

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	Mildred Alston to POTUS re: Recent Correspondence [partial] (1 page)	10/18/2000	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Staff Secretary
Lisel Loy (Chron Files)
OA/Box Number: 22089

FOLDER TITLE:

Saturday, October 21, 2000

2019-0680-S

rs3258

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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10-21-00

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10-21-00
To Mille Alston
for Reply

October 18, 2000

MEMORANDUM

TO: The President
FROM: Mildred C. Alston
SUBJECT: Recent Correspondence

*Donna
reply*
✓ **Derrome Goodwin** has never met you, but you likely know of him. He produced your '96 Election Night Celebration in Little Rock, and he and his wife Leslie owned Café D'Roma. Leslie (Finch) taught Chelsea ballet for 12 years. They think kind thoughts of you and your family and thank you for letting them be part of your life and history.

*Ab
reply*
✓ **Nan Bartlett** thanks you for your efforts on behalf of our nation. Your term in office has marked a fruitful, productive time in American history. She hopes you and Secretary Slater might be able to direct your consideration to the transportation needs of Western Arkansas and the efforts of the U.S. 71/I-49 Coalition to obtain funding to initiate construction of this important transportation corridor, and that one of your last official acts as president would be to issue the order to "Build the Road." (cc Kris Balderston)

✓ **Melinda Bates** - Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called Sons of God.

✓ **Ambassador Nancy E. Soderberg** thanks you for including her in engagement party for Nancy and Louis. Things in New York are busy, but fun and interesting. To get to know the UN is great, and she loves living in New York. Let her know if you can use any foreign policy help in your library. (cc Bruce Lindsey)

✓ **Leslie Singer** thanks you for the honor of spending the night at the White House and for everything you always do for them. He, Connie, Noah and Kate loved seeing your collections and will never forget listening to Diana Ross with you at one in the morning.

(b)(6)

10-21-00

Anna and Mike Hofmann thank you for such a touching, wonderful note, which they have framed.

Don and Susan Bucknell Pogue thank you for the wonderful experience, especially being able to talk to you and sense, in person, your vision and commitment. Susan would love you to visit at Southern Connecticut State University.

*Mike
Pogue*
Lynn Madden has been thinking about and praying for you. He understands that Chelsea is with you this semester and knows these final days in the White House will be some of your most precious days because of your time with her. He commends you on a job well done as a father. Thanks for the great job you have done as President, and for being his friend. God bless you.

Joe Cari, Jr.
Joe Cari, Jr. – Your call meant so much to Rita and him. Your concern is greatly appreciated. They look forward to seeing you during the holidays.

Don Means
Don Means – Congratulations on the success of PNTR. Your leadership in making this happen will long be remembered. On behalf of all the members of TechNet, they salute your skill, courage and tenacity in moving China toward open participation on the global stage. Don was honored to thank you in person and got a kick hearing about your collection of campaign buttons. You are a credit to your country and will be remembered as one of the greatest leaders America has ever had.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 2000

10-21-00

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Chow
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Jennings

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Barbara Chow

SUBJECT: DPC Weekly Report

1. Housing -- New Vouchers and Flexibility: In addition to securing 79,000 new housing vouchers in the VA-HUD appropriations bill, we were also able to amend the statute to significantly improve the local 'project-basing' option for Public Housing Authorities (PHAs). Project-basing permits the PHA to expand affordable housing options and improve voucher utilization by promising that vouchers will be available for up to 25 percent of the units in a building as long as the owner/developer agrees to guarantee the availability of those units for tenants with a voucher for 10 years. While this authority existed before, it was very difficult to use, failed to preserve tenant choice, and did not permit the PHA to terminate a contract when tenants no longer chose a particular building. The new language ensures that tenants can move from a project-based unit by getting the PHA's next regular Section-8 voucher. In the past, tenants were locked into a particular building because project-based vouchers did not have this 'continued assistance option'. In addition, PHAs will now be able to terminate contracts with an owner if no tenants want to live in the building ensuring that federal dollars are not locked into a development that becomes undesirable for some reason. Finally, project basing can be used to create supportive housing arrangements like a Second Chance Home or elderly housing.

2. Welfare -- Immigrant Food Stamps and Health Insurance: On Monday, you released a statement for World Food Day in which you called upon Congress to enact your budget proposals to restore access to food stamps and health coverage for vulnerable legal immigrants. These changes would build on the progress made in 1997 and 1998 to fix the harsh immigrant provisions in the welfare reform law that had nothing to do with welfare reform. The statement was very well received in the religious, immigrant, and nutrition advocacy communities. Meanwhile, Congress passed the Agriculture appropriations bill that failed to include immigrant food stamp provisions. Also, after Lamar Smith and Bill Archer wrote a letter last week urging Hastert to reject health care restorations for legal immigrants, the Republican leadership released preliminary details on their partisan BBA givebacks package which excluded state options to extend Medicaid and SCHIP to pregnant women and children. We will continue to work with the groups and key members of Congress to add these health and nutrition work supports for legal immigrants to any available vehicle.

3. Welfare -- Out-of-Wedlock Births: Last week, the Centers for Disease Control released a report on nonmarital childbearing from 1940 to the present. While this does not contain any new data, it does put the encouraging trends of the past few years in context -- after a period of dramatic growth from 1940 to 1990, out-of-wedlock childbearing has leveled off or slowed its rate of increase during the 1990s. The birth rate for unmarried women dropped 1 percent between 1998 and 1999, and 6 percent since its peak in 1994. While the 1999 rate (43.9 births per 1,000 unmarried women aged 15-44) is technically the lowest level since 1990, it is only slightly lower than the 1997 birth rate due to an upward blip in 1998. The percent of all births that are to unmarried women increased through the early 1990s, but has stabilized at between 32 and 33 percent since 1994. The number of unmarried births rose slightly (averaging just over 1 percent per year) during the 1990s, but at a much slower rate than the average annual increase of about 6 percent during the 80's.

4. Education -- Report bolsters NBPTS: A report by the Center for Educational Research and Evaluation was released this week on the value of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification. The statistically-based study focused on two of the 16 NBPTS certificate areas -- Early Adolescence/English Language Arts and Middle Childhood/Generalist. The report essentially confirms the validity of the NBPTS system as a means of assessing and identifying accomplished teachers, and has high praise for and the quality of teachers that undergo the national certification process. Secretary Riley will be addressing the annual NBPTS Conference on Saturday, and will read a letter from you. The new National Board Teachers will be announced in November. It is anticipated that this new round of certification will more than double the current level of 4,804 of National Board Certified teachers across the country.

5. Health Care -- Update on the Balanced Budget Refinement Act: On Thursday, the Congressional Republican leadership released their Medicare / Medicaid provider and beneficiary refinement initiative. Despite the Administration veto threat on this legislation, it continued to include a significantly disproportionate allocation of resources towards HMO payment increases, and an insufficient investment in longstanding beneficiary and health care provider priorities. In fact, the legislation dedicates over a third of the \$28 billion 5-year package to HMOs ~~despite the fact that these plans serve only 16 percent of the population~~. Just as troubling is the fact that it included ~~no accountability provisions to require plans to stay in service areas in return for these payment increases~~. Although this legislation was viewed as unstoppable at the beginning of this week, the Democrats' embrace of the Administration's opposition to the current distribution of dollars has slowed the momentum towards Congressional passage. This may enable us to negotiate a better agreement over the weekend. This will only happen if the Congressional leadership chooses to engage in a meaningful negotiation and take the position that it is in their best interests to pass a bill that is certain to be enacted. If they do, our top priorities will be to increase teaching academic health centers, hospital, and home health payment rates, and key beneficiary improvement provisions. Such provisions include Medicaid coverage for legal immigrant children and pregnant women, full funding of the Ricky Ray trust fund, expanding the homebound definition for home health care services so that individuals with disabilities do not lose their eligibility if they leave their homes, immediate Medicare coverage of individuals with Lou Gehrig's disease (Lois Capps' highest priority), funding for the Grassely-Kennedy Family Opportunity Act, which provides a new Medicaid option for children with disabilities, and waiving cost sharing requirements for

get to know
the bill

Medicare preventive services. We will advocate for at least partially offsetting the cost of these initiatives by reducing the excessive HMO payment increases. However, in addition to advocating for the elimination of expensive and unnecessary provisions, we will almost inevitably have to insist on more funds to finance our priorities – approximately \$35 to \$40 billion over five years. Speaker Hastert may be an advocate in this regard, as he requires significant additional Medicaid investments to help pay for a fund to ease the transition to our new UPL policy for states and hospitals.

6. **Children and Families -- Early Learning Opportunities Act:** Senators Stevens and Kennedy have agreed with Representative Goodling to attach a five year authorization of S. 2866, the Early Learning Opportunities Act to the Labor-H appropriations bill. The bipartisan Early Learning Opportunities Act, introduced in July of 2000, is a direct successor to the Administration's Early Learning Fund proposed as part of your Child Care initiative in the 1998 State of the Union. This bill would allow the Secretary of HHS to award grants to States, who in turn would award grants to local collaborative early learning councils, for the purposes of improving the quality of child care and providing quality early learning opportunities to children under five year of age.

7. **Education -- Pennsylvania First State Approved for Ed Flex:** As you know, the Education Flexibility Partnership Act (Ed Flex) was enacted last year, with eligibility dependent upon states having their standards, assessments, and accountability mechanisms in place in line with the Title I requirements. Pennsylvania is the first state that has been approved for Ed Flex, though eight others have applied, and three of the states that participated in the 12-state Ed Flex Demonstration are anticipated to apply soon because their Ed Flex status has expired. Under Ed Flex, Pennsylvania now has the authority to exempt local school districts from certain statutory and regulatory requirements under ESEA; in exchange, the schools must demonstrate that they will improve student achievement. The state has already approved one district for the program.

8. **Education --GAO Report on Funds for Construction, Including Charter Schools:** The GAO released a report requested by Rep. Goodling a week ago that details the difficulties charter schools encounter in accessing funds for construction and facilities. It suggests options such as grants, direct loans, loan guarantees, loan pools, and tax-exempt bonds and tax credits that the federal government could utilize if it were to take on a greater role in financing charter school facilities. The report also concludes that "increased federal assistance would change the nature of the federal government's relationship with traditional and charter schools as well as with the local and state governments that are primarily responsible for purchasing, constructing, renovating and leasing school buildings." The report projects that it would cost \$112 billion to bring school buildings nationwide up to par (the Department estimates the cost at \$127 billion).

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 2000

10-21-00

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: THURGOOD MARSHALL, JR. *TMJ*
KRIS M. BALDERSTON *KB*

*copied
Marshall
O'Shea
Podesta*

SUBJECT: Summary of Cabinet Weekly Reports
October 14 - 20, 2000

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

- TRY * V*
- **Derivatives:** On October 19, the House passed the Commodity Futures Modernization Act of 2000 by a vote of 377-4. This legislation would reauthorize the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and modernize the legal and regulatory framework regarding over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives transactions and markets. This would implement many of the unanimous recommendations regarding the treatment of OTC derivatives made by your Working Group on Financial Markets. Prior to the vote, the Administration issued a statement in strong support of the bill. Treasury will continue to work with the Senate to try to enact the bill this session, although significant obstacles remain.
 - **Money Laundering:** On October 26, Secretary Summers will address the Treasury-DOJ national money laundering conference. The conference will have working groups examine the issues of bulk cash smuggling and the use of wire remitters in money laundering activity, receive reports from the four High-Intensity Financial Crime Areas designated in the 2000 National Money Laundering Strategy, and discuss how to make more efficient use of suspicious activity reports.
 - **G-20 Meetings:** On October 24-25, Secretary Summers and Chairman Greenspan will attend the second annual meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in Montreal, Canada. Ministers and Governors are expected to discuss the economic benefits and policy challenges associated with globalization, as well as how to reduce countries' vulnerability to financial crisis.

- **China:** On October 26, Secretary Summers and Chinese Finance Minister Xiang Huaicheng will co-chair the 13th session of the U.S.-China Joint Economic Committee in Washington, DC. The meeting will focus on macroeconomic issues, including China's exchange rate policy, structural issues, such as reform of China's state-owned enterprise and financial sectors, and enforcement issues, including anti-money laundering efforts. Minister Xiang will also have a bilateral meeting with NEC Director Sperling.
- **Tax Negotiations:** Although Treasury's Office of Tax Policy continues to meet with the Congressional taxwriting committees, an overall tax agreement remains elusive. This is partly because the recent focus in Congress has been on completing remaining appropriations bills. Several tax issues remain in play, including your school construction bond proposal, small business tax incentives possibly combined with a minimum wage increase aspects of the Portman/Cardin pension reform bill, New Markets and Community Renewal provisions, and the Foreign Sales Corporation tax replacement legislation.
- **Firearms:** Treasury, serving as the lead of an interagency team, is participating in final negotiations in Vienna on a UN Protocol to Combat the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components, and Ammunition. The U.S. has been working with other interested countries on this Protocol for almost three years, and it will constitute the first global instrument regulating the international flow of firearms. The contentious issues in the negotiations are applying marking provisions to persons manufacturing firearms for personal use or for their collections, marking of firearms lawfully imported by returning servicemen for their personal use or collections, regulation of shotgun parts, and criminalizing the obliteration of markings other than a serial number on a firearm.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- **Immigrant Detention Case:** The Supreme Court granted DOJ certiorari in two cases concerning the Attorney General's authority to detain an alien subject to a final deportation order, where the removal cannot be effected immediately and where the Attorney General has determined that the alien would pose a risk of flight or danger to the community if released. In one case, after finding it unlikely that an alien would be deported to Cambodia in the foreseeable future, a Federal court concluded that continued detention under such circumstances violated the constitutional right to substantive due process. The Ninth Circuit affirmed that decision, but is in conflict with the Fifth Circuit's opinion in the other case, which upheld the constitutionality of the Attorney General's detention power.

- **Campaign Finance:** On October 10, the Supreme Court granted DOJ certiorari in a case presenting the question whether a political party has a First Amendment right to make unlimited campaign expenditures in coordination with the party's congressional candidates, notwithstanding the limits imposed by the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (FECA). DOJ is arguing the principle that a Federal elected official should not be unduly beholden to a single source of financial support, that it nullifies a careful balance struck by Congress on a matter peculiarly within the legislative competence, and that it threatens substantial disruption of FECA's statutory scheme.
- **School Crime Report:** During the week of October 23, DOJ plans to release *Indicators of School Crime and Safety 2000*. This report presents data from an array of sources on crime at school from the perspectives of students, teachers, principals, and the general population.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

- **AZ Land Exchange Agreement:** On October 20, Secretary Babbitt will sign an agreement with Governor Hull to facilitate an exchange of Federal and state lands within AZ. If Congress later passes a law to carry through this exchange, the federal government will acquire over 180,000 acres of state in-holdings within national parks, ranges, and monuments, and will prevent development of the highly vulnerable Lake Pleasant/Bradshaw Mountains Area.
- **CA Trinity River Fisheries:** On October 27, DOI expects to release the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Trinity River Mainstem Fisheries Restoration in CA. This historic program will address impacts to the Trinity River as a result of the 1955 authorization and subsequent construction and operation of the Trinity River Dam and other facilities on the Trinity River as part of the Central Valley Project. Historically, a significant amount of water from the Trinity River basin has been exported over the mountains to the Sacramento River and the Central Valley. Over time, these exports have had drastic effects on the river and the fisheries that depend on the river. In addition, the interests of the Hoopa Valley Tribe, whose reservation borders the Trinity River, and the Yurok Tribe, whose reservation borders the Klamath River downstream from its confluence with the Trinity, have been affected. DOI has evaluated options to restore the Trinity River consistent with the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and other statutory directives, as well as its trust responsibility to Indian Tribes. The Preferred Alternative would provide, on average, approximately 48 percent of the natural flow to the Trinity River; it proposes a significant amount of mechanical restoration in the Trinity River itself at 47 sites; and it contains a significant watershed restoration component to lessen the amount of fine sediment entering the river from a variety of sources, thus minimizing the amount of flow necessary to address that impact to fishery resources.

- **NY Indian Casino Project:** Media reports indicate an Indian casino project may be close to a deal that would bring gambling to Monticello, NY. According to the reports, Park Place Entertainment would buy out Alpha Hospitality and its partner Catskill Development for about \$300M and build a casino with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe at the Monticello Raceway. Earlier reports were saying the offer to Catskill was \$55M. While the reports indicated that the deal may have come undone since the tribe was not talking to them, the investors are stating they are certain there will be a breakthrough soon.
- **Spirit Cave Man Decision:** BLM has issued a final decision in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act on the cultural affiliation of Spirit Cave Man, the 9,000-year-old mummy found on public lands in 1940. The decision follows a preliminary determination that although the remains are Native American, they cannot be culturally affiliated with any contemporary group. In making the final decision, BLM sent a letter to representatives for the Pyramid Lake Paiute-Shoshone Tribe denying their request to postpone making the final decision until January 31, 2001. In the denial, BLM said that while it appreciates the Tribe's position, it considers this issue to have been deliberated thoroughly at this level and it is time to close the matter so that the Tribe may investigate other options. Spirit Cave Man will continue to be housed at the Nevada State Museum, as it has been for the past 60 years.
- **Lake Roosevelt Damage Assessment:** DOI's Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is considering its role in a BIA proposal to seek funding for a Natural Resource Damage Assessment at Lake Roosevelt above Grand Coulee Dam in WA. The proposal, which BIA prepared in consultation with the Colville Confederated Tribes and the Spokane Indian Tribe, seeks funds to investigate the contaminant level in lake sediments resulting from decades of mining, smelting, and paper operations upstream in the U.S. and Canada. At the Tribes' request, EPA is also conducting an initial evaluation of whether the reservoir should be considered for listing as a superfund site. In a September 26 memorandum to several Federal agencies commenting on Endangered Species Act-related documents, the Colvilles alleged that reservoir operations were contributing to sediment exposure and subsequent releases of contaminants into the air. The Colvilles also allege that BOR is a potentially responsible party for the contamination.
- **Mercury in IN Precipitation:** A fish consumption advisory has been in effect for most water bodies in IN due to the finding of mercury in fish tissue. One source of the mercury in aquatic ecosystems is atmospheric deposition, primarily in precipitation.
- **Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Cleanup:** Researchers and divers are starting a month long litter cruise through the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, seeking out and recovering hundreds of miles of fishing line, tons of netting and other debris. The debris washes up on the shores and gets caught on the coral reefs. It then traps fish, seals, turtles, birds and other wildlife. Hawaiian monk seals are of particular concern, because pups often play

with tangled nets and become trapped. Entanglement is becoming an increasing threat to the declining seal population. The Center for Marine Conservation is a sponsor of the expedition, along with HI Sea Grant, DOC's National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, DOI's Fish and Wildlife Service, the Coast Guard, and other organizations. In 1998, six tons of debris was collected in six days. A 29-day venture last year recovered 25 tons.

- **SD Tribal College Agreement:** Recently USGS signed an agreement with officials of Sinte Gleska University near Mission, SD. The agreement establishes a cooperative framework to promote earth science careers and professional development among students, and build relationships with the Federal government and private industry.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- **New Biomass Heating Oil:** On October 13, USDA reported to senior Federal energy officials on USDA's use of a new, biomass heating oil blend called "B5," 5 percent of which is composed of soybean biomass. USDA is demonstrating the new blend in a project boiler plant that heats 12 buildings at USDA's Beltsville, MD, Agricultural Research Center. B5 could significantly reduce the use of heating oil and create a new secondary market for agricultural products.
- **Brazil Agrees to Accept U.S. Wheat:** On October 17, Secretary Glickman announced that Brazil has agreed to re-open its market to imports of U.S. hard red spring wheat and soft red winter wheat. In 1996, Brazil imposed import restrictions on wheat which only allowed imports of hard red winter wheat. At that time, Brazil was purchasing roughly 760,000 tons of U.S. wheat worth about \$174M per year. Brazil is expected to publish official notification of its decision by November 15.
- **Food Safety Inspector Homicide Case:** On October 10, it was announced that the death penalty will be sought for the Oakland, CA-area meat-processing plant owner who is charged with killing two Federal and one state food safety investigators during a June 21 investigation of his plant.
- **Commodity Markets:** Dry conditions in the Central Plains and reduced production prospects for the Australian crop sent wheat prices higher for the week. Corn prices also advanced, supported by the rise in wheat and bullish supply-and-demand projections issued by USDA. Harvest pressure sent soybean prices tumbling. Rice cash prices held steady, but futures advanced on reports of flooding in South and Southeast Asia. In a volatile week, cotton prices wound up little changed, on average. Firming beef prices helped boost cattle. Hog prices dropped despite heavy buying activity as the weekend approached. Broiler prices were up slightly on good retail and food service demand. Cheese prices continued to trade below support in a very light market. Butter prices fell modestly as cream supplies are readily available.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

- **Protecting Confidential Census Data:** Secretary Mineta continues to voice opposition to proposed legislative language to grant access to confidential Census data to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Joint Committee on Taxation. The proposed CBO amendment would allow a virtual fingerprint to be developed utilizing quarterly Social Security earnings records and the confidential information provided by respondents on the Census survey forms. CBO has promised to pursue every avenue to get this language included in legislative actions.
- **China and South Korea Seminars:** On October 26-27, DOC's Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) will host a seminar with China's Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation in Shanghai, China. The BXA team will then travel to Seoul, South Korea, to hold a seminar on export control policies and procedures. Among the topics that will be discussed in South Korea is the recent change in U.S. sanctions on North Korea.
- **New Encryption Regulations:** On October 19, DOC's Bureau of Export Administration published encryption regulations to implement the encryption policy updates announced by the White House on July 17. This final encryption rule permits most encryption products to be exported to the 15 nations of the European Union as well as to eight other key trading partners, Australia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, and Switzerland. The new regulation tracks with recent regulations adopted by the EU, ensuring the continued competitiveness of U.S. industry in international markets.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- **Los Angeles County Employee Dispute:** The dispute between 42,000 public employees and Los Angeles County continues. Employees returned to work after a one-day general strike on October 12. Strikers had included those who work in jails, libraries, beaches, and health clinics. Negotiations resumed on October 17. The union wants 15.5-percent raises over three years, while the county has offered a nine-percent increase. About 60 percent of county workers earn less than \$32,000 a year, according to the union.
- **Disability Awareness Month:** DOL will observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month on October 24. This year's theme, "Building upon your Abilities," focuses on increasing the participation of persons with disabilities in the workplace and affirms your commitment to significantly increase their representation in the Federal workforce.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- **2001 Medicare Rates:** On October 18, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) announced the 2001 rates for the Medicare Part A deductible and Part B monthly premium amounts paid by beneficiaries. The Medicare Part B monthly premium, which covers physician services, hospital outpatient care, durable medical equipment, and other services outside hospitals, will be \$50 in 2001, an increase of \$4.50 from this year, but significantly lower than earlier projections. In addition to health-care costs, this year's increase reflects legislative changes that increase Part B spending. The beneficiary-paid Part B premium represents 25 percent of total Part B spending. The Part A deductible for inpatient hospital care will rise only about two percent, reflecting savings from reductions in Medicare hospital payments and other program changes signed into law in the Balanced Budget Act to help protect and preserve the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund.
- **HMO Expansion in FL:** On October 18, HCFA approved a request by Well Care HMO to expand managed-care coverage to Medicare beneficiaries in Hernando and Pasco counties in the Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL, area. The counties are currently served by two Medicare managed-care plans, however the two plans have announced they will withdraw from the county on December 31. Well Care HMO, along with United Healthcare, Inc., which was approved in September, will begin serving Medicare beneficiaries starting on January 1. Approximately 129,000 Medicare beneficiaries live in the plan's newly approved service area. Beneficiaries will be eligible to enroll beginning on November 1.
- **North Carolina SCHIP:** On October 20, it is anticipated that HCFA will approve an amendment to NC's SCHIP plan to eliminate cost sharing for documented Native Americans.
- **Uganda Ebola Outbreak:** On October 17, CDC sent a team of six experts to assist in the management of patients, diagnosis of suspect clinical cases, and epidemiologic investigation of the Ebola outbreak in Uganda. These are the first human cases of Ebola ever reported in Uganda. As of October 16, 71 suspected cases, including 35 deaths, have been reported.
- **New Technical Assistance Center:** On October 26, the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will open a new technical assistance center in Silver Spring, MD, to aid minority institutions of higher education and community groups in preparing proposals for HRSA grants. The center is one of several efforts to increase the involvement of minority institutions and community groups in HRSA programs.

- **Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Children's Care:** On October 31, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality will issue a press release on an article entitled "Racial and Ethnic Differences in Children's Access to Care." The researchers explored reasons for racial and ethnic differences in children's access to care and concluded that the disadvantage some Hispanic children experience may be related to their parents' inability to speak English well enough to interact fully with the health-care system. The findings imply the need for interpreters or bilingual providers and office staff to help reduce these disparities.
- **Domestic Violence Grants:** On October 23, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality will issue a press release to announce the funding of four new research projects on domestic violence. The projects topics are: treatment outcomes for abused women in public; computerized screening for domestic violence victims; comparing and contrasting seven existing domestic violence interventions located in different hospital settings; and outcomes for intimate partner violence.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- **National Neighborhood Networks Week:** From October 14-22, residents of more than 200 HUD-assisted and public housing complexes in all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico will celebrate the first-ever celebration of National Neighborhood Networks Week. Neighborhood Network Centers enable residents of HUD housing to acquire computer skills, enroll in distance learning courses and access the Internet. Since 1995, HUD has provided technical assistance to help open more than 1,100 such community technology centers.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- **Firestone Tire Investigation:** On October 17, DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released new information regarding reported complaints, injuries, and fatalities relating to Firestone ATX and Wilderness tires under investigation by the agency. NHTSA is aware of 119 reported fatalities related to these tires, an increase of 18 from the 101 that had been reported by mid-September. The number of complaints and reported injuries that are related to these tires has also increased to 3500. NHTSA will continue to place summaries of complaints on the Internet as it continues its investigations of ATX/Wilderness and Steeltex R4S and A/T tires.
- **Electric Vehicle Safety Standard:** On October 17, DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration published a new Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard to prevent deaths or injuries after an electric vehicle is involved in a crash. The new standard, "Electric-Powered Vehicles: Electrolyte Spillage and Electrical Shock Protection," will be effective on October 1, 2001. It applies to all vehicles that use more than 48 volts of

electricity as propulsion power and that have a maximum speed greater than 25 mph. It will not apply to electric vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 10,000 pounds.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

- **Compensation for Sick DOE Workers:** On October 12, Congress approved the 2001 National Defense Authorization bill, which included an amendment to provide compensation to DOE contractor workers with work-related illnesses. Under the legislation, several thousand workers (or their survivors) will be eligible to receive \$150,000 plus prospective medical payments. The workers will also be able to apply for lost wage payments through state workers compensation programs.
- **Nuclear Weapons Laboratory Security:** On October 17, Secretary Richardson accepted the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) recommendation for improving security and other facility operations at DOE's Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, both operated by the University of California (UC). Secretary Richardson has authorized NNSA to immediately restructure DOE's current contracts with UC to address security and management issues. DOE will also commence negotiations with UC that, if successful, would lead to additional performance requirements and a three-year extension of the contract. The current UC contract for the operation of the laboratories runs through September 2002.
- **Plant Management Contract Competitions:** On July 26, DOE announced the selection of BWXT Pantex, a team of BWX Technologies, Bechtel National, and Honeywell International, as the new contractor for the Pantex Plant in Amarillo, TX. This selection has been protested by Day and Zimmerman, the incumbent contractor, which caused a halt in contract transition activities. GAO is evaluating the protest and a decision is expected by November 13. On August 31, DOE announced the selection of BWXT Y-12, a team of BWX Technologies Inc. and Bechtel National Inc., to manage the Y-12 Plant in Oak Ridge, TN. The contract transition began on September 1 and the new contractor will assume full responsibility for management and operation of the plant on November 1.
- **Drinking Water Well Contamination:** Los Alamos National Lab has confirmed the presence of tritium in a drinking well serving Los Alamos County, NM. Testing has shown that a well located in Pueblo Canyon, shows tritium at about 40 curies per liter (far below the safe drinking water standard of 20,000 curies per liter.) Los Alamos County and NM have been officially notified and the results were mentioned at the October meeting of the Citizens Advisory Board.

- **Women-Owned Business:** On October 16, Secretary Richardson signed an agreement between DOE and a coalition of the nation's leading associations of women-owned businesses. The formal agreement will expand opportunities for women business organizations and entrepreneurs, empowering them to successfully bid for subcontracts with DOE. Secretary Richardson signed the agreement with representatives of 15 women business organizations during a ceremony at an international meeting of the Business Women's Network. The organizations signing the document represent over 175,000 businesses nationally. The groups also represent 40 percent of all small business owners nationwide.
- **Gasoline Prices Up, Stocks Down:** Gasoline spot prices on most U.S. markets ended with solid increases over the past week, after rising sharply in response to news about Middle East violence and inventory reports. Crude oil led markets upward for most of the week, peaking on Thursday following new clashes between Israeli and Palestinian forces and an apparent terrorist attack on a U.S. Navy ship in Yemen. Prices eased on Friday and Monday, but still ended significantly higher than the previous week, except on the West Coast. The U.S. average retail price for regular gasoline rose after three weeks of decline, increasing 3.7 cents to 153.9 cents per gallon as of October 16. The average was 30.3 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. Prices gained solidly for most regions and formulations, led by sharp increases in the Midwest. Total motor gasoline stocks were down 2.5M barrels on October 13 to 193.3 million barrels, 12.7 million barrels below the level for the same week last year.
- **Distillate Prices Up, Stocks Down:** The New York Harbor spot price for heating oil increased 1.25 cents on October 16 to 97.55 cents per gallon. Heating oil stocks at 45.8 million barrels fell by 0.8 million barrels for the week and were 25.4M barrels below a year ago. Heating oil stocks in New England fell 0.3 million barrels to 3.1M barrels while in the Central Atlantic stocks rose 1 million barrels to 17.5 million barrels. The Northeast Heating Oil Reserve stocks were 2.0 million barrels on October 13. The Reserve is now fully stocked.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

- **TX Higher Education Desegregation:** On September 15, TX submitted a revised plan to DOEd to fulfill the terms of the state's commitment to enhance its historically black colleges and improve minority participation at public universities. DOEd has provided preliminary comments on the recent submission and identified areas of concern. Official written comments have also been provided to the Office of the Governor and the Board of Education. On October 27, TX will submit its final plan.

- **GAO Letter on DOEd Financial Weaknesses:** On October 16, GAO issued a letter to Representatives Kasich and Biggert regarding financial management weaknesses at DOEd. DOEd reviewed the draft letter, but the requesters asked that GAO restrict release of the final report for one week. The draft letter: 1) analyzed financial management weaknesses identified in DOEd's FY1999 financial statements in the context of possible program and budgetary implications; 2) identified corrective actions that DOEd has taken to address the weaknesses; and 3) explained how DOEd prepared reliable FY1997 cost estimates for its loan programs and resolved a related material weakness. The bulk of the draft letter was a restatement of financial management weaknesses previously reported to Congress by GAO. While it generally identified corrective actions DOEd has taken, the emphasis was on the problems, not DOEd's efforts to address them.
- **Crime Data Deadline Missed:** On October 18, the *Sacramento Bee* reported that as many as 3,700 college campuses across the country missed the October 17 deadline to submit crime statistics to DOEd as required by law. By law, colleges were required to turn in the statistics to DOEd by October 15. DOEd has extended the deadline again to October 24 to accommodate the complaints by college campuses that they were having difficulties submitting their information electronically
- **Charter School 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.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- **USS Cole Victims:** VA personnel are ready to provide assistance to service members and their families affected by the USS Cole explosion. All of the Cole's dead are eligible for burial in VA's national cemeteries, and survivors may receive VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, plus Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance. Injured sailors who are medically discharged will be eligible for lifetime VA treatment and compensation for their disabilities.
- **Agent Orange and Diabetes:** On October 11, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued a long-awaited report that found "limited/suggestive" evidence of a link between Agent Orange, to which service members were exposed during the Vietnam War, and the kind of diabetes that is known as "adult-onset" or "Type 2." VA's senior leadership and program experts have begun a high-level review of the IOM finding. Acting Secretary Gober has 60 days to decide whether or not a presumption of service connection is warranted for Vietnam veterans with adult-onset diabetes.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- **Starlink Corn Cancellations:** Aventis has announced that they have voluntarily canceled their registration for their genetically modified Starlink corn (which had been approved by EPA for feed uses only) as a result of finding the corn in products made for human consumption. EPA strongly urged the company to take this action. This means that Starlink corn can no longer be planted for any agricultural purpose, ensuring that no new Starlink corn will find its way into processed foods. EPA does not have any evidence that food containing Starlink corn will cause any allergic reaction in people, and the agency believes the risks, if any, are extremely low. However, because Aventis did not meet its responsibility for ensuring that Starlink corn only be used in animal feed, the request was made to cancel the registration. The remaining Starlink corn will be used only for animal feed or industrial uses until existing stocks are depleted.
- ✓ **Brownfields Program Wins Award:** EPA's Brownfields program has been named one of the ten winners in the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and Council for Excellence in Government's Innovations in Government Awards. The Brownfields initiative clearly demonstrates that economic prosperity and protection of public health and the environment can coexist. Since 1993, the Brownfields program has provided
✗ { over 500 grants to communities across the country to assess contaminated sites, clean them up, and train workers in environmental cleanup. This unprecedented effort has led to the successful redevelopment of hundreds of contaminated properties, the creation of more than 7,000 permanent jobs, the leveraging of over \$2.3B in private investments, and training of hundreds of environmental professionals.
- **Ethyl Parathion Cancellation:** On October 16, EPA announced that it has signed an agreement with Cheminova, the major registrant of the pesticide ethyl parathion, to cancel all remaining uses of ethyl parathion. One of the most toxic pesticides still registered for use in the U.S., and one of the most restricted pesticides on the market today, ethyl parathion poses risks to workers and wildlife, according to EPA's revised risk assessments. The agreement immediately stops the use of ethyl parathion on corn grown for seed, which poses the greatest potential risk to re-entry workers. It phases out use on other agricultural crops (alfalfa, barley, corn, cotton, canola, sorghum, soybean, sunflower, and wheat) over the next three years, ending all use of ethyl parathion in the U.S. by October 2003.
- **Malathion Briefing:** A technical briefing to discuss the revised risk assessments for the Organophosphate pesticide malathion is scheduled to be held on November 9, in Alexandria, VA. Malathion is one of the pesticides used to combat West Nile Virus last year in NY.

- **U.S.-Canada Smog Agreement:** On October 12, the U.S. and Canada finalized a draft agreement to reduce smog-forming emissions in both countries. The "Ozone Annex" will bring similar emissions standards to both countries for the primary smog-forming chemicals: nitrous oxides (NOx) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Some emissions from the midwestern U.S. move downwind to Canada, while some Canadian emissions in Ontario move downwind towards the northeastern U.S. While EPA will not have to draft any additional regulations to respond to the Annex, Canada has agreed to meet the standards of EPA's recent action to address NOx emissions from power plants in the eastern U.S. that travel across state borders. In addition, Canada agreed to strengthen to U.S. levels its emissions standards for cars, trucks, buses, and non-road equipment, as well as its fuel standards and emissions from certain other industries (e.g., the pulp and paper industries). EPA expects the two governments to sign the Ozone Annex by the end of the year. The agreement is an annex to the landmark 1991 Canada- U.S. Air Quality Agreement.

UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

- **The Middle East:** On October 18, the UN General Assembly resumed the so-called 10th Emergency Session of the General Assembly on "Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem." The session was scheduled to hear remarks from the Israeli delegation, the Palestinian Observer Mission, and perhaps one or two other delegations before suspending until October 20. USUN expects that the Secretary-General will address a resumed session on October 20.
- **Women and Peace and Security:** On October 23, The UN Security Council President (Namibia) will hold an "Arria-style" meeting (outside the Council chamber) with members of the NGO community to discuss the thematic topic "Women and Peace and Security". On October 24, Council members will participate in an Open Debate in the Formal Council chamber on the same topic.

UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

- **Conflict Diamonds Conference:** On October 25-26, USTR will participate in the London Intergovernmental Conference on Conflict Diamonds. The objective is to develop recommendations building on the outcome of the September 21 Pretoria Ministerial.
- **WTO Accession of Moldova:** USTR led the U.S. delegation to the penultimate informal Working Party meeting on October 20 to assess status of Moldova's implementation of the conditions necessary for accession to the WTO.

- OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

- VP
 1. 1st to mention
 2. 2nd to call
 3. 3rd to say

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

- **International Disability Law and Policy Symposium:** On October 22-26, SSA and other Federal agencies will sponsor an international disability law and policy symposium in Washington, DC. The Symposium, "From Principles to Practice," will include leading law and policy advocates, and individuals with disabilities from over 40 countries who will examine international developments related to disability legislation and discuss issues and strategies for future reform.

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
Joe Lockhart
Lisel Loy
Buddy MacKay
Minyon Moore
Bruce Reed
Steve Ricchetti
Gene Sperling
Lauren Supina
Loretta Ucelli
Melanne Verveer

Cabinet Affairs Travel

Monday, October 23 - Sunday, October 29, 2000

North Korea 10/22-24
Seoul, South Korea 10/25
Secretary Albright

WA 10/23
OR 10/24
Secretary Riley

Minneapolis, MN
Secretary Babbitt 10/27

MI
Secretary Shalala 10/26
Administrator Alvarez 10/27

Portland, ME
Director Lachance 10/27

New York City, NY
Secretary Herman 10/23-24
Secretary Shalala 10/23

Cleveland, OH
Secretary Shalala 10/27

Princeton, NJ 10/25
Secretary Richardson

Grand Forks, ND
Director Witt 10/26

Medford, OR
Director McCaffrey 10/24

Chicago, IL
Secretary Glickman 10/25

Detroit, MI
Secretary Riley 10/27

Kansas City, MO
Director Lachance 10/23

OH
Commissioner Apfel 10/24-26

Louisville, KY
Secretary Glickman 10/26

Miamisburg, OH
Secretary Richardson 10/23

Pepe Fields, NJ 10/26
Administrator Browner

CA 10/25
Secretary Slater

San Jose, CA
Secretary Mineta 10/23

Los Angeles, CA
Secretary Herman 10/26

Memphis, TN
Secretary Glickman 10/25

White Sulfur Springs, WV
Secretary Richardson 10/23

Albuquerque, NM
Administrator Alvarez 10/29

San Diego, CA
Secretary Herman 10/25

Phoenix, AZ 10/23
Tucson, AZ 10/24
Administrator Barram

FL 10/24
Administrator Browner

Tampa, FL
Secretary Cohen 10/27

Boca Raton, FL
Secretary Cohen 10/26
Secretary Glickman 10/27

Orlando, FL
Attorney General Reno 10/23
Director McCaffrey 10/23



Janey
Niece - Fr. Jack Gaudin
~~Princess~~
Thank you for your letter
My kin would come in -
with the right money
for

16-21-00

President William Jefferson Clinton

JACK C. BENDHEIM

October 20, 2000

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington D.C.

Copied
Berger
10-21-00 Podesta

Delivered by hand

Dear Mr. President:

I write to you from Jerusalem, where I am visiting with family for the Sukkoth holiday. Events here are truly troubling.

Mr. President, you continue to provide us with hope during these distressing times. In this time of transition and change, your hand has remained steady. I cannot adequately describe how important that knowledge is, how important it is for us to know that you are there and you will be there – for the sake of Israel, for the sake of the Middle East, for the sake of peace.

Although your second term will soon come to a close, and a precious moment in history will have ended, the quest for peace will continue. For us, it is a lifelong quest that has been immeasurably enriched during your tenure in office. History has determined that the search for peace will extend beyond your presidency – but I pray that it will continue to benefit from your intense personal involvement during your final months in office, as well as afterward.

Just over two years ago, as you may remember, you met Rabbi Michael Paley at an event hosted by Stan Chesley. It was just before Yom Kippur, our holiest of days. I asked Rabbi Paley to reflect on the current situation and I would like to share with you what he said:

Sukkoth is the holiday of dreams and hope. One would think that it would fall before Yom Kippur, which is our Day of Judgment, because hope should come before judgment. But that's not the way life is.

Sukkoth commemorates our trek through the desert but not our arrival to the Promised Land. Instead, we start and finish the holiday by remembering our experience in the desert. We celebrate our dreams and hope, but not the achievement of our goal. But dreams should not be thought of as fantasies. Fantasies are delusions; dreams are what we work towards with plans and perseverance. That is where we are now. It still feels like we are wandering – and the desert feels hot and dangerous. But we are actually still working hard to achieve our goal of peace. And in that respect, we are eternally grateful to President Clinton for helping us, and often leading us, along this difficult road.

Along this difficult and all-too-violent road, we are moved to see how deeply your emotions are touched. We are also grateful that your rational sense of purpose is not shaken.

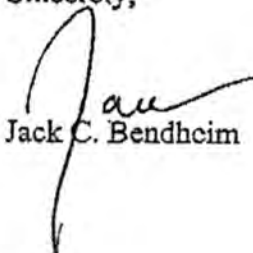
When the instinct of too many others is revenge and recrimination, we are proud that your response, and that of the United States Government, has been restraint and the restoration of calm. When so many say it is over, it is a blessing that you say and do all that can be done, in order to keep hope alive and to help all understand that the sacred goal cannot be over and never be abandoned. When no one can speak except to attribute blame and denounce the other side, it is so important that you can denounce the violence and keep faith with the leaders to try again, to persist.

Many have said that during an election campaign, no policy can surpass the political moment. Yet you have kept the focus on policy and peace foremost. When so many say this is the end of this Presidency, you have demonstrated every day that there is a strong and determined President of the United States, just as the Constitution mandates.

Please know that most Americans share with you this clear-eyed sense of priorities and commitment of American world influence; know that the majority of American Jews feel so fortunate that we have a President who loves Israel enough to commit the United States to persist in peace-making even in its moment of greatest despair. The Jewish tradition says that if you save one life, you have saved the world. Mr. President, if you lead the way to stop the violence, to save the life of one child, Israeli or Palestinian, or of one young Israeli soldier – you will have saved a world.

With all best wishes.

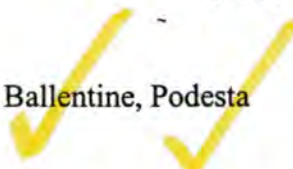
Sincerely,



Jack C. Bendheim

**RECENT INFORMATION ITEMS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING
OCTOBER 20, 2000**

TAB A - copied Ballentine, Podesta



210
10.24.00

10-21-00

RECENT INFORMATION ITEMS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING

October 20, 2000

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10-21-00

October 21, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ADAM ROSMAN *AR*
JUSTIN COLEMAN

SUBJECT: Recent Information Items

We are forwarding the following recent information items:

✓ **Ballentine Memo re: Update on Bioenergy Initiative** – Roger updates you on the positive progress of your Bioenergy Initiative and forwards a DOE/USDA report, which highlights: establishment of a Biomass Research and Development Board; enactment of the Biomass Research and Development Act that has boosted bipartisan efforts; and extension of four biomass research grants pursuant to your Initiative. Agencies point out that future progress will depend in part on tax credits, phasing out MTBE, changes in the Clean Air Act to promote bioenergy mass production, and electricity restructuring. A Strategic Plan outlining how various agencies will pursue the goals of your Initiative is due soon.

✓ **Congressional Correspondence (via Kay Casstevens)** – Kay forwards the following letters: **Jeff Bingaman**, thanking you for your visit to New Mexico and apologizing for not attending the event at La Fonda; **Dianne Feinstein**, thanking you for your note and concern for her injury and letting you know that her operation was a success; **Bob Graham**, thanking you for attending the women's conference in Florida, saying it meant a great deal to the Graham family and was deeply appreciated by the conference attendees; **Jim Maloney** thanking you for two great events in Danbury; **Dennis Moore** thanking you for your attendance and gracious remarks at his event on Monday; and **Nancy Pelosi** thanking you for convening the debt relief meeting, and saying that it will be an important part of your legacy.

Items executed on your behalf:

✓ **Letter to North Korean Leader Kim Jon Il** – In advance of Madeleine's Sunday morning departure for Pyongyang, on Saturday we executed on your behalf a letter that Madeleine will hand deliver to Chairman Kim Jon Il. The letter expresses your pleasure at meeting the Chairman's special envoy, Jo Myong Rok, on October 10th at the White House, and your hope that Madeleine's visit will lead to closer ties between our countries and enable you to accept his invitation to visit the DPRK.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10-21-00

October 18, 2000

*Copied
Ballentine
Podestg*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROGER BALLENTINE 

RE: Update on Bioenergy Initiative

Handwritten signature/initials

I have asked the Departments of Energy and Agriculture to prepare a short summary update on the status of your Bioenergy Initiative. I attach that summary. You will also soon be receiving, as required by Executive Order 13134, a Strategic Plan outlining how various agencies will pursue the goals of your Initiative.

In the first year, we have progressed on many fronts. We have established a Biomass Research and Development Board, co-chaired by DOE and USDA and including EPA, Interior and OSTP among others, which is overseeing the preparation of the Strategic Plan. We have opened a National Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Office, which serves as the day to day staff operation for the Board, enhancing communication and cooperation among the agencies to form key industry partnerships. We have also begun to form a Federal Advisory Committee on Bioenergy and Bioproducts.

The enactment of the Biomass Research and Development Act earlier this year, chiefly sponsored by Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN), has boosted bipartisan support for our efforts. Your Executive Order and this legislation have provided impetus to ongoing federal efforts to work with private industry and research institutions to improve the technology. Our pragmatic focus has been on lowering the cost of breaking down cellulosic biomass through enhanced enzymes; demonstrating biodiesel fuel applications; improving the infrastructure and practices needed to provide supply of agricultural residues; and other similar efforts.

We have extended four project grants this year pursuant to your Initiative. These projects focus on 1) separating and converting corn fiber to ethanol; 2) producing power using polylactic acid and ethanol; 3) producing fuels, chemicals and power from hog manure; and 4) using tree bark-derived oils for adhesive applications.

The agencies involved point out that future progress in this area will depend in part on a host of related federal policies, including tax credits, phasing out of MTBE, changes to the Clean Air Act that encourage biomass energy production, and electricity restructuring. The Administration's principles on the phasing out of MTBE, for example, have laid out a clear framework for moving forward in the bioenergy area.

These efforts have begun to show a federal focus on the potential of bioenergy and biobased products to become a true national priority. Considering the institutional changes made within the government, coupled with the partnerships being established with the private sector, we can look forward to continued progress in the years ahead.

Copied to: John Podesta
Secretary Dan Glickman
Secretary Bill Richardson



Executive Summary

October 16, 2000

In the past year, significant progress has been made toward accomplishing President Clinton's goal in Executive Order 13134, Developing and Promoting Biobased Products and Bioenergy, to *"triple the use of bioenergy and biobased products in the United States by 2010."* Federal efforts to meet this goal were further advanced with the June enactment of the Bioenergy Research and Development Act of 2000. Through the formation of the Biomass Research and Development Board and the National Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Office, the government machinery is now in place to allow government agencies to combine their expertise, their technologies and their support toward the achievement of this important goal. Leading biomass experts from industry and universities have been brought together to lay out the steps to be taken to achieve this goal and to provide advice to direct government efforts. Finally, several industry-government collaborations have been established to accelerate the technology development critical to meeting the President's goal. These accomplishments will help the nation address the environmental, economic, and national security concerns associated with the use of fossil fuels.

The Biobased Products and Bioenergy Initiative

In the first decade of the 20th century, William Merriam Burton, a chemist for Standard Oil, developed the technology that pulled more energy out of the petroleum molecule. His vision launched the modern petrochemical industry and helped pave the way for the prosperity we enjoy today.

Now, at the beginning of the 21st century, we may be nearing a similar breakthrough—one that allows us to use the resources of this nation's farmers and foresters to fuel our future. In August 1999, President Clinton signed Executive Order 13134, Developing and Promoting Biobased Products and Bioenergy. This Executive Order outlines the President's vision to utilize biomass, our most abundant and renewable natural resource, to grow our economy, enhance national security, and protect the environment.

President Clinton's vision called for development of the Biobased Products and Bioenergy Initiative, a coordinated effort between government and industry. An integrated biobased products and bioenergy industry will displace petroleum with traditional commodity crops, agricultural waste, forest residues and aquatic resources to make an array of commercial products including fuels, electricity, chemicals, adhesives, lubricants and building materials. The goal of this Initiative is to triple our use of bioenergy and bioproducts by 2010. Success in reaching this goal could generate as much as \$20 billion a year in new income for American farmers and rural communities, while reducing annual greenhouse gas emissions by up to 100 million tons a year--the equivalent of taking 70 million cars off the road.

One year after the issuance of the Executive Order, we have made significant progress toward accomplishing this goal, helping to turn the President's vision into a reality.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In carrying out Executive Order 13134:

A Biomass Research and Development Board was formed with co-chairs from the Departments of Energy and Agriculture. The Board also has representatives from the Department of Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and other Federal agencies. The Board has met quarterly over the past year to create a Government Strategic Plan, which will accelerate the creation and early adoption of technologies needed to make biobased products and bioenergy cost-competitive. The Strategic Plan, which is currently in draft form, will guide and coordinate the efforts of the various Government agencies, who before the Executive Order, were working independently. The plan recommends:

- specific goals for technology development over the next ten years;
- appropriate policies such as tax code modifications, increased R&D funding, and new State and Federal legislation; and
- key actions to develop markets, such as creating a Federal Procurement protocol for biobased products and bioenergy.

A National Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Office was also formed to serve as the executive secretariat for the Board. This office is staffed with personnel from the DOE and USDA, and has enhanced communications among the agencies involved. Within the DOE and USDA, working groups have been successfully coordinating agency efforts in support of the Initiative, resulting in the award of several critical competitive contracts and the formation of key industry partnerships. A Federal Advisory Committee with members from industry, academia and other organizations is also being formed.

In addition to improved Government coordination, industry involvement is a key factor in reaching the goal of the Executive Order. Several top U.S. industry sectors recognize the commitment of the Administration and have become actively involved, including the forest products and chemical industries, fuel and power producers, and agribusiness. The resources and commercial expertise of these industry sectors are essential to achieving the goals of this Initiative.

These industries, represented by 34 companies and supported by DOE and USDA, undertook an extensive process beginning with the development of a vision for an integrated bioenergy industry. The vision incorporates the President's goals through the year 2010.

This vision was carried forward to a broad cross-section of the agricultural, chemical, forestry, life sciences, and energy communities to develop a detailed technical, market, and policy roadmap. When the roadmap is complete, government and industry will be able to jointly fund R&D and advance policies that will help to develop biomass markets.

The bipartisan political support recently given to bioenergy and biobased products underscores the value of our work in this area and the importance of the progress we have made. Senators Richard Lugar (R-IN) and Tom Harkin (D-IA), both long-standing advocates of biobased

products, along with Representatives Thomas Ewing (R-IL) and Mark Udall (D-CO) were instrumental in the passage of Title III of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000, signed by the President in June of 2000. Title III of this legislation, which the President signed in June, is the Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000. The goals of this Act are parallel to those of the Executive Order, formalizing the coordinated Federal efforts and the involvement of experts from the private sector, and authorizing \$49 million through the Department of Agriculture for R&D in the area of biobased industrial products. The Executive Order and the related legislation are an important legacy of this Administration and the 106th Congress.

In technology:

For many years both industry and government have been working to develop biomass technology to utilize biomass resources in a cost-effective manner. However, a number of technical barriers still exist. The Biobased Products and Bioenergy Initiative has brought Government and industry together under one umbrella and focused R&D on high priority areas that are necessary to achieve the President's goal. One specific example is the 10 million gallon per year demonstration of sugar cane bagasse to ethanol conversion by BC International Inc. This facility, to be built in Jennings, Louisiana, will be the first commercial biomass ethanol facility in the United States, paving the way for growth in the industry. Some of the other high priority areas supported in FY 2000 by Agriculture and Energy include:

- Improving harvesting, handling and storing alternatives for agricultural residues through targeted research with small business and universities;
- Lowering the cost of converting plant material into ethanol and fermentable sugars, in cooperation with Genencor, Inc, a leader in the enzyme industry;
- Researching new products, such as propylene glycol and ethylene glycol, that can be produced from the low cost sugars;
- Co-locating biomass ethanol facilities with existing corn ethanol facilities;
- Demonstrating biodiesel blends in government fleets and at National Parks;
- Supporting coal and biomass co-firing demonstrations in Indiana, Iowa, Tennessee, New York and Alabama;
- Supporting agriculture market research and demonstration projects;
- Demonstrating black liquor gasification in Virginia.

The cornerstone of the Initiative is research and development of the "biorefinery", a concept modeled after the petroleum industry. Biorefineries will use biomass from today's farms and forests to produce fuels, chemicals and power. Biorefineries will be deployed across rural America, providing new opportunities for many agricultural communities. In July 2000, a competitive solicitation attracted over 40 applications, from which four grants dedicated to development of the biorefinery were issued. The projects include:

- Separation of corn fiber and subsequent conversion to fuels and chemicals;
- Polylactic acid, ethanol and power production;
- Production of chemicals, fuels and power from hog manure;
- Use of bark-derived pyrolysis oils as a phenol substitute in structural panel adhesives.

These government industry partnerships have already resulted in success. An example of a successful commercial transfer of technology is the Cargill Dow Polymers' polylactic acid facility. The company has invested more than \$300 million, leveraged by modest government

funding, to build a new bio-plastic manufacturing plant in Blair, Nebraska. The new factory will produce more than 300 million pounds annually of corn-based plastic.

In market and policy development:

In addition to technical progress, meeting the goals of the Executive Order will require the development of supporting policies and markets. Examples of Federal policies that will affect the growth of the new industry include:

- Tax policy
 - The FY 2001 budget request proposes \$976 million in tax incentives over 5 years and \$2.1 million over ten years to accelerate the development and use of bio-based technologies, which convert crops, trees, and other “biomass” into a vast array of fuels and products. New tax credits would apply to biomass power plants that are supplied by agricultural and forestry wastes. The President has also proposed tax credits for landfill methane power plants and power plants that mix biomass with coal.
- Environmental policy
 - The EPA announced the phase out of the use of MTBE in gasoline because of the threat to public health and the environment. MTBE is used as an oxygen additive in reformulated gasoline (RFG) as required by the Clean Air Act. Ethanol is also used to meet RFG guidelines and studies are being completed to determine the extent to which ethanol can meet the demand created by a MTBE phase out.
 - Senator Tom Daschle (D-SD) has introduced bipartisan legislation to create a nationwide renewable fuels standard. The bill would eliminate the 10 year old requirement that gasoline in polluted urban areas contain a certain amount of oxygen in order to reduce carbon monoxide emissions. However, the bill would require that ethanol consumption remain at or above its current level of 1.3 percent of national gasoline supply, and would mandate increases in consumption over the next 10 years.
 - The existing EPA Clean Air Act regulatory framework limits the deployment of clean biomass cofiring technologies. It requires the filing of a new source review (NSR) application, a time consuming and tedious process for a technology that will ultimately reduce the emissions. The biomass cofiring community is ready to work with the EPA to develop a smarter approach.
- Agriculture policy
 - USDA is implementing Section 769 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Act of 1999, to provide new authority to use Conservation Reserve Program land for pilot biomass projects.
 - USDA has proposed a rule for use of Commodity Credit Corporation funds to boost production of ethanol and biodiesel during the next three fiscal years.
- Electric utility restructuring
 - The Administration’s electric utility restructuring proposal to Congress includes a national Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requiring electric suppliers to provide retail customers with minimum levels of electricity generated from “new” renewable

energy sources including low-emission biomass. Leading the way in procuring renewable energy, Executive Order 13123, signed by the President on June 3, 1999 includes direction to federal agencies to increase their use of renewable energy.

In order to successfully reach the goals of the Initiative, policies will remain an important part of the equation, and Congressional support, such as that illustrated by Senators Daschle and Lugar, is essential.

NEXT STEPS

Over the next year we will fully implement the Federal Government's biomass activities as articulated in the Strategic Plan and begin implementing the technical, market and policy plans as reflected in the industry vision and roadmap. The key to meeting President Clinton's goal of tripling biobased products and bioenergy use by 2010 lies in high-level, well-coordinated, adequately funded partnerships between industry and government.

C. Jennings
Lou Weisbach sends draft of proposal he and Richard J. Boxer have developed for a Bio-technological Advanced Research Projects Agency and asks that you call him after reviewing it.

10-21-00



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:
Ms. Nancy Hernreich
(for the President)

FROM:
Lou Weisbach
(847) 647-4800
(847) 647-4970 (fax)

*Keep a copy
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from Betty also*

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PLEASE COMMENT

PLEASE REPLY

PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Nancy:

Can you please give this to President Clinton as soon as possible and have him call me after he reads through it?

Thank you,
Lou

C. Jennings
*Pls. make sure this
from ASAP so I can
can Lou*
*copied
Jennings
Podesta*

*Make copy
for C. Jennings
Return this to
me. B*

B

FROM VISION TO REALITY

The grand challenge: To end diseases as we know them. To provide the leadership and impetus for the millennial transformation of biological science, and discover the early diagnoses, the cures and the prevention of many of the diseases that plague Americans. Understanding the genetic basis for diseases will require the synergy of information sciences, computer sciences, engineering, nano-technology, material sciences, physics, biology, and chemistry. Today, there is no concerted effort to pull all these disciplines together to create the tools and technologies to turn the promise of science into the revolution in medicine we all anticipate.

Finding the cure to major diseases would save lives, prevent misery, and help our economy. A major expense to business is health insurance, loss of time due to illnesses, disability due to illnesses, and associated health care costs. By finding the cures to major debilitating and deadly diseases, there will be significant savings.

A tax cut gives immediate gratification, but investing in basic science and clinical research will save lives and the economy will flourish by creating unimaginable new products resulting in new industries and jobs, and a far better quality of life in America. While a tax cut may lift a person's spirits temporarily, the cure to diseases will lift the spirits of mankind for generations to come.

The results of this effort will help all Americans, will change the course of history, and make America both better off and better.

- The government should be the catalyst to develop the infrastructure and provide the leadership and vision, but the energy, ingenuity, unique marketplace vision, as well as a percentage of the funds, must come from the private sector.
 - A public/private partnership
 - What is missing is an enterprise to support the development of tools, standards, and products that will bring the promises of our discovery engine to effecting change. To accomplish this goal requires investment across traditionally separated disciplines, a new approach to large scale technology research and a fluid mechanism to link government, academia, and industry.

- A Bio-technological Advanced Research Projects Agency will develop and fund the millennial transformation of biological sciences.
 - The federal government will provide initially \$40 billion over 5 years from the surplus to a Trust Fund that will provide the infrastructure and the funding for the Agency.
 - This will be an independent agency to fund interdisciplinary approaches and technology oriented development across disparate scientific fields and to work across the boundaries of government, academia and the private sector.
 - **THIS IS NOT ANOTHER NIH.** It is an agency that is politically independent and insulated from the government, run by a board of directors, accountable to the American people, and will be unconstrained by political pressure or conventional thinking.
 - The nation needs a new organization that can bridge discovery and product development as the Manhattan Project demonstrated. You cannot change a culture within an existing organization and achieve totally new goals. It is better not to re-tool an old organization, but create a new one.
 - Science and the surplus have given us a golden opportunity. Our present scientific achievements may appear to lend themselves to creating new industries and applications, but there is no systematic connection to the essential mechanisms to achieve our goals.
 - Many existing discoveries are not converted into useable products because the existing paradigms do not lend themselves to convert discovery to products.
 - One of the goals will be to develop new tools, standards, technology, and products based upon new and existing discoveries. The products will change the world. This will require an interface between government, private industry, and academia.
 - The only way the organization can succeed is to attract the brightest people in the world, but many do not want to work for the government.
 - There is skepticism by many that the regulatory and bureaucratic burden of government agencies crushes creativity. Accountability and responsibility are not impediments, but government structures are burdens.

- The board of directors will hire the CEO and develop policies to achieve the goals.
 - When the goals are achieved, the money reverts back to the federal government and to the private contributors who invested in the Agency Trust Fund.
 - They will have great latitude and flexibility, but must keep the goal of achieving the charge.
- Politically independent and situated in Boston, San Francisco, New York-not in or near Washington.
- Potential methods to achieve the goals will be:
 - Granting funds to investigators
 - Directing its own research
 - Funding outstanding scientists without directing the research
 - Joint ventures with private industries and universities
 - Venture capital investments in new or existing companies.
- This is separate and distinctly different (although there will be scientific collaboration and cooperation) from the budget of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Vice President Gore is committed to the doubling of the NIH funds.
- The Gore Administration will commit the resources to the Trust Fund. The Agency will have sufficient resources to fund the projects that the Board of Scientific and Humanitarian Advisors and the Board of Directors believe are essential to create the tools needed to prevent, detect, diagnose, and cure disease. The money will be available to cross the finish line.
 - An emergency fund will be available to fund research that appears to be close to finding a fundamental answer to a particular disease.
- The Board of Directors will commit to raising funds to help in the investment efforts.
- Our present research infrastructure is constricted by the conventional thinking of the past and therefore cannot make the great leaps that must be made to alter how we treat, monitor, prevent, and cure disease, and how we develop new drugs. This will provide an intersection of fields that are presently funded, approached, and organized in totally separate agencies, into a well financed, focused and coordinated agency.
- The transformation of medicine: you don't need a doctor or a hospital to treat infectious diseases for which there is a vaccine. The same will be true for many other diseases.

- In diabetes, for example, an implanted tiny sensing and delivering servo-mechanism could restore freedom to the patient.
- There should be linkage between government, academia, and the private sector.
- A fundamentally different way of exploring for the answers to understand the biological and genetic basis of disease. In the new century we need to link chemistry, physics, material science, engineering, and informational science with biology.
- NASA has developed mechanisms to create engineering solutions and has invested huge amounts into computing power, but biology has not done this.
- A Board of Investors appointed by Congress and the President will have the responsibility of carefully investing the monies to increase the principle.
- A Board of Scientific and Humanitarian Advisors will decide the distribution of the grants
- A Board of Directors will include the greatest entrepreneurs and business leaders of our time.
- The scientists supported by the Agency will not have their pay restricted by the usual federal rules, but will be paid at the market price, to encourage our best and most promising scientists to enter and stay within the Agency.
- The Agency will offer payoff or forgiveness of government loans for education to young scientists who continue their work at the Agency.
- Private industry will be encouraged to invest in this trust fund.
 - Tax-deductible contributions and/or contributions not subject to the usual accounting rules that govern earnings.
 - Private foundations that are health-oriented will be encouraged to focus their gifts into this fund
 - This is very productive money for industry, for it is in their self-interest to have diseases cured.
 - Success of this project will lead to lower health care costs for the nation
 - Just as the eradication of polio saved lives and money, so too will the early diagnosis and cure, and hopefully the prevention of many of the debilitating and deadly diseases that plague our nation.
 - Our full employment economy has limited the number of skilled or professional employees. Because diseases typically strike the more experienced employees (older), this is an investment in the future for industries and America.

- Combine the long-term commitment of the Federal government with the creative efficiencies, enthusiasm for discovery, entrepreneurial advantages, profit motive, and computer ingenuity of private industry. This will promote an atmosphere of excitement and challenge to a project and a team. A public/private partnership may be able to speed the decision, procurement and budgetary processes. The Agency will be able to move quickly to develop new technologies or fund new ventures outside the Agency at the rapid pace of discovery and creativity.
 - The President will inspire the nation and specifically members of the Agency to this challenge.
- This agency will link science and industry to create new technologies. Creativity demands speed. Imagine the innovations or cures that will happen. Using a new vehicle for bio-technical discovery, spin-offs will create new industries. The agency will become a platform developer.
- Technology platforms that turn discovery into applications, and applications into new industries.
- We must critically look at exactly how scientific discovery has been promoted in the past, and turn toward the future. Biotechnology and medical science are fragmented and inefficient and have no concentrated or focused mechanism for advancing basic science into the marketplace. The present system is linked to the past. Creating a new paradigm will ultimately lower the cost of scientific discovery, and lower the cost of health care.
- The telecommunications industry has the Bell Laboratories, for example. Presently, there is no linkage of science, technology, and industry in biomedicine. The amazing productivity and creativity in the telecommunications, computing, and information sciences industries must and will happen in biotechnology.
 - The Manhattan Project was fundamentally an engineering problem. Biological problems will not only be solved in the scientific laboratories, but will come from engineering. We will continue to invest in the discovery side through doubling the NIH, but we need to start a federal investment program aimed at applications.
 - A THIRD WAY
 - Government supported research, private supported research and a public/private partnership
 - Investigator-initiated research, mission-oriented research, and profit-motivated research.

- America responds to grand challenges: FDR saw the power of splitting the atom, and proposed the Manhattan Project. He told America we could work our way out of the Depression and defeat Hitler; Kennedy proposed the landing of a man on the Moon; and now we propose the eradication of many diseases.
- The next great sphere is going to be the linkage between biologic science, physical science and information science.
 - The challenges are enormous. The human genome has been mapped, but it is like having a New York City telephone book with all the phone numbers, but no names. Presently, we can't read the genome, we can't make sense the molecules, and we have very, very inefficient ways of developing and delivering the drugs. This will give the consumer control of their health. It will require new technology that creates new sensing devices, creates new approaches to a new generation of medicines, new ways to image the body, and new ways to deliver drugs. This will not happen without a major commitment and investment. Grand challenges must be articulated to inspire those people who are working on them and the American people who are funding them. We are committing ourselves to changing the course of history, similar to our pledge of landing a man on the moon.

Geoffrey C. Ward

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10-21-00

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September 24, 2000

Dear Mr. President,

Our night at the White House was unforgettable and we can't thank you enough for making it possible. Ann McCoy couldn't have been more welcoming or helpful. When Diane read the fireplace plaque which says that Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in the room in which she and I were to sleep she burst into tears. I misted up myself when I entered the Yellow Room and thought of the quiet evenings an exhausted FDR had spent there during the war years with his adoring cousin, Daisy Suckley. It's one thing to have written about the White House, something else entirely to live in it -- even for only a few hours. And I couldn't help noticing that among the CDs behind your desk in the Treaty Room was the Dexter Gordon boxed set. As Wynton Marsalis wistfully said to me not long ago: When will we ever again have a President who not only knows who Dexter Gordon was but actually likes to hear him play!

But above all, we'll treasure the early morning hours we spent with you in the solarium, listening to you talk a little about your plans for the future. I was especially interested to hear you speak so frankly of your ambivalence about writing a book too soon. For my sins, I once had to read through all the presidential memoirs in order. As you said, most of them aren't worth much. The first may also be the most unreadable -- Mr. Buchanan's Administration on the Eve of the Rebellion (1866) in which, in order not to seem immodest, James Buchanan refers to himself only in the third person -- sometimes as "the late president." But something of that same strained detachment makes the books written by most of his successors almost as tedious. All presidential parents seem to have been saintly. Ambition never has anything to do with how a president reaches the White House. Politics is what his opponents indulge in. And the challenges presidents face are usually fitted into tidy, compartmentalized chapters -- "The Economy," "Foreign Policy," "Peace-Making" -- of the kind that make historians and political scientists feel comfortable but convey almost nothing of how things must actually look from behind the president's desk.

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Blumenthal
Podesta

Some years ago, Dick Reeves wrote a book called President Kennedy: Profile of Power. It's not a great book by any means, but I was impressed by how vividly it conveyed Kennedy's ongoing battle simply to stay ahead of the conflicting demands and disconnected events that seemed to press in on him all at once. (The men who met with him at the White House to discuss the pros and cons of encouraging the overthrow of the Diem regime on August 28, 1963, I remember reading, had to talk louder than usual to be heard over the loudspeakers on the mall where 200,000 people had gathered for the March on Washington.) If your book set out to convey something of the simultaneity of presidential challenges - political, personal, economic, international, and all the rest - coming at you in every season and at all hours of the day and night I think it would both grip the general reader as other presidential memoirs have not and make a major contribution to the public's understanding of the presidency, as well.

In any case, we will always be grateful to you for inviting us to the White House. Diane and I hope that when you and the Senator move to New York we'll be able to return your kindness in some small measure here on West End Avenue. I can vouch for the Indian food.

Best,