

Watershed Agency, Inc.
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Little Rock, AR 72206
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**WATERSHED
AGENCY, INC.**

Fax

'00 OCT 30 PM 6:13

To: President Clinton

From: Rev. Hezekiah D. Stewart, Jr.

Fax: 1-202-456-6703

Date: October 20, 2000

Phone: [Click here and type phone number]

Pages: 2 includes cover

Re:

CC: [Click here and type name]

☒ **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☒ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle**

•Comments: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT'S REVIEW ONLY

*Recommend forwarding to Agency
Liaison/Dept. of State Visa Services
for handling:*

Yes
No ☒ *friend of POTUS's
send to staff Sec
for NSC.*

*(Return to Mail Analysis Rm. SE to Jank
forward)*

10-30-00

Send to Cohen?

Yes ☒ *NSC to handle - Friend
of POTUS*
No ☐



GOVERNMENT OF BENUE STATE NIGERIA

GHM/363/GOV
October 11, 2000

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P M B 102065, MAKURDI

Phone: 044-532584
Fax: 044 - 532564

Mrs. Betty Curry
Secretary to the President of
The United States of America
The White House
Washington D.C
USA

Through: Rev Dr. Hezekiah Stewart
Executive Director
Watershed Human and Community
Development Agency Inc.
Little Rock

GRANT OF VISAS TO MEMBERS OF THE BENUE STATE TRADE DELEGATION TO THE USA: AN APPEAL

1. I write to request you to kindly bring to the attention of Mr. President, the problems being encountered by the Benue State Government delegation in obtaining visas to undertake an official trade mission to the USA.

2. I am the Governor of Benue State in which capacity I was privileged to join President Olusegun Obasanjo to receive President Bill Clinton when he visited Nigeria recently. I wish to express my profound appreciation for the warm handshake and gift that I received from the President on that occasion. I remain impressed and encouraged by President Bill Clinton's eloquent speech in support of stronger ties between Nigeria and the USA as one of the means to strengthen our new democracy as well as promote the economic development of our nation.

3. In our effort to establish mutually beneficial economic partnership between business groups in Benue State and some states of the USA, a trade delegation was scheduled to visit the states of Arkansas, California and Georgia in April 2000. The visit could not be undertaken owing to late granting of visas. Subsequent efforts to meet rescheduled dates have been thwarted by the refusal of the US Consulate in Lagos to grant visas to members of the delegation.

4. Our efforts have received tremendous support from prominent business leaders in the USA such as Reverend Dr. Hezekiah Stewart, Mr. Thomas Kelvin, Mr. Walter Young and Bob Alderson, Vice-President of the American – Nigeria International Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta. We have also received immense encouragement and support from the Governors of the three states and Congressman Jay Dickey of the House of Representatives. This goodwill and support have, regrettably, been negated by the unfortunate posture of the US Consulate.

5. It is with due regard to the commitment of President Bill Clinton to fostering new economic ties between the USA and Africa that I wish to bring our predicament to his attention. I hope that his kind intervention will make it possible for the spirit of the African economic legislation to begin to be realised.

6. Kindly convey my warm regards and highest consideration to the President.



GEORGE AKUME
Governor

10-30-00



JIMMY CARTER

October 24, 2000

Send to Cohen?

Yes ✓

No ✓

 BC sky red dot -
 need
 open the
 week 10-30
 cc

To President Bill Clinton

We applaud your recent postponement of the execution of Juan Raul Garza, who was the first federal death row inmate scheduled to be executed since 1963. An execution date of November 15 has just been set for David Paul Hammer. We are writing to urge you to grant Mr. Garza's clemency petition and to ensure that the federal government does not put anyone else to death before serious questions are answered regarding the fairness of our nation's death penalty system.

Americans in great numbers and from diverse backgrounds are voicing grave doubts about the fairness of our system of capital punishment in general. We are particularly troubled, as we know you are, by the recent Justice Department report about the striking geographic and racial disparities in the administration of the federal death penalty.

There is powerful evidence that the administration of the death penalty in the United States is fundamentally flawed. Renewing federal executions under these circumstances would undermine your lifelong commitment to equal justice at home. It also would diminish the United States' moral authority abroad, including your consistent efforts to encourage other nations to improve their rule of law, administration of justice, and human rights records.

At this historic moment of American and global reflection on the issue of the death penalty, we urge you to commute Mr. Hammer's and Mr. Garza's death sentences to life in prison without possibility of parole and to impose a moratorium on federal executions, as strongly recommended by the American Bar Association.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter
Rosalynn Carter

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
 The President of the United States of America
 Washington, D.C. 20500

United States Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Circuit
Washington, DC 20001

00 OCT 27 PM 5:54

Laurence H. Silberman
United States Circuit Judge

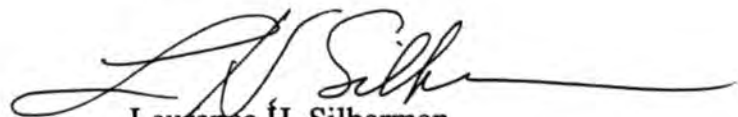
October 26, 2000

William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Please be advised that on November 1, 2000, I intend to retire from regular active service as a United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 371(b)(1), having attained the age and met the service requirements of subsection (c) of that section. It is my intention to continue to render substantial judicial service as a senior judge.

Respectfully yours,



Laurence H. Silberman
U.S. Circuit Judge

cc: Chief Justice of the United States
Chief Circuit Judge
Director, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts
Director, Federal Judicial Center
Circuit Executive
Chief, Judges Compensation and Benefits Branch

10-30-00
Should we send to
Cohen for reply?

Yes ☒

No ☐

cc Exec Clerk ☒

Yes ☒

No ☐

ad

Carelyn

Make-a-Wish child -
Cerebral Palsy

Potus wants questions
answered - Potus will
sign letter.

set name of child

10-30-00

Send to Cohen
Yes ☒
No ☐

BC Sky

and
coordinate w/ Karin Kullman
for child name

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last eight years.

think you
IN TEACHING
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were rejected!

feel about
action IN the
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do you plan to
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many secret service
is favorite part of?
what is his least?

how many does he know?

What favorite subject in
school

1. Mr President have you enjoyed your job these last eight years.

2. How well do you think you have done well in teaching all your goals that you set when you were elected!

3. How do you feel about the situation in the middle east!

4. Campaign fund reform

5. What is your favorite room in the Whitehouse.

6. What do you plan to do once you ~~leave~~ ^{leave} ~~retire~~ office.

7. How many secret service

What is his favorite part of job & what is his least?

How many does he know?

What favorite subject in school

At Odds in Alabama Over a Landfill on a Historic Trail

By SOMINI SENGUPTA

HAYNEVILLE, Ala., Oct. 1 — Other than scruffy banks of pine and poplar, and the occasional barbecue house and gas station, the rolling land along the highway that stretches from Selma to Montgomery offers little more than its rich red Alabama soil and the collective memory of its people.

For some, the bounty of this land lies in its Selma chalk soil. They call it "mother nature's cement," a tightly packed clay said to be ideally suited for a landfill. That is exactly what a businessman, a friend of the Alabama governor, has proposed to build off Interstate 80, with a promise to accept no garbage from outside Alabama and to share his proceeds with destitute Lowndes County. Local politicians, pinning their hopes on the landfill to bring revenue and a few jobs to a county where nearly 40 percent of the 13,000 residents live below the poverty line, have approved his proposal.

For others here, the wealth of this land is its place in the civil rights movement. It was here, along Interstate 80, in March 1965, that a 54-mile march, from Selma to Montgomery, led to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Along this highway, black farmers let the marchers camp overnight on their land. Here, the day after the march, a civil rights volunteer, a Detroit housewife named Viola Liuzzo, was gunned down. And along this highway, black sharecroppers, evicted for daring register to vote, built a settlement called Tent City.

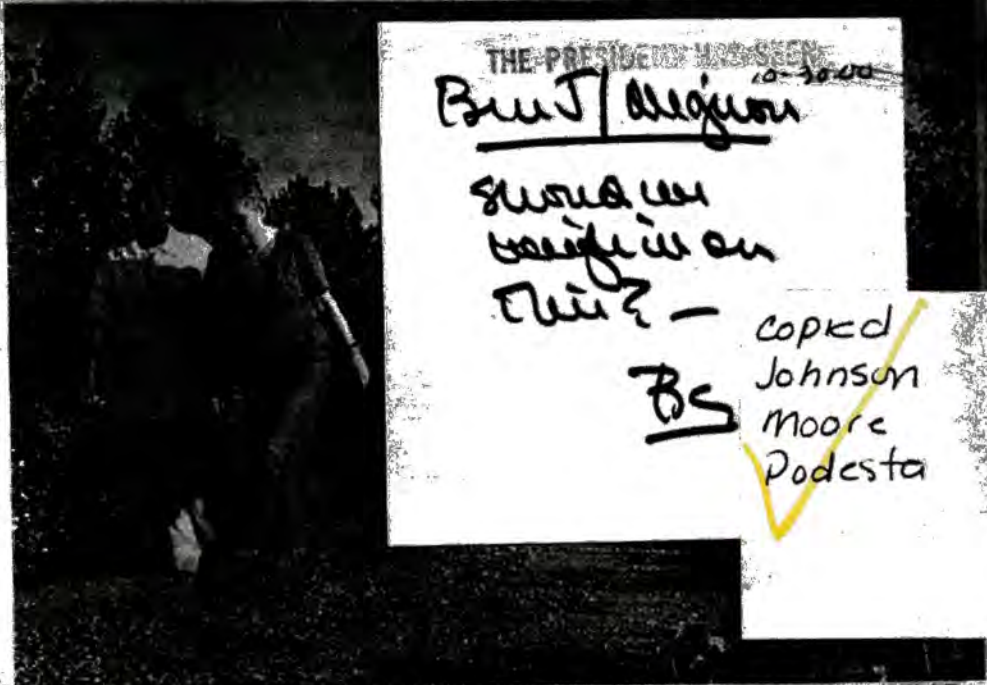
Some of these spots have been marked since the National Park Service designated this stretch of Interstate 80 a national historic trail. Since then, too, many people here have dreamed of one day seeing hotels and restaurants dot the highway, drawing tourists and creating jobs. To them and to many more people outside, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who spoke at an anti-dump rally last month, and John Lewis, a congressman from Georgia who marched in 1965, a dump is the ultimate affront, a case of environmental racism.

"It's an insult," said Bob Mants, who also marched alongside Mr. Lewis as an organizer with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and who now heads the Lowndes County Friends of the Trail. "You can't commemorate it on the one hand and desecrate it on the other."

And yet, this is not a duel of old-time Deep South enemies. Unlike many things in Alabama, the fight over the landfill has divided traditional allies and united blacks and whites on both sides. In fact, everybody in this fight seems eager to display their own civil rights stripes.

The landfill's most vocal champion, for instance, is John Hulett, the county's first black sheriff, now the probate judge and the county's de facto political boss. Mr. Hulett, 72, helped erect Tent City and establish the country's first black political party, Lowndes County Freedom Party. The county commission that approved the proposed landfill in 1998, convinced that it would not affect the civil rights trail because it would be set back from the highway by at least 500 feet, has a black majority. The lawyers representing the county in the landfill case work for the firm of Henry Sanders, a black state senator and a civil rights stalwart.

Meanwhile, as Mr. Hulett points out with relish, landfill opponents include the residents of the town, overwhelmingly white town of Lowndes-



Quemeller Lane, left, and Barbara Evans, who oppose landfill plans. "It's awful," Ms. Lane said.

Efforts to preserve the history of the Selma-to-Montgomery march.

boro, who, he says, have never cared about the county's black majority. "We didn't have any white participation in the civil rights movement in this town," Mr. Hulett snapped, sitting in his office here in the county seat. "Suddenly, it's the trail they're interested in."

For his part, the Lowndesboro mayor, John H. Nichols, 66, a white man, points to his civil rights credentials: He was a national guardman circling the Edmund Pettus Bridge in a helicopter, watching as marchers were beaten. "Then I realized, we are not free," Mr. Nichols recalled the other evening. "That trail is as much mine as it is anybody's. I was there."

Landfills are a major source of revenue for Alabama. There are 23 dumps statewide that take household waste alone. Much of it comes from out of state; Alabamians produce only a third of the the landfills' capacity of 31,500 tons daily. The issue of non-Alabama trash has become a favorite target of some politicians. Earlier this year, Gov. Donald Siegelman opposed a proposed landfill in Macon County — since withdrawn — because it would have accepted out-of-state trash.

The governor has remained silent on the Lowndes facility, to be developed by Lanny Young, a Montgomery businessman, race-car team owner and political consultant who is a friend and former roommate of the governor's chief of staff, Paul Hamrick. Mr. Young's company already collects Lowndes County trash. His

political consulting firm represents Waste Management Inc., one of the country's biggest landfill companies.

Mr. Young acquired land and a state permit for another landfill, in Cherokee County, and quickly sold it at what he called a handsome profit.

The state environmental agency has approved his proposed 200-acre, \$6.8 million landfill, which would bring in a maximum of 1,500 tons of household garbage and construction debris into a shallow valley encircled by a ridge of pine and oak.

His development is at a standstill now. Residents have appealed to a state agency that oversees state permits for landfills. Mr. Young has sued officials from the town of Lowndesboro, who claim that they should have some legal authority over the project; the landfill would fall within the town's police jurisdiction but outside town limits. Mr. Young recently declared personal bankruptcy, but said it will not affect the plans for the project.

The county, he said, could gain up to \$350,000 a year, a considerable sum for Lowndes and roughly 5 percent of the landfill's expected gross revenue. Mr. Young would also donate 30 acres for archaeological digs and build a kiosk on Interstate 80 to display Lowndes history.

Quemeller Lane, 54, whose family has lived in Burkville, just west of the dump site, for over a century, had not known much about the civil rights struggles here, or about the 1965 march until she moved here from Pensacola, Fla., 20 years ago. To learn it filled her with pride.

"To have this honor, this prestige, this highway being named a national trail, and they come along and they say, 'We'll show what we think of this and put a dump on it,'" Ms. Lane said. "I just think it's awful."

THE PRESIDENT
Barack Obama

Should we
beige in on
this? —

BS

Copied
Johnson
Moore
Podesta

10/2/2000 p. 12

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 29, 2000

copied
Sperling
Berger
Freedman
Podesta

10-30-00

NOV 1 25 00 7/53

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LISEL LOY *LL*

Subject: Sperling/Berger/Freedman memo re: international school lunch program

Senators Harkin and Leahy have drafted an amendment to authorize permanently the international school feeding pilot program; they seek Administration support for the proposal in the budget endgame. The attached memo lays out 2 options: 1) supporting the amendment; or 2) not supporting but not opposing it, if offered; the amendment would provide CCC funds at \$300M/year; \$500M/year after 2003.

Background. Making the amendment an Administration priority would strengthen prospects for its successful implementation by increasing confidence in the program's sustainability; add the program to the baseline, reducing chances it would compete with other agricultural programs in the future; and permanently institutionalize it, which would help build multilateral support. However, it would also make the program permanent before it has been tested; significantly increase annual mandatory spending; and potentially dilute our leverage to secure existing priorities. Bipartisan support is strong, suggesting this may not be our last opportunity. Supporting a draft House resolution that supports the pilot program is an alternative approach.

Views. Option 1) Make amendment a priority: supported by USDA, which believes there's no downside due to Republicans' likely support; Tom Freedman, who believes we have an opportunity to get this done now; and by NEC and State, with modifications. **Option 1A) Support time-limited authorization:** NEC does not believe we should take primary responsibility but would support a 3-year authorization if the leadership supports; State would support a 1-year authorization. **Option 2) Don't support but don't oppose if offered; or support passage of House resolution endorsing pilot:** supported by NSC, OMB, USAID, and Treasury. NSC believes it's premature to make program permanent and that further assessment is necessary to avoid the risk of misallocating resources and/or undermining future support for foreign assistance; USAID has concerns about implementation; and Treasury worries the program could undermine funding for other foreign assistance priorities.

John believes the Administration currently carries too long a list of "must haves" to add this as one of our priorities; he recommends Harkin and Leahy put the amendment forward and we support it.

Option 1 ☐

Option 1A ☒

Option 2 ☐

Discuss ☐

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 29, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: GENE SPERLING
SAMUEL BERGER
THOMAS FREEDMAN

SUBJECT: LEAHY/HARKIN GLOBAL SCHOOL FEEDING LEGISLATION

Senators Leahy and Harkin have drafted an amendment to authorize permanently the international school feeding pilot program and have requested in a letter that the Administration seek to add it to the final appropriations legislation. They are prepared to work to ensure that key Republicans do not raise objections and report that Sen. Lugar will clear on the amendment if asked about it by Republican leaders. Sen. Dole may contact Sen. Lott to urge him to do the same.

The amendment would finance the Global Food for Education program out of CCC funds, beginning at a level of \$300 million per year and rising to \$500 million per year after 2003. This structure would help to address the foreign policy community's concern that the program must not compete directly with other Function 150 priorities. The proposal also tries to anticipate the concerns of the development community by requiring coordination with education reform efforts, ensuring an important role for PVOs, and directing USDA to work with and fund the administrative participation of USAID.

In their letter, Sens. Leahy and Harkin say they seek passage of the legislation now in order to place the program on stronger budgetary and diplomatic footing. Specifically, they argue that authorizing the program beyond this year would build it into the budget resolution's baseline next year, lessening the chance it would compete with other agricultural priorities at that time. On the diplomatic front, they are concerned that our efforts to multilateralize support for the program are hindered by uncertainty on the part of other potential donors as to whether the US commitment will extend beyond this year. Passage of this legislation would address this concern as well.

On the other hand, there are downsides to making passage of the Leahy amendment an Administration priority in the final appropriations legislation, notwithstanding the worthiness of the pilot initiative's goals. These considerations include:

- Before the July Okinawa Summit, the Administration signed up for a *pilot* program. USDA and, to a greater extent, USAID currently do run some overseas school feeding programs. However, USDA, which is the lead agency in this program, has only limited expertise in administering development projects on this scale. This approach risks misallocating resources unless administered properly. Accordingly, it is arguably premature to permanently authorize a comprehensive version of the program before it has been implemented or tested.
- In its current form, the proposal is not offset and would create substantial additional budgetary costs, rising from \$300 million in FY 2001 to \$500 million per year after 2003.
- The Administration has a limited amount of capital in the remaining budget discussions. Adding a significant new item at this time could complicate the strategy to secure funding for your existing priorities.
- Although casting USDA in the lead role helps keep the program out of Function 150, this would represent a major change in USG responsibilities in foreign assistance delivery --- away from USAID --- without a commensurate transfer of expertise or experience. A permanent program would be better served by a more thorough treatment of USAID's role, particularly given the contribution we want the program to make to education. We should also anticipate that increasing USDA funding for international work will be used by some on the Hill as a justification for reducing Function 150 development assistance by a like amount.
- Bipartisan support for the program is likely to remain strong in the next Congress, suggesting that this is not likely to be the last opportunity to pass legislation authorizing it. In addition, House members are floating a draft resolution expressing support for the pilot program. Support for this resolution represents an alternative approach that would serve to strengthen the hand of those seeking to pass authorizing legislation for the program next year.

Options

Following are two options for responding to Senators Leahy and Harkin:

- 1) Propose that the substance of the Leahy amendment be attached to this year's final appropriations legislation.

Pros:

- *Strengthens prospects for the initiative's successful implementation by increasing the confidence of potential recipient countries, participating PVOs, and international donors in the program's continuity and sustainability.*
- *By placing the program in the baseline, lessens the chance it would compete with other agricultural programs in future budgets.*
- *Provides clear authority for CCC funds to be used to pay for USAID's administrative participation in the program --- an uncertain matter in the absence of legislation.*
- *Permanently institutionalizes the program you have advocated.*

Cons:

- *Transforms a one-year pilot initiative into a permanent program before a single project has been implemented and lessons have been learned regarding what works best.*
- *Increases annual mandatory spending by \$300 million in FY 2001 to \$500 million after FY 2003 without an offset (a total of \$2 billion over FY 2001 to FY 2005).*
- *Potentially dilutes our leverage to secure passage of existing Administration priorities in the final appropriations package by adding a significant item to them.*

- 2) Decline to propose the Leahy/Harkin amendment in the final appropriations discussions but indicate that we would not oppose it if they (or others) offered it or that we would support passage of a resolution endorsing the pilot program such as that reportedly being drafted by House members.

Pros:

- *Would avoid imposing on future Administrations an untested, permanent program in circumstances in which we already have a large pilot program.*
- *Would avoid future budgetary costs and potential complications for the Administration's budget endgame strategy. We already are carrying a heavy load of "must get" items; we may well put these other items at risk by carrying the burden of this proposal as well.*
- *Would provide a full opportunity to assess the merits of and apply lessons learned from the pilot program before making it more permanent.*

Cons:

- *Would disappoint Senators Leahy and Harkin and miss an opportunity to capitalize on a positive political and budgetary climate to give an additional boost to an effort to alleviate global poverty and child malnutrition.*
- *Would make the program's future authorization more difficult to achieve without a tradeoff against other agricultural programs because of its absence in the baseline.*
- *By keeping the program a short-term pilot initiative, would not lessen any doubts that potential beneficiaries, PVOs, or potential donors may harbor about its sustainability and worthiness for participation.*

Agency Positions

Option #1 is supported by USDA, while NEC and State support it with modifications. USDA believes that it would impose no cost on the Administration's budget endgame agenda because of the Republicans' likely support for it. Tom Freedman believes we have an opportunity to get this done now and supports option 1.

- NEC is very sympathetic to the concerns expressed by agencies supporting Option #2 --- and believes that it is asking too much for us to take primary responsibility for pushing the proposal at this stage --- but that we should be willing to affirmatively support a 3-year authorization if the Congressional leadership also has a demonstrated willingness to do it. State takes a similar position but believes that any authorization should be limited to one year.

Option #2 is supported by NSC, OMB, USAID, and Treasury. NSC believes that the initiative should remain a pilot program in order to provide sufficient opportunity to assess how it can be administered effectively. A poorly designed and administered program of this scale runs the risk of misallocating resources to such a degree that it could undermine future support for foreign assistance more generally. USAID believes that the pilot program presents an interesting opportunity, but that the proposed legislation provides inadequate assurance that the food and education aspects of the initiative will be properly integrated. Treasury believes there is no assurance that the program would not at some point undermine funding for other foreign assistance priorities even though the legislation places it within the jurisdiction of Agriculture appropriations.

If the legislation does go forward, USAID would like to increase the limit on its administrative expenses that can be reimbursed by CCC and co-chair an expanded interagency group to oversee the program's implementation.

Decision

Please advise as to whether you would like to:

_____ Option 1: Propose that the substance of the Leahy/Harkin amendment (i.e., a permanent authorization of the global school feeding pilot program) be attached to this year's final appropriations legislation.

_____ Option 1A: Affirmatively support a time-limited authorization (e.g., a three year or one year authorization) if the congressional leadership also has a demonstrated willingness to do it.

_____ Option 2: Decline to propose the Leahy/Harkin amendment in the final appropriations discussions but indicate that we would not oppose it if they (or others) offered it or that we would support passage of a resolution endorsing the pilot program such as that reportedly being drafted by House members.

_____ Other.

JANET BEDIN, 244 West 22nd Street #2A New York, New York 10011
TEL (212)463-8111 FAX (212)294-4700 CELLULAR (917)825-4955 OFFICE (212)294-4662

October 27, 2000

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

10-30-00
To Cohen for
Reply
✓
coordinate w/
mil office

'00 OCT 30 PM 5:55

Dear Mr. President:

It was a pleasure speaking with you again at Cardinal O'Connor's funeral in New York and talking about my father who was a WWII hero landing in Normandy, an Italian-American and used his WWII tactics to fight his battle with cancer. I have enclosed a video of interviews by NBC and other press which amazed journalists and doctors on his WWII fight. My Father, Emeric Bedin, died on April 22, 1998 and as I mentioned to you Cardinal O'Connor was very supportive to me during that time and celebrated a mass for my father at the Vatican.

You had asked me at that time to send you information on my father and that you would receive my mother, brother and I in Washington and give my father a special recognition or medal regarding his heroism in WWII and with his battle with cancer. He landed in Normandy after the first wave and was wounded in the battle of Avranches which was Patton's famous re-entry into France. He received the Purple Heart and several other medals. He broke the record for setting up the fastest mortar. I enclosed a copy of his discharge papers. Emeric Bedin was a true American who fought for his country, was wounded in battle, returned to America and bought a house on the GI bill working 34 years as a civil servant for the Rockford City Water Department. He loved America.

We had also met several times before when I worked for Governor Cuomo as the Director for the New York State Department of Economic Development for Italy and Spain (1992-95). I enclosed a video copy of an interview we were both in for Reuters NBR during the G-7 Summit in Naples, Italy in 1994 with Ambassador Bartholomew since I was the only director of a U.S. state office of economic development in Italy. Thanks to your support Italian investment increased in New York State creating many new jobs which was my mission.

My father loved you as President of the United State of America and you were his hero. He had shaken hands with you in 1996 at the National Italian American Foundation dinner in Washington and was so proud of that moment - he often said you were a real father to the country because of your combined qualities of intelligence, fight and empathy. In that brief interaction you inspired him to keep going on.

Page 2

He was diagnosed in 1995 with Stage IV lung cancer with 6 weeks to live and he lived two 1/2 years beyond the statistics because he used his WWII tactics and training to get him through 11 surgeries. The men of this generation were "fighters with a heart" and my father saw that same "fighter with a heart quality" in you.. He survived because he just "refused to give up" even though doctors told him he should.

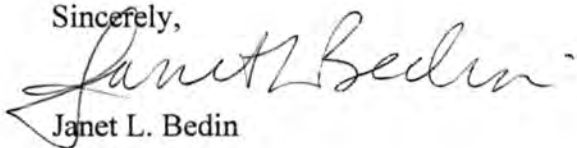
My father and I were both interviewed on WNBC which is also on the tape regarding his WWII strategy at the hospital. We played WWII movies day and night in order to bring that young soldier in him back to the front lines and plastered his hospital room with his WWII photos in uniform. In the interview they said when he was wounded in WWII with shrapnel blasting through his knee he did not fall down he just kept on going as he did in his fight against cancer.

When you and I met we talked about my mother , brother and I being received by you in Washington when we are there before the end of this year. You told me to get in touch with you regarding the dates and we are thinking anytime in November or December that would work for your schedule.. As I mentioned to you my mother is legally blind and my brother has had a mental disability since he was 13. Meeting you for a few minutes in your office will be the truly happiest meaningful moments we could ever have after the great loss of my father.

I thought you would appreciate the following quote which I had put in his obituary:

"We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing rounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills, We shall never surrender." (Churchill 1940)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet L. Bedin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Janet L. Bedin

Area-born mourner, O'Connor had bond

Rockford native Janet Bedin credits the late N.Y. cardinal with helping restore her faith.

By ALEX GARY
Rockford Register Star

ROCKFORD — A Rockford native who called Cardinal John O'Connor "a second father" is among the 2,500 people personally invited to attend his funeral today in New York.

Janet Bedin, a 1972 Rockford Jefferson graduate, met O'Connor on a chance encounter at the Vatican in 1998.

Bedin will be in select company. Dignitaries expected to attend O'Connor's funeral include President Clinton and first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton; Vice President Al Gore; former President George Bush and his son, Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush.

Bedin had traveled to Rome to have a photograph of her father blessed. Her father, Emeric Bedin, had died seven months earlier.

Emeric Bedin was a World War II veteran who worked for Rockford's water department for 34 years.

"I was taking an elevator

down for a personal audience with the pope when I literally ran into Cardinal O'Connor," said Bedin, who moved to the Big Apple in 1975 and works for the New York law offices of Winston and Strawn.

O'Connor blessed her father's picture and held a special Mass for him the next day.

After Bedin returned to New York, O'Connor called her and she spoke with him often.

"I had drifted away from the church, and he drew me back to it," she said. "He was perceptive enough to know I was a suffering daughter, and he filled the role of surrogate father."

O'Connor will be interred today in the crypt beneath the cathedral's altar, where all the previous archbishops of New York are buried.

The archbishopric of New York is considered the most influential Catholic post in the United States. O'Connor made an art of using the position to weigh in on the news of the day, often injecting himself into political debates on issues like abortion or attempting to heal rifts in controversies involving race.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.



Janet Bedin



Emeric Bedin



New York Post: **W.A. Funches Jr.**
STILL A WARRIOR: World War II hero Emeric Bedin with medals and family at Mount Sinai Hospital yesterday.

Battling cancer gets him medals from another war

By HEIDI MAE BRATT

It's taken a battle with lung cancer for the WWII veteran Emeric Bedin to get the hero's medals he earned 50 years ago.

Flanked by his family and army officials, Bedin yesterday received the Purple Heart and eight other awards at an informal ceremony at Mount Sinai Hospital, where he's recovering from surgery.

It was a surprise for his 75th birthday.

"This has been the most exciting birthday of my life," Bedin said, tears welling in his eyes.

Bedin, a retired city worker from Rockford, Ill., said he didn't hang around to collect his medals when he was discharged from the

Army after surviving tough battles at Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland.

"I just wanted to go home," Bedin said.

But his daughter, Janet, started thinking about her dad's medals after he came to New York for a visit and discovered he had cancer.

She called the office of Sen. Carol Mosley Braun (D.-Ill.) and asked for help.

Bedin predicted his military experience will help him in his latest fight.

"You always had to outfox your enemy, that's what we were told," he said. "That's what I'll try to do with my cancer."

Emeric J. Bedin 77½

Loving father, husband, uncle, brother-in-law and friend

Emeric J. Bedin, 77½, nobly passed away the morning of April 22, 1998, in the loving warmth of his wife, Dolores, son, Lex, and with his forehead being caressed by his devoted daughter, Janet, after a valiant and courageous battle with his illness. Family photos and his World War II medals were surrounding him.



Born Oct. 18, 1920, to Girolamo and Angela (Nicola-to) Bedin. Lived in Rockford until he was 3 years old, and returned to his parents' hometown of Brendola, Italy, where they owned the Hotel Colomba in Barbarano, Italy. In 1928, he and his father returned to America, steerage class through Ellis Island, returning to Rockford. He grew up in south Rockford and, as he said in later years, "spent the best times of my life with my father fishing and hunting." His first job was delivering newspapers at 10 years old. Emeric attended St. Anthony's Grade School, graduated from West High School and attended Rock Valley College and the University of Illinois. When World War II broke out, Emeric's patriotism brought him to enlist in the U.S. Army, based in St. Athans, Wales. He married Dolores DeGrandis on Jan. 15, 1948, in St. Anthony Catholic

Church; they just celebrated their 50th anniversary. Emeric was assistant superintendent of the city of Rockford Water Department, retiring in 1980, after 34 years of service. In the 1980s and 1990s, he enjoyed painting portraits and landscapes, being with his daughter, Janet, in New York City and Italy, and playing chess with his son, Lex. He always loved dancing to big band music. He volunteered his time at the National Lung Program, State of New York Department of Economic Development and National Association for Home-care and Hospice. He was an excellent blackjack player and loved Atlantic City and Las Vegas. He was a loving, handsome, charming, humorous husband and father, able to work out a solution to any problem thrown at him and most of all believed in helping people. Emeric's motto was: "It gives you that good feeling inside to help someone." He understood and practiced the gift of empathy. In 1995 he was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer, given six weeks to live. His great warrior attitude defied the medical community who predicted a much shorter life span. Emeric and family fought to change the limited approach offered by some doctors who assumed patients like Emeric were "too old with a terminal prognosis" to evaluate and offer the full testing and available treatment that otherwise would be offered. He was actually told by doctors to give up. He taught them a lesson with his comebacks that the will to fight can overwhelm even scientific knowledge and doctor's assumptions. He was called a "Miracle Man" by North Shore Hospital in New York. Conferences were held at Mount Sinai and Memorial Sloan-Kettering because of his continual comebacks; he was not a statistic. Emeric was a U.S. Army, World War II hero, landing in Normandy and fighting in and around the Battle of the Bulge. He was interviewed by WABC-TV in 1995 for carrying out his battle with cancer like a military operation, "he just wouldn't give up." When he was hit with a piece of shrapnel in France, he didn't fall down. He just kept on fighting, for which he received the Purple Heart and many other medals. In 1996, Emeric, accompanied by his daughter, was invited to Brendola, Italy, and was honored by the mayor for his life achievements including his WWII courage and his battle with cancer. He was received in Rome by the secretary of state of the Vatican, Monsignor Re, in 1996, who told him that the men of 1920, like the Pope, are the strongest men of this century. Thanks in New York to Mount Sinai

Hospital, Memorial Sloan-Kettering and to Dr. Philip Luloff for his encouragement. Emeric appreciated the visits of Gov. and Mrs. Cuomo who provided encouragement during his surgeries and to Mayor Rudy Giuliani for his visit with Emeric last July. Deep appreciation to Dr. Paul Maxwell for helping Emeric throughout the three years. Special thanks to nurse Mary Beth Clayton. Thanks to Dr. Kent Hoskins at Rockford Memorial Hospital and staff for appreciating Emeric's will to forge on. Deep gratitude is expressed to his special nieces Julie, Jennifer and Janel Thomas for no matter what hour, were there for Uncle Emeric. A heartfelt thank-you to the generosity of spirit and support of Richard Wurster. A special thank you to Sue, Corrine and Michael Bedine. Emeric was predeceased by parents; father- and mother-in-law, Frank and Minnie DeGrandis; and special friend and brother-in-law, Robert Steffani. Survivors include wife, Dolores; son, Lex of Rockford; daughter, Janet of New York City; sisters, Bianca Ortigara of Chicago and Stella Pellicetti of Rome, Italy; sisters-in-law, Grace Thomas, Ange Steffani, Pauline Panozzo of Rockford and Alexandra DeGrandis of Madison, Wis.; brothers-in-law, Jay Thomas and Gino Panozzo, both of Rockford; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Services at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, April 30, in St. Anthony Catholic Church, with Father Luke Poszworowski officiating. Entombment in Calvary Mausoleum. Visitation 6 to 8, with prayer service at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 29, in Fred C. Olson Funeral Chapels Ltd., North Chapel, 2811 N. Main St.; prayer service also from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursday in North Chapel.

Emeric's legacy in battling his illness is in the following:

"We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender." — Churchill, 1940.

The battle ended 2½ years beyond the statistics, his spirit won and his spark lives on which brought him nobility and still lights the passages to those who love him. (Dad, I love you as big as the moon and the stars — that is where you now are and I will always look up there to you — Your Brenda Dolina). 4-26-3

ENLISTED RECORD AND REPORT OF SEPARATION

HONORABLE DISCHARGE

16876247

1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE INITIAL BEDIN AMERICO J		2. ARMY SERIAL NO. 36 372 991	3. GRADE PFC	4. ARM OR SERVICE INF	5. COMPONENT AUS
6. ORGANIZATION CO M 109TH INFANTRY		7. DATE OF SEPARATION 30 DEC 45	8. PLACE OF SEPARATION CAMP GRANT TEL SEPARATION CENTER		
9. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES 1002 CURVE ST ROCKFORD ILL		10. DATE OF BIRTH 18 OCT 20	11. PLACE OF BIRTH ROCKFORD ILL		
12. ADDRESS FROM WHICH EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SOUGHT SEE 9		13. COLOR EYES HAZEL	14. COLOR HAIR BROWN	15. HEIGHT 5 7	16. WEIGHT 130
17. NO. DEPEND.	0				
18. RACE ☒ WHITE ☐ NEGRO ☐ OTHER (specify)	19. MARITAL STATUS ☒ SINGLE ☐ MARRIED ☐ OTHER (specify)	20. U.S. CITIZEN ☒ YES ☐ NO		21. CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND NO. FOUNDRY WORKER 8-82.10	

MILITARY HISTORY

22. DATE OF INDUCTION 17 SEPT 42	23. DATE OF ENLISTMENT 1 OCT 42	24. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE 1 OCT 42	25. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE CAMP GRANT ILL
26. SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA ☒ YES ☐ NO	27. LOCAL S.E. BOARD NO. 3	28. COUNTY AND STATE WINNEBAGO ILL	29. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE 323 HOUGHTON ST ROCKFORD ILL
30. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. MORTAR GUNNER 607		31. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY AND NO. 221ST STOL CARBINE CO 37 MAT SUB	

BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS

32. BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS NORMANDY NORTHERN FRANCE RHINELAND	
33. DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS 1 SERVICE STRIPE 4 OVERSEAS SERVICE BARS AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN THEATER RIBBON W/3 BRONZE BATTLE STARS GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL	
34. WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION ETO AUG 44	

35. LATEST IMMUNIZATION DATES		36. SERVICE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL U.S. AND RETURN	
SHALL VAC AUG 43	TYPHOID: ST JUL 45 TETANUS: ST MAR 44	OTHER (specify)	DATE OF DEPARTURE 8 OCT 43 DESTINATION ETO DATE OF ARRIVAL 18 OCT 43
37. TOTAL LENGTH OF SERVICE		38. HIGHEST GRADE HELD	
CONTINENTAL SERVICE YEARS MONTHS DAYS 1 0 16		FOREIGN SERVICE YEARS MONTHS DAYS 2 2 14	
39. PRIOR SERVICE NONE		PFC 21 DEC 45 USA 21 DEC 45	

40. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION CONV OF GOVT RR 1-1 (DEMOBILIZATION) AR 615-365 DATED 15 DEC 1944	
41. SERVICE SCHOOLS ATTENDED NONE	42. EDUCATION (Years) SCHOOL 8 HIGH SCHOOL 0 COLLEGE 0

PAY DATA

43. LONGEVITY FOR PAY PURPOSES YEARS MONTHS DAYS 3 3 14	44. MUSTERING OUT PAY TOTAL THIS PAYMENT 300 100	45. SOLDIER DEPOSITS \$29.57	46. TRAVEL PAY .20	47. TOTAL AMOUNT, NAME OF DISBURSING OFFICER \$339.23 G F DOLEAR CAPT FD
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INSURANCE NOTICE

IMPORTANT IF PREMIUM IS NOT PAID WHEN DUE OR WITHIN THIRTY-ONE DAYS THEREAFTER, INSURANCE WILL LAPSE. MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS PAYABLE TO THE TREASURER OF THE U.S. AND FORWARD TO COLLECTIONS SUBDIVISION, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, WASHINGTON 25, D.C.					
48. KIND OF INSURANCE ☒ Nat. Serv. ☐ U.S. Govt. ☐ None	49. HOW PAID ☒ Affirmant ☐ Direct to V.A.	50. Effective Date of Discontinuance 31 DEC 45	51. Date of Next Premium Due (One month after 50) 31 JAN 46	52. PREMIUM DUE EACH MONTH 16.60	53. INTENTION OF VETERAN TO ☒ Continue ☐ Continue Only ☐ Discontinue

54. REMARKS (This space for completion of above items or entry of other items specified in W. D. Directives) PURPLE HEART GO #144 HQ 298 GENERAL HOSPITAL 26 JUN 45 LAPEL BUTTON ISSUED ASR SCORE (2 SEPT 45) 78 ERC FROM 17 SEPT 42 TO 30 SEPT 42	
55. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED AMERICO J. Bedin	56. PERSONNEL OFFICER (Type name, grade and organization - signature) C. MAHONEY 1ST LT WAC



SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its preparation, information is taken from available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and work experience is based on the individual's own statements. The veteran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers, representatives of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL				MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS		
BEDIN AMERICO J.				10. MONTHS	11. GRADE	12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY
2. ARMY SERIAL NO.	3. GRADE	4. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.				
36 372 991	Pfc			3	Pvt	Infantry Basic
5. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, County, State)				33	Pfc	Mortar Gunner 607
1002 Curve St. Rockford, Ill.				3	Pfc	Postal Clerk 056
6. DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE	7. DATE OF SEPARATION	8. DATE OF BIRTH				
1 Oct 42	30 Dec 45	18 Oct 20				
9. PLACE OF SEPARATION						
Camp Grant, Ill.						

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS

13. TITLE—DESCRIPTION—RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

MORTAR GUNNER 607

Served with an infantry outfit in combat operations as a gunner on an 81 MM Mortar Section. Served in ETO for 26 months.



THE HEALTHCARE EDUCATION PROJECT

1199 SEIU



TO D. Cohen
for reply
Re 819.
card w/
C. Jennings
(w) 10.30.00

By Facsimile

October
Thirty
2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We would like to commend you for your commitment to fighting for the health care of all Americans during the final days of this Congressional session. We are particularly pleased by your stated desire to enact legislation to strengthen America's teaching hospitals before Congress adjourns. As you stated in your letter to Speaker Hastert and Senator Lott:

...you insist on an unjustifiable spending increase for HMOs at the same time as you exclude bipartisan policies such as health insurance options for children with disabilities, legal immigrant pregnant women and children, and enrolling uninsured children in schools, as well as needed payment increases to hospitals, academic health centers, home health agencies, and other vulnerable providers. Congress should not go home without responding to the urgent health needs of our seniors, people with disabilities, and children and the health care providers who serve them.

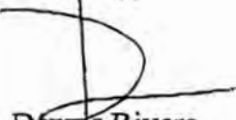
Again, we are extremely grateful for your strong statement.

We believe that the best way to translate your important statement of support into real action would be to put a stop to further Medicare cuts to teaching hospitals by preventing further reductions in the Medicare indirect medical education (IME) adjustment for as long as possible. The leadership bill, the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act (BIPA), which passed the House of Representatives on October 26, 2000, would prevent further cuts in the IME adjustment for one year only. After 2001, the adjustment would be reduced from 6.5% to 6.375% in 2002, and to 5.5% in 2003, for a 15% reduction over two years. This cut would be devastating for New York's teaching hospitals. As you know, teaching hospitals have already suffered a 15% reduction in the IME adjustment since 1997. An article that appeared just yesterday in the *New York Post*, entitled "City Hospitals Critical", described the urgent need to help New York's hospitals.

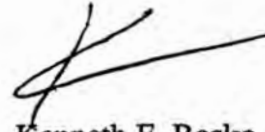
Therefore, we respectfully urge you in negotiations with Congressional leaders to insist that the IME adjustment remain at 6.5% for as long as possible, as proposed by Congressman Charles Rangel and Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan. In this way, we can ensure that teaching hospitals in New York and across the country will be able to continue to provide high quality care to Medicare beneficiaries.

Again, Mr. President, we thank you for your support and look forward to working with you as you conclude negotiations with Congressional leaders.

Sincerely,



Dennis Rivera
President
1199/SEIU



Kenneth E. Raske
President
GNYHA