, with 25,000 service personnel there at any time. Zinni has used his entree with Gulf countries to ease the way for Defense Secretary William S. Cohen, who made several tough trips here to win support for missile strikes against Iraq.

Relationships here are easy because the United States supports some of the world's most undemocratic regimes: inherited monarchies. "Democracy" is even excised as a goal on standard military briefing charts.

Wherever he roamed, Zinni had access to the highest levels of government.

In Africa he met with kings and presidents. In Saudi Arabia, Zinni's ties with the royal family helped mend relations after the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in which 19 U.S. Air Force personnel died. In contrast to his predecessor, a traditional Army general, Zinni falcon-hunted with the royals, attended religious ceremonies, sat by the aged Prince Sultan's side on occasion, holding his hand.

"Sometimes they lead you around by the hand, almost like a little boy," said Zinni. "It's a sign of warmth and friendship, so you do it."

The Backwater

Big issues brought Zinni to Central Asia four times in two years: Oil. Natural gas. Terrorism. Russia.

Kazakhstan's oil reserves rival the North Sea's. Turkmenistan holds the world's fifth-largest natural gas deposits. Export routes are not yet set but the U.S. military may someday be asked to ensure it flows to market, just like it does in the Gulf.

As for terrorism, Islamic militants from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Chechnya have set up camps in Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley. Russia has helped with anti-terrorism efforts and is trying to increase its involvement. Zinni's goal was to get the countries to look west for guidance.

His efforts were significant because "face time" matters at this stage, said a senior western diplomat in Kazakhstan. "He's been out here four times," sighed another. "I can't get high-level State Department visitors to come out here that often."

The motorcade in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, Zinni's first stop in Central Asia, was a dozen used sedans and vans bouncing atop the potholed roads at 80 miles per hour, past green mountain ranges, grazing goats and barefooted shepherds. They arrived in a dust-covered city of a million that looks untouched since the 1950s.

In this, the region's poorest country, ties to Russia are strong and some former Soviet factories are still producing missiles. Zinni listened patiently as Defense Minister Lt. Gen. Esen Topoyez asked for U.S. equipment and joint exercises, and then expressed his view that the relationship with the United States "has acquired a continual and steady nature." Zinni worked hard to establish that steadiness, sending his mid-level officers on more than 20 annual visits there to work on programs.

A U.S. team will train 300 Kyrgyzstanis in counterterrorism by next year. Kyrgyzstan wants more. Last year 1,000 armed Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) members, the region's main radical Islamic organization, swept into Kyrgyzstan on their way to mounting attacks in Uzbekistan. The Kyrgyzstani military was unable to stop and capture them as Uzbekistan and other countries in the region demanded.

Corruption and autocracy are rampant in Central Asia, and many experts say citizens enjoy fewer freedoms and less economic security now than they did under Soviet domination.

Human rights groups argue that the U.S. military should not help armies in authoritarian countries such as Uzbekistan or Turkmenistan because troops are used often to repress political dissent and commit human rights

itary ties are like people who "want to deliver health care only to people who are completely healthy."

The Challenges

Building trust in a remote corner of the world is often achieved in subtle ways, as Zinni saw during a stop in Kazakhstan. At one point, during a day of tours and formal meetings, the four-star general found himself in a school auditorium, uncomfortably watching a 15-minute videotape of a bikini-clad singer bellowing a tribute to Kazakh officers. The music brought the ranking Kazakh officer to his feet, followed by the U.S. defense attaché. They grabbed a microphone. Karaoke happened.

They offered it to Zinni, but laughing, he politely declined.

In Uzbekistan, the mood turned serious again. A police loudspeaker blared "Get your asses off the road" trying to clear a four-lane thoroughfare as Zinni's motorcade zoomed through Tashkent. Zinni was whisked to his hotel suite to consult with the embassy staff, including the CIA station chief. The topic was the IMU, the Islamic extremists seeking to install an Islamic state in Uzbekistan.

The briefer painted a dire picture. The president's strong-arm tactics against all suspected religious activists are backfiring, Zinni was told. Disenfranchised youth are being pulled to the IMU because of the poor economy. The Russians are helping with anti-terrorism. "They are trying to sell them stuff, to exploit the low interest—or the interruption of interest—brought on by the U.S. presidential elections."

"If you're a guy looking for a jihad, the IMU is the best jihad going," someone else said. "This thing will wash to the Caucasus, the Balkans, Eastern Europe and will come home to roost."

Later that day, Zinni and Uzbekistan's foreign minister shared assessments of Pakistan's anti-terrorism efforts and events in Iran and Afghanistan. Zinni saw the president briefly and gave a sleeping bag to the defense minister, a symbolic place-holder for more U.S. cold weather gear for the mountain passes where the alleged terrorists enter the country.

"Thank you for paying attention to our country," the defense minister said and invited him to a dinner laden with vodka, horse meat and endless toasts to the growing U.S.-Uzbekistani friendship. By evening's end, the minister and his aides were teary-eyed as they reminisced about their trips to Tampa Bay to visit their Central Command counterparts.

Zinni's last stop was Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, a surreal place with skyscraping monuments to president-for-life Saparmurat Niyazov. Giant portraits of him hang from dozens of white marble office buildings. The long streets and walkways leading up to the Oz-like presidential palace are empty because guards ring the perimeter to keep pedestrians away. There's no legal system, no unhindered press, no political parties.

Rich from its huge natural gas and oil reserves, Niyazov is erecting dozens of gigantic stone museums and starkly modern hotels that spring up amid the plains and mountains.

The president of Russia and Pakistan's military head of state were here around the same time as Zinni, both seeking good relations and a part of the pipeline that will carry billions of dollars of oil and gas to market. Niyazov, whose foreign relations he calls "positive neutrality," is playing hard to get, looking for the best deal. His foreign and defense ministers take the same tack.

Zinni tried to warm them up, but his hosts were dour and uncommitted.

"Are there any other areas you'd like to discuss?" he asked the defense minister five minutes into their meeting.

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A Four-Star Forei

U.S. Commanders Wield Rising Clout, Aut

State Madeleine K. Albright, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen or the U.S. ambassador in Islamabad. Instead, Musharraf telephoned Marine Corps Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, who happened to be sitting with Cohen at an airfield in Egypt.

"Tony," Musharraf began, "I want to tell you what I'm doing . . ."

Zinni may not be a household name, but as the recent head of the U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. military operations in the Middle East, the four-star general was among a quartet of American military leaders who have exerted more political influence abroad over the past three years than most civilian diplomats.

Zinni, along with Adm. Dennis C. Blair, Gen. Wesley K. Clark and Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, served as regional commanders-in-chief, or CINCs. The CINC offices were expanded 14 years ago to promote efficiency by giving them command of operations involving the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines in assigned regions of the world. Since then, the CINCs (pronounced "sinks") have evolved into the modern-day equivalent of the Roman Empire's proconsuls—well-funded, semi-autonomous, unconventional centers of U.S. foreign policy.

In a decade when Congress significantly reduced the State Department and civilian foreign aid budgets, the CINCs have enjoyed a budgetary boom unscrutinized by Congress. There is no reliable accounting of the hundreds of millions of dollars the CINCs spend each year, and congressional oversight committees have not asked for one. The Pentagon intentionally keeps its classified, piecemeal version of their budgets out of Congress's hands.

The CINCs control headquarters budgets outside of Washington that total $380 million a year, more than twice what they had when the Cold War ended. They travel nonstop, oversee multimillion-dollar foreign study institutes and round-the-clock intelligence centers, host international conferences and direct disaster relief.

American generals and admirals, emissaries for 50 years of the world's strongest military, have long exercised independent influence abroad, and in doing so, they jockeyed with diplomats and intelligence agencies to shape U.S. foreign policy. But the swelling institution of the CINC has shifted this balance during the 1990s. Sheer budgetary prowess is one reason. Another is that the nature of post-Cold War U.S. military engagements, emphasizing peacekeeping and nation-building, has steadily pushed the uniformed CINCs into expanded diplomatic and political roles.

The pronounced role of the U.S. military is criticized in parts of the world—especially the Americas, Europe, the Philippines and Japan—where resentment runs deep over the conduct of U.S. forces on foreign soil. Human rights groups and some members of Congress believe the military already exercises too much foreign influence and that increased reliance on the Pentagon to solve complex problems is causing civilian agencies to atrophy. Conservatives charge that the diplomatic and nation-building missions drain resources and dull the armed services' ability to fight and win wars.

The Washington Post
Thursday, September 28, 2000

CINCs came to believe by the new millennium that their own uniformed services were too parochial, that U.S. relations abroad suffer because the Pentagon's leadership foolishly shuns deep contact with the State Department. The National Security Council, they complain, is too small and ineffective to bring together competing bureaucracies, and too focused on crises to implement long-term strategies.

If today's Pentagon is too engaged in non-military missions, it is partly because the CINCs feel they need to fill a void.

"The system is badly broken," sighed Zinni one midnight in May, his eyes red from fatigue nine hours into a flight to Bahrain. "We use chewing gum and bailing wire to keep it together."

"I look longingly at the foreign affairs intelligentsia, but no one is addressing the cosmic issue; everyone's going tactical," said Blair, heading home one day from Indonesia. "What's the United States going to do with its superpowerhood? It drives me crazy. We're looking at our wake instead of looking ahead."

To assess the world of the CINCs, The Washington Post spent several months this year observing the work of Zinni, Clark, Wilhelm and Blair. All but Blair were in the final months of their tenure and have since retired, yet in their last days in the job they traveled frenetically—to Pacific and Central Asia, Europe, the Persian Gulf and Central America. During their trips, the four gave relatively unfettered access to meetings with staff and foreign dignitaries and granted hours of interviews in which they shared their views, vented disappointments and described their challenges.

Clark, until recently the commander of NATO and the U.S. European Command, hopscotched across Europe each week to help westernize former Soviet bloc countries.

Blair, the Mainer who heads the U.S. Pacific Command, made day-long flights across the international date line twice a month to promote multinational security pacts among Asian countries, an idea once opposed by the Pentagon and the State Department.

Wilhelm, head of the U.S. Southern Command, led a $30 million U.S. relief effort in Central America after Hurricane Mitch in 1998, then lobbied Congress to lift its informal prohibition on contact with the once Marxist Nicaraguan military. He became the first CINC on Nicaraguan soil in 20 years.

In Pakistan, Zinni, commander of the U.S. Central Command, pushed the Clinton administration to open the diplomatic door with Musharraf when many demanded it be slammed shut. Convinced that Pakistan could be a regional stabilizing force, he helped persuade Clinton to visit Musharraf in March. With Zinni's intervention, Musharraf turned over several suspected terrorists in secret sweeps around New Year's Day.

From vantage points thousands of miles from Washington, the CINCs see problems with some U.S. policies abroad and with their own Pentagon leadership.

"Washington reacts to Beltway issues," said Zinni, so influential in the Persian Gulf that one U.S. ambassador there half-jokingly compared him to God. "It doesn't mean anything out here."

The Unified Commands

The CINC position was created in 1947 as part of the newly formed Department of Defense, but the job did not become influential until after 1980, when five servicemen died in an aborted attempt to rescue American hostages in Tehran.

Gen. David Jones, then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, complained that the disaster might have been averted if he had had the authority to order more qualified Air Force special warfare pilots to fly the mission from Navy ships.

Congress responded by passing the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986—over the opposition of the chiefs of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. Designed to override de-

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civilian secretaries, the CINCs report directly to the secretary of defense and the president. Former defense secretary William Perry had a close relationship with most of the CINCs, but the more insular Cohen has delegated almost all contact with them to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Henry H. Shelton.

The CINCs' jobs always have been loaded with perks. They live in well-appointed homes, draw $135,000 salaries for terms that usually run three years and have lavish entertainment and travel budgets. But as the demands have broadened, the jobs have attracted a different breed—military leaders not known as company men.

Clark and Blair were Rhodes scholars and White House fellows. Clark was not the Army's candidate for a CINC job, and Blair left the Navy's inner circle for a year to work for the CIA. Zinni, one of the Marine Corps' most unconventional thinkers, got his job over the wishes of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Gen. John M. Shalikashvili.

The 1986 legislation also cemented a tug-of-war for resources between the CINCs and the service chiefs. The CINCs in the European and Pacific commands have hundreds of thousands of troops at their disposal for armed conflicts. But in "peacetime engagements," they and the other CINCs must appeal to the service chiefs or to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs for troops and equipment. The CINCs complain bitterly about what they are allotted, but at the Pentagon's Army War Plans Division, staffers besieged with requests from the field voted tongue-in-cheek to rename themselves "The CINC Requirements Task Force," a sign that the CINCs' tug is felt within the very heart of the services.

Three CINCs have staffs as large as the executive office of the president. More people—about 1,100—work at the smallest CINC headquarters, the U.S. Southern Command, than the total assigned to the Americas at the State, Commerce, Treasury and Agriculture departments, the Pentagon's Joint Staff and the office of the secretary of defense.

The CINCs control their own aircraft, can call up a fleet of helicopters, and often travel with an entourage approaching 35. The commanders routinely are received by heads of state who offer gifts, share secrets and seek advice.

The CINCs spend $50 million a year on four foreign study institutes for U.S. and foreign officials. Another $20 million a year goes for conferences that include non-military topics such as environmental degradation, medical care, mine clearance, piracy, drug trafficking and policing. Each operates a huge intelligence center staffed 24 hours a day.

Bountiful resources and an open-ended mandate allow the CINCs to engage with tiny countries and on obscure foreign policy issues if they feel inspired.

Because Zinni loved the Seychelles, his staff spent untold hours finding old U.S. patrol boats the islands could use for a coast guard to ward off illegal fishermen. Clark wrangled $3.5 million from the Pentagon for a computer simulation to show leaders in the former East bloc the economic impact of their decisions.

Because Blair admires the Gurkhas of Nepal, he ordered his staff to help improve the elite troops' medical program. Since his groundbreaking first visit to Nicaragua, Wilhelm has returned four times and hundreds of U.S. troops followed for exercises.

"We got into Nicaragua on a tailwind supplied by a hurricane," Wilhelm laughed as he flew home recently from Central America.

Guiding Strategic Shifts

Since the end of the Cold War, the CINCs have helped shift America's strategic thinking. Privately, they hold strong opinions that sometimes differ sharply with the policies they are asked to carry out.

Wilhelm disagrees with the administration's hardline stance on Cuba, now under a U.S. trade and diplomatic embargo. Several years ago, he publicly declared Cuba no longer a military threat, enraging anti-Castro groups in the United States.

Blair views China as less of a threat than Capitol Hill lawmakers think it is. His determination to open mil-

he opposed the Clinton administration's idea of funding an Iraqi opposition group to overthrow Saddam Hussein. Cohen prohibited him from holding on-the-record media interviews. Zinni remembers national security adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger demanding, "What gives you the right to say that?"

" 'Well,' " Zinni recalls saying, " 'the First Amendment.' "

There are recurrent tussles among the CINCs too, especially when they sit down to adjust their empires, carving up continents like 19th-century European colonialists.

After a battle last year between the colonels of the Central and European commands, Zinni won five Central Asian nations because Clark's unruly territory had grown to 91 countries. When Zinni mounted a campaign to enlarge his Horn of Africa reach, Clark agreed to give him Kenya but hung on to Uganda.

Relationships between a CINC and the countries in his "CINCdom" are heavily colored by history. The contrasts are most striking between Europe, where the United States has long been dominant in security matters, and Latin America, where governments have restricted contacts with the U.S. military because of past U.S. support of abusive regimes.

Traveling with Clark and Wilhelm illustrated these differences. At every stop, Clark sat with prime ministers and foreign ministers and spent as much time with civilian officials and diplomats as with military officers. Wilhelm's most substantive meetings were with his military counterparts; few political leaders sought him out.

Architect of Reform

In Bosnia and Kosovo, Clark used the autonomy and resources that have devolved to CINCs to push NATO troops toward a nation-building role unseen since the military's occupation of Europe and Japan after World War II.

Clark and his subordinates acknowledge that in Bosnia, much of what they did was off the books, the broadest interpretation of the military annexes to the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, the agreement that ended the three-year war and sought to create a multi-ethnic, self-governing country.

With an aggressive commander of SFOR, Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, Clark rewrote the military's Bosnia operational plan in 1998 to go beyond peacekeeping. His allies at the Pentagon and the State Department quietly sold it to the White House.

The new plan tried to make soldiers instruments in political reform. Commanders were encouraged to banish troublemakers and to direct international aid to reform-minded local leaders.

Clark wanted to form an anti-corruption team that would dismantle the Mafia-like organization that supports hard-line leaders. The mission required old-fashioned detective work. The Joint Chiefs of Staff opposed the idea, and the FBI initially declined to help. Clark persisted. He persuaded the State Department to pay for a gumshoe—a U.S. customs agent who had once worked for him in South America.

The anti-corruption team now includes Pentagon officers, Justice Department crime analysts and two battalions of Italian Carabinieri police.

Still, there is Pentagon ambivalence about the operation. Last year, on the eve of a raid aimed at disrupting illegal funding for radical Croat politicians, Cohen overrode Meigs's plan to dispatch a clandestine Navy SEAL team, judging it too risky. French troops went ahead anyway, netting computer tapes that helped demonstrate the Croatian government was funding hard-liners. The U.S. pullback highlighted tension between the activist CINC and his more cautious headquarters.

Clark's forceful approach was evident in April, when he traveled with his entourage and a Post reporter to a NATO base in Banja Luka in northeastern Bosnia to deliver a message to a dozen generals and colonels.

Clandestine Delta Force commandos, their index fingers near the triggers of assault rifles, bumped through

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sovo war, where he pushed for more aggressive airstrikes and lobbied for a ground invasion the Army didn't support. "Never ask 'Mother, may I' " Clark said, "unless you know the answer."

At his retirement ceremony, Clark—ungracefully forced out on June 23 to accommodate his successor—jabbed the Army for its no-can-do attitude. "Time is passing the Army by," he said, as the Army chief of staff sat beside him. The Army leadership needs "a new mentality. . . . 'Give us a mission and send us in.' "

Cracking Open Doors

Clark ran operations in a region where the presence of U.S. troops is crucial to stability. In Central and South America, where many newly democratic nations have renounced ties to the U.S. military, Gen. Charles Wilhelm was just trying to gain his footing.

Hostility toward the U.S. military runs deep in the hemisphere, fostered over a century in which the U.S. government supported the oppressive armies of dictators and right-wing governments. For decades, the CINC was based in Panama, but the U.S. military presence was forced out in an expression of sovereignty when control of the Panama Canal was turned over to Panama. Nowadays, at the Pentagon, the Florida-based CINCSOUTH is known as the "stepsister CINC."

But the general with four combat medals from Vietnam said he intends to turn that around.

"The U.S. doesn't have a strategic vision for South America," he said. "I don't take it personally."

To fit his boot in the door, Wilhelm seized upon the U.S.-funded counternarcotics program in Latin America, which the Pentagon all but runs. In June, after rejections from Costa Rica and Peru, he went to El Salvador to seek support for a drug monitoring base. Leftist lawmakers in El Salvador do not want to renew ties with U.S. forces and argue that the country's armed forces need to concentrate on a serious crime explosion.

Wilhelm's allies, however, are the Salvadoran armed forces, who have remained close to the U.S. military in the decade since their civil war ended.

Surrounded by maps marked "Secreto" in the Joint Staff headquarters of El Salvador, Wilhelm laid out his strategy: "Opening the [logistics center] will make El Salvador the focal point of the counterdrug activities in Central America," he told three Salvadoran generals. "We realize, in a diplomatic sense, this plan is for counterdrug only. As a practical matter, all of us know this agreement will give us a superb opportunity to increase the contact with all our armed forces in a variety of ways."

"I hope," Wilhelm continued, "to further exploit this opportunity to provide modest support to you and your modernization efforts."

El Salvador needs help with strategic intelligence, equipment and training, Wilhelm was told. He took notes and instantly offered to host a meeting for police chiefs and military heads of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia so they could discuss joint police-soldier operations.

No country in Wilhelm's theater is threatened by a foreign enemy, and most border disputes and insurgencies are settled. But ask Wilhelm why the region merits a CINC and he whips out his historical chart showing the ebbs and flows of regional democracies. In Peru, Venezuela and elsewhere, there's enough backsliding to warrant U.S. military attention, he argued.

"Every military in the region is rethinking its role," he said. "I'd like to play a larger part in the actual restructuring of the militaries."

Through his own efforts and relations, he already is involved in Panama, El Salvador and Colombia.

In Panama, which abolished its armed forces in 1994, the Southern Command helped experts draft a national security strategy to protect commercial shipping and U.S. nuclear submarines that pass through the canal.

In a more urgent way, Wilhelm also took the lead on the military aspects of Plan Colombia, the U.S.-funded program to create brigades to retake territory controlled simultaneously by leftist rebels and drug traffickers. Neither Wilhelm nor the U.S. Army can be in-

countries.

Congress and the administration have funded a two-year anti-drug program. Wilhelm talks about a six-year strategy—one that will eventually demand more Colombian battalions and an even deeper commitment of U.S. funds and military expertise.

"It ain't no Vietnam," he said, with a slight North Carolina twang. "I wish it were, it would be easier."

Researcher Alice Crites contributed to this report.

THE WASHINGTON POST
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2000

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CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2202

September 21, 2000

Lisel →
'00 OCT 2 AM11:00
per our conversation
Jon

The President
The White House
Washington DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you with a great sense of urgency regarding our friend David Hermelin. I know you visited with David during your recent trip to Michigan and are well aware of his condition. I have learned in the last few days that his condition has deteriorated.

I urge you to consider honoring David with the Presidential Medal of Freedom or the Presidential Citizens Medal for his lifetime of service to the nation and his community and for his philanthropic endeavors in support of the arts, education and medical science.

I know how much David and Doreen have been moved by your concern for his welfare. I hope you can bestow this honor on David to recognize this extraordinary individual's contribution to human kind.

Sincerely,

Carl

Carl Levin

cc:
Delia C.

JOHN BREAUX
LOUISIANA

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TDD (202) 224-1986

senator@breaux.senate.gov
http://www.senate.gov/~breaux

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1803

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ONE AMERICAN PLACE, SUITE 2030
BATON ROUGE, LA 70825
(225) 382-2050

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Lisel

September 26, 2000

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff
Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear John:

Kay Casstevens has advised me that Mr. Patrick Taylor of Louisiana is under consideration for a Presidential Citizens Medal for his outstanding work in organizing a national grassroots effort to change public policy in the United States regarding the availability of college opportunities. He has founded the Patrick F. Taylor Foundation which is a not-for-profit educational foundation, and has created access to institutions of higher learning to academically qualified children from all family income levels.

I am very pleased to hear this news, as I had written the President on his behalf earlier in the year. Patrick had worked with then Governor Clinton to bring this program to Arkansas, and it is now operational in a number of states.

John, I would appreciate anything you could do to encourage the President to recognize Patrick's accomplishments on behalf of the youth of America. He is indeed worthy to receive the Presidential Citizens Medal, and I know it would be a great honor for him to be recognized in this manner.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

John

JOHN BREAUX
United States Senator

cc: D. Cohen

JB:sj

P.S.: Kay has done a great job for you in Legislative Affairs!

CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

'00 OCT 2 AM11:00

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 28, 2000

Lisel / Chuck
if this passes
need to do
a signing
with Levin

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear John:

Enclosed is the material I talked to you about. As we discussed, if there is a White House ceremony for the signing of the Children's Health Act, I would like to attend and would like the President to make reference to Title 35, which is the bill that I have worked on for so long. It allows for qualified physicians, for the first time, to prescribe from their private offices a medication that blocks the craving for heroin. A new medication, Buprenorphine (Bup), which has proven its effectiveness in France to do just that, should be approved by the FDA very shortly. A possible summary paragraph for your consideration is also enclosed.

Thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Carl

Carl Levin

Can you
keep a
look out
John

CL/jp

cc:
Tim S.

Tim: do we
have a
bill # / title
for this? U

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Title 35 of this legislation will make a revolutionary difference in the way in which we battle heroin addiction. The effort to pass this bipartisan legislation has been led by Senator Levin for 10 years. It will allow physicians, for the first time, to prescribe in their private offices, a substance which blocks the craving for heroin. A new medication, Buprenorphine (Bup), which has proven its effectiveness in France to do just that, should be approved by the FDA very shortly. Without this new policy, the addict's only choice is to travel to centralized clinics often located at a long distance from their home and job. Many find such clinics stigmatizing because their appearance amounts to an announcement of their addiction. This new medication has received praise from NIDA and Secretary Shalala because of its effectiveness in safely blocking the craving of persons addicted to heroin.