

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	[Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	01/05/2001	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Staff Secretary
Lisel Loy (Chron Files)
OA/Box Number: 22086

FOLDER TITLE:

Friday, January 5, 2001

2019-0680-S

rs3254

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]

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
A private university in the public service

School of Law

40 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012-1099

TELEPHONE: (212) 998-6000

FACSIMILE: (212) 995-3156

John Sexton
Dean

December 26, 2000

Kelly Craighead
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Kelly:

A hard copy of the enclosed will be delivered to the President (and to you) tomorrow. Any help that you can give will be appreciated. If you have any questions, I can be reached between December 28 and January 2 at (970) 845-9300. Beginning January 3, I can be reached at my office.

I hope to speak to you soon.

Sincerely,

John

John Sexton
Dean

New York University Law School

Betty -

I was asked to
pass this on.

Hume

1-5-01
Bob Barnett
Send to ~~Cohen~~ *for* reply
Yes ☒
No ☐
cc: BL
NH: not-per. file
Cue

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John Sexton
Dean

December 26, 2000

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Allow me to offer formally some ideas which I hope will form the basis of an ongoing relationship between you and New York University. They represent a variety of possible engagements. Of course, we would be delighted if you should choose to do all of them; let me emphasize, however, that you may choose any or all of them – or, for that matter, you may propose any modifications of them that you wish. I would be happy to meet with you or anyone you designate to elaborate on any of these thoughts.

University Involvement

We would hope that you would accept an involvement in the University and the Law School. We propose that, as a distinguished professor, you undertake any or all of the following, which could vary from one academic year to another:

- 1) A course for law students on an aspect of law of interest to you at the time. This course, which could meet on a schedule designed to fit with the other demands on your time, could be limited enrollment (20 or under) or full size (80 – 100) as you please. You also might choose to teach along with one of the Law School's resident faculty, if you wish; I know several of my colleagues who would leap at the chance (Norman Dorsen, Stephen Gillers, Ronald Dworkin, Stephen Holmes, and Ron Noble, to name a few).
- 2) A seminar, modeled on the successful Aspen seminar taught for years by Justice Blackmun and several of my colleagues, for law students and/or invited guests. The Aspen course, titled "Justice and Society," was built upon very successful materials developed here at NYU by Bob McKay, including readings ranging from Plato's *Meno* to *Billy Budd* to *Roe v Wade*. Such a seminar could be taught intensively over a week to 10 days (once in July in Florence and once in

September in New York?), or it could be done on a series of days or evenings over a period of weeks at Washington Square.

- 3) A regular series (two each semester) of roundtable or fireside discussions with students and other invited guests. If you wished, since we have an ongoing relationship with public television and a good permanent production facility built by Redmond Walsh, these conversations could be televised; of course this is not necessary and they could be confidential.

Policy Institute

There should be some formal structure through which you can continue both the policy work begun in your Presidency and the unique dialogue you initiated among world leaders and academics (with early participation by NYU Law School, we are proud to say). The proper home for this structure is an independent Policy Institute, led by you and with its own board and staff, but in a relationship with a great University and Law School. We believe that New York City and NYU (both the University and the Law School) offer unique advantages for that relationship. The Policy Institute ought to be in the world's legal and financial capital, with all of the advantages associated with being in that city. And NYU is the acknowledged leader in embracing the emerging import of globalization. The University is the only American university represented in the Council of World Universities, an association of the presidents or rectors of capital city universities, which meets twice each year; and NYU's Law School is without peer as the leader in the globalization of legal education.

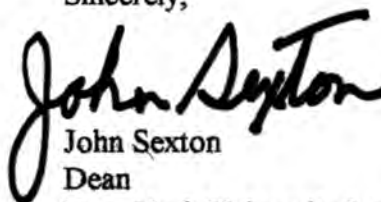
NYU and its Law School have developed successful models for relationships with independent institutes. For example, the independent Institute for Judicial Administration has become the leading training program for federal and state judges. And the Brennan Center for Justice, located at NYU just five years ago by the Justice's law clerks, has become one of the nation's leading public interest organizations, now with an annual budget of nearly 5 million and a staff of nearly 40. We are confident that we will be equally successful with a Policy Institute led by you and devoted to fostering your work.

Housing and Office Space

We assume that it would facilitate your involvement at the University and Law School if you had an apartment and an office at the school. Of course we would provide a commodious apartment in a secure building overlooking Washington Square Park. A perfect Manhattan base, it would make it easy for you and the First Lady to orchestrate your New York activities, and it would be an easy (one minute) walk to the school. And, we assume that, no matter where the Policy Institute offices are located (we have been able to locate offices for the other institutes very near the school), an office at the school would be useful as well.

As I indicated at the outset, the suggestions presented here are offered for your consideration with complete openness to any modifications you wish to make. I would be happy to pursue them as you wish. Meanwhile, please know that there is great love and admiration for you both at NYU and in the Sexton family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Sexton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Sexton".

John Sexton

Dean

New York University Law School

P.S. Lisa suggested a dimension to your presence in New York City which is more and more attractive with each reconsideration. She is certain that, were you to become the mayor of New York, the most extraordinary talent in the City would rush to serve in your administration. You, uniquely, could unite the world's most diverse city and what you do in the City (the world's capital) could model possibilities for the entire world. Ron Noble, your former Undersecretary and our professor, tells me that there is a European tradition whereby heads of state become mayors (today a former Prime Minister of France is the mayor of Leon). Were this option to be appealing, it is not at all inconsistent with an NYU involvement.

. room

Doug Campbell

McCall

This looks like a good one
for communication to him ~~seems~~
but not ~~sure~~ ^{For} ~~the~~

President Bill Clinton

1-5-01

Is Meredith Cebc
after you have seen?

Yes ☒ No ☐

B.

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-5-01

Friday, January 5, 2001

Dear Mr. President,

Gordon and I have been personally involved with a man who is presently in the Federal prison at Fort Dix, N.J.. His name is John G. Bennett, Jr., and as president of New Era Philanthropy was responsible for a defrauding scheme that seriously hurt many non-profit organizations.

Having ministered and counselled Mr. Bennett both Gordon and I believe that he had no intention to defraud. Having been involved in helping charitable organizations for years, he came up with a plan whereby he hoped to get wealthy friends (i.e. Sir John Templeton) to give anonymous gifts, which were to be matched by contributions from the benefitting organizations. However, the gifts from the anonymous philanthropists failed to materialize, because these hoped for gifts actually were never promised. Instead of calling things off and returning the money to the charities, he used newer incoming "matching" funds to pay off earlier non-profit contributors. He did this with the hope that the big contributors would eventually come through. They never did!

He presently has served four years of a twelve year sentence. He would have had a much shorter sentence had

II

he confessed to having purposely defrauded the hurt non-profit organizations. He was unwilling to make that plea.

Both Gordon and I believe that the public humiliation that he has endured, and the four years he has already served on his sentence have been punishment enough. That is why we both ask that you consider giving him an executive pardon. If he is released it has been arranged for him to work in government housing projects under my direction, with the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, organizing after school programs and summer camping programs for children.

Please do not consider this to be a pressured request. Neither Gordon nor I will ever mention this matter again, and neither of us would want your decision to impact our friendship with you - in any way.

Respectfully,

Tony Campolo

Folder I

S

Special Attention
2 sets of letters

upon receipt - please

call me Thomas

Martha Erwin Ross

(402) 572-0357

932-8400

INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO PRESIDENT CLINTON

01 JAN 5 PM 2:17

From the Oval -

Send to Cohen?

Yes ☒

No ☐

al

December 30, 2000

HONORABLE PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500 20502

Dear President Clinton:

INTRODUCTORY LETTER

We respect you and your accomplishments over the past eight years. It goes without saying that in our estimation, you are one of the greatest Presidents of all time. Oh *Brother President*, how we hate to see you leave the Presidency. We are saddened and will be void of true representation. Our Family's attendance at the Inauguration '92 kicked off our countless letters, faxes, phone calls of support over the past eight years.

Brief Background:

- Grandfather invited to White House - two occasions by President Roosevelt in the 40's - spoke on Agriculture
- We come from a long line of Family Farmers
- Life long church and community supporters
- Our professions span from engaging in the free enterprise system, education to medical backgrounds.
- One of our Family Members flew on Air Force II - served the 99th Airlift Squadron, (early on) 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, Kunsan AB, Korea, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Airborne Early Warning Force (Communication on the NATO AWACS) duties ensuring that you had the "hook-up" around the world. Retired - Andrews AFB. Our Daughter worked for the Under Secretary/Navy and left some research that saved big bucks for the Navy.
- As a Jefferson Award nominee, started the Honors' Alliance Scholarship Foundation in memory of parents. Special THANKS to you, FIRST LADY, Senator Elect Hillary and Vice-President Al Gore for the letters recently sent to us in our annual scholarship benefits. (Enc.)

A Case Of Injustices

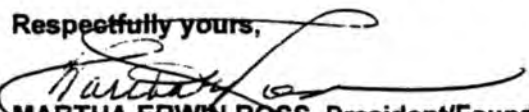
The following pages will introduce a traumatic rugged mountain of problems that we have been trying to bring justice to. We have suffered financially, emotionally and physically because of the miscarriage of justice surrounding our Brother, Bonnie Burnett Erwin. Our Father's demise from a massive heart attack and our Mother suffered two massive strokes struggling for freedom for Bonnie. I am attaching a poem of our Brothers' that is the looking glass to his heart - a novel description of him.

Bonnie works 24/7 on his case and basically live in the law library (sixteen years). In spite of his true miscarriage of justice, he reaches out to help other inmates and **have been problem-free since being populated there.** (One minor item to do with one phone call) (Report enc.) When you consider some of the lion den's he has been in, proof that his heart has to be in the right place to avoid the abundance of evil therein. (Praises To GOD)!!

We are at a stalemate AND NEED YOUR HELP!!! UNFORTUNATELY, possibly you have not seen the correspondence where Bonnie (we) have written to you that date back to 1993, including a request for Pardon. Our Brother- loving Father, Grandfather, hard working Farmer (Roses/Watermelon/Yams), has given so many years to a system that did not give him his Constitutional Rights. He would like to be restored back to his Family and have behaved to merit even IF HE HAD BEEN JUSTLY PROVEN TO BE GUILTY.

OUR EMERGENCY PLEA - PLEASE GIVES THIS ENCLOSED CASE YOUR URGENCY IN ATTENTION. SIXTEEN YEARS OF UNEQUAL JUSTICE IS OVERWHELMING.

Respectfully yours,


MARTHA ERWIN ROSS, President/Founder
Honors' Scholarship Foundation
Also on BEHALF OF COUNTLESS THOUSANDS



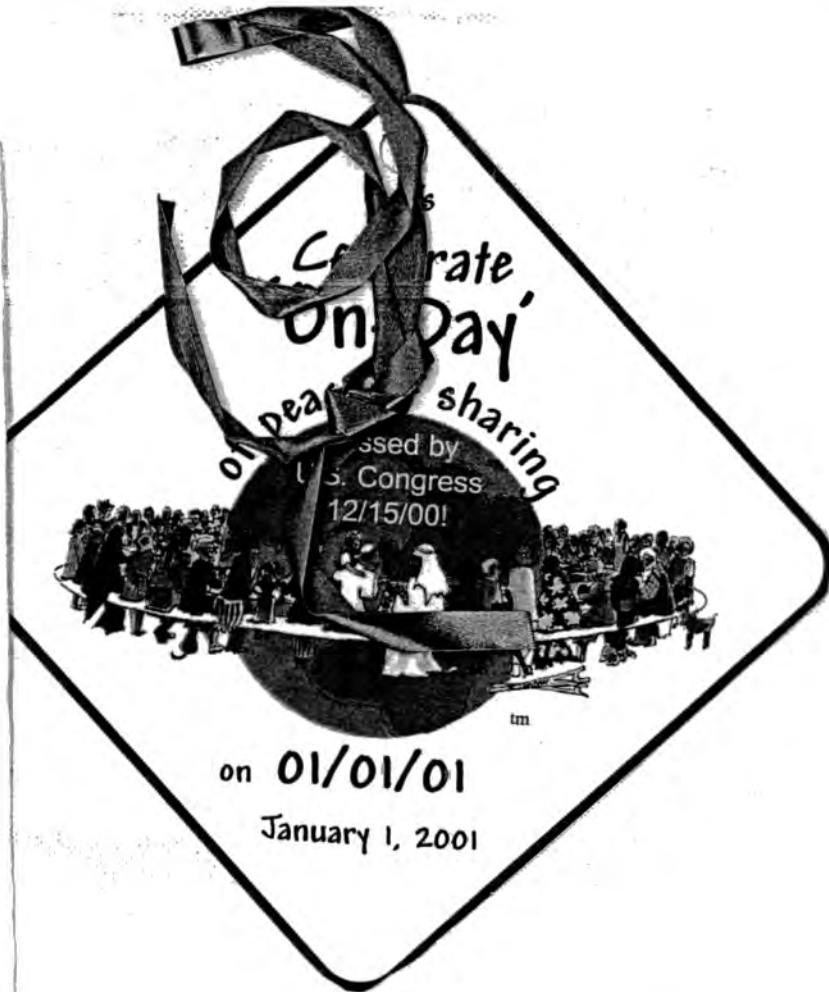
Making plans for a more peaceful world!



Greg Smith

International Youth Advocates
PO Box 682
Keswick, Virginia 22947
(804) 752-7250

www.gregoryrsmith.com
iya4peace@aol.com
grs4peace@aol.com



1-5-01

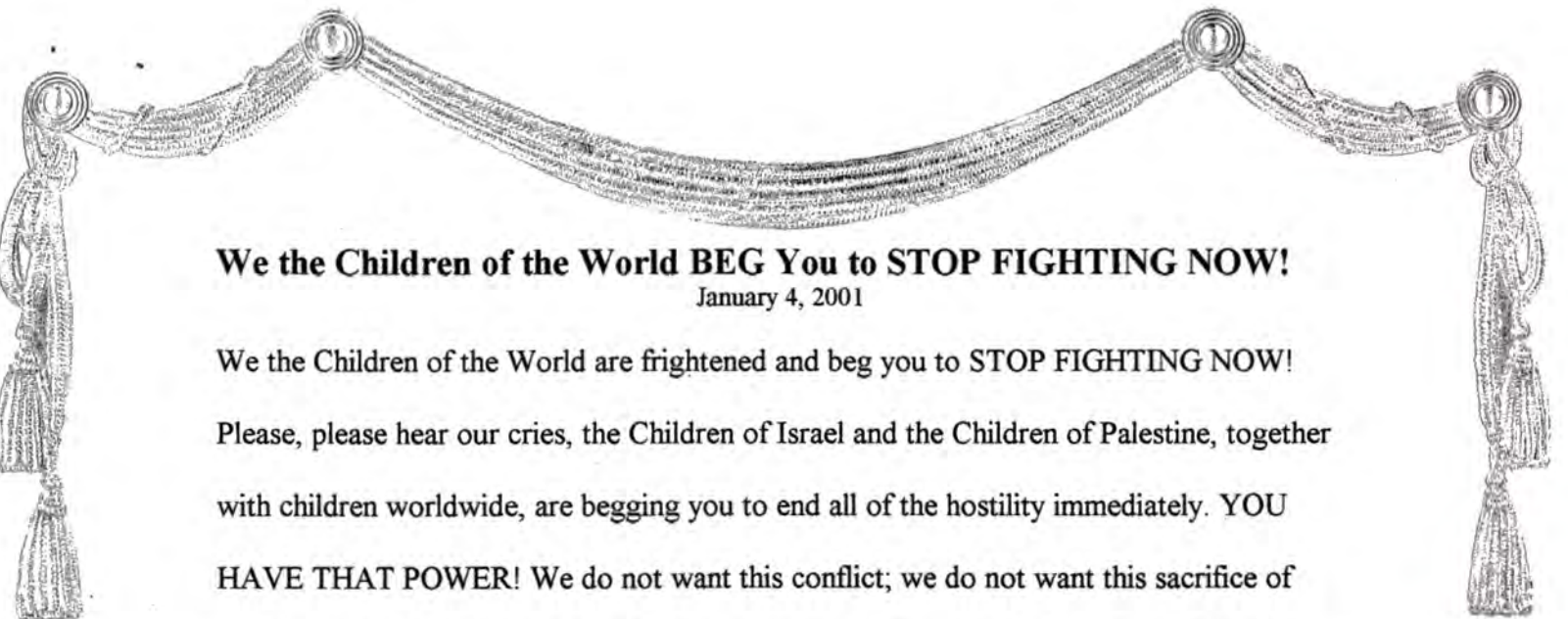
Send to Cohen

Yes ☒

no
Bl Sig

can

Potus
wants to do
letter and sign
photo. B



We the Children of the World BEG You to STOP FIGHTING NOW!

January 4, 2001

We the Children of the World are frightened and beg you to STOP FIGHTING NOW!

Please, please hear our cries, the Children of Israel and the Children of Palestine, together with children worldwide, are begging you to end all of the hostility immediately. **YOU HAVE THAT POWER!** We do not want this conflict; we do not want this sacrifice of our families and we do not want this fear. We want a chance to work out our differences and live together in Peace with social justice. We love our families and our homes, but whom will we love after they are destroyed. Who will love us? Please stop killing our fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers! We have been down this path before and we are pleading with you not to make us go through it again. Look what we have learned!!

Children have now joined the aggression. We plead with those children to put down the rocks and the weapons. We must unite and show our people that there is another way and violence is never the solution. Call a cease-fire now, and let the angers calm and begin the PEACE TALKS again to build a lasting PEACE. **WE MUST DO THIS!** Please include the children in this dialogue, we have ideas for peaceful solutions ... ask us and include us at the Peace Table and you will learn that we do not want to bring the violent ways of the past into the future. This fighting is wrong and will not bring a solution; it will only condemn us to another generation of hate and fear. You told us that you loved us -- is this the lullaby you sang in our ears?

Plea from 11year-old Greg Smith

<http://www.centersofcompassion.org>

iya4peace@aol.com

Youth Spokesperson, World Centers of Compassion for Children

<http://www.gregoryrsmith.com>

01:45:20



*For countless millennia, parents have wished a life of peace and plenty for their young
Yet there has been untold suffering in the world.*

*Only gradually has humankind come to realize that war is not the way and hunger is
not right.*

*Today we are trying to change the way we act toward one another. In place of hate,
we are learning love. In place of fear we are learning trust.*

*Whoever our God may be, we want the killing and suffering to stop. We long to be one
family.*

*Last year, 100 nations, 1000 organizations and hundreds of cities and states pledged
that January first would be One Day in Peace. Most kept that pledge.*

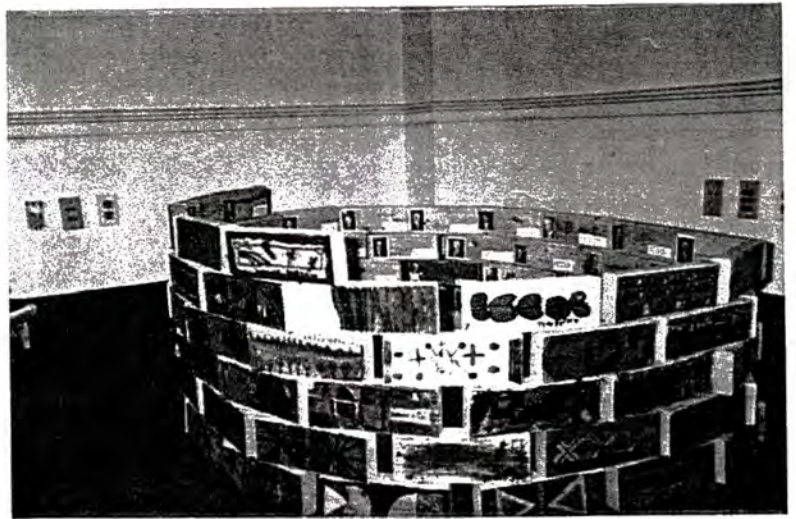
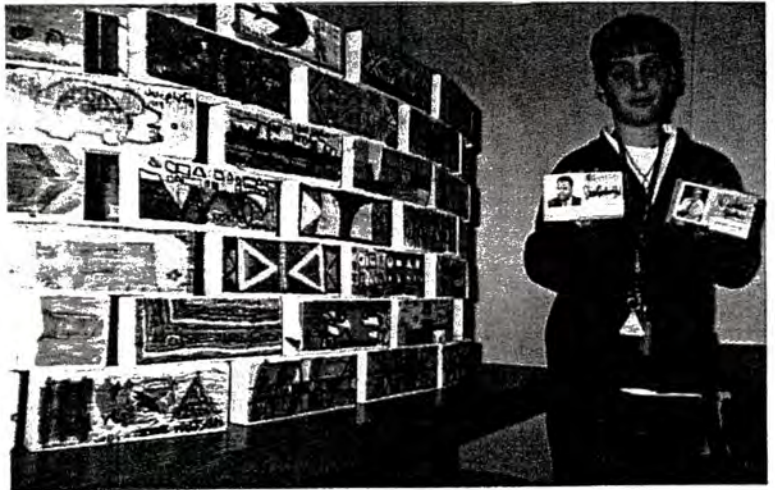
*On Friday December 15, 2000, at the urging of the children of America, the Congress of
the United States voted unanimously to establish OneDay at the start of each year for
Americans to pledge non-violence and greater sharing within our families and
communities, and with the people of all nations, faiths and cultures.*

*On behalf of the People of the United States of America I hereby proclaim One Day in
Peace, January 1, 2001, 01/01/01. May 'OneDay' of peace and sharing continue every
day throughout the year. Let hate and selfishness end. May the people of my country
and the people of all the world learn the wisdom of peace and sharing.*

Memento of the 106th Congress

**Statement read by 20 year old Pole-to-Pole 2000 American team member
Heidi Hausman on completion of a 22,000 mile journey as the congressional resolution
enacted 12/15/00 establishing the OneDay holiday was placed in a time capsule along with
the collected peace pledges of 68 million people.**

OneDay global holiday under construction!



Honorable Maria Haley
Deputy Assistant to the President
The White House



香港回歸祖國紀念
HONG KONG BACK TO CHINA
1.7.1997

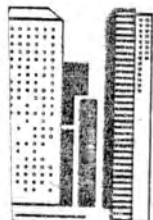


THE PRESIDENT

1/5/2001

Maria

I know about this in packing
up and thought you might
like to have it - After all, you
took me to Hong Kong the
first time! Thanks,
Trin



Tom Hanks
760 North La Cienega Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90069

STATES
SERVICE

Edward G. Robinson
U.S. Commemorative Stamp



THE PRESIDENT

1/5/01

Dear Tom -

I got this a few weeks
ago and thought you might
like to have it - Soon it'll be
easier for me to keep up with you
than vice versa - Tell Rita &
Charlie Hi - & give them all love!

But,
The Clown

President of the United States

Staff Sec

RODGERS FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC

"We help people manage money"

1-5-01
Send to Cohen

Yes

he

coordinate all items

Carl

December 21, 2000

President William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

Dear Mr. President:

I have worked for your campaigns for twenty years and have never asked for a favor, political or otherwise. I am making a request now, and for one which will not personally benefit me.

Highway 52 which connects Parkdale and Wilmot to Crossett through Highway 8 was approved several years ago for paving by the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department. John Lipton, who is now Chairman, stated recently they are still ready to build the road. This project is needed very badly for economic, and other reasons. We have a new hospital in Crossett, which was paid for by the people of Ashley County. This new artery would cut approximately ten minutes of travel time for the citizens of Wilmot and Parkdale to get to the hospital. Obviously, this could be critical.

The only opposition to this project was from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as the road would run through a small portion of Overflow Wildlife Refuge, a part of the Felsenthal properties. We need a word from you to Bruce Babbitt to allow this project to be accomplished. We have been led to believe the only reason the project has not been completed is because of the resistance from the Fish & Wildlife Service. We have run the gauntlet with our Congressional delegation (some now retired), and with anyone else who would listen, and the project remains stalled. Neither David nor Dale could get the Fish & Wildlife Service to back off. Many of your long time supporters concur with me in this request.

www.rodgersfinancialgroup.com • rrodgers@cei.net

(870) 304-2500 PHONE
(870) 304-2175 FAX
1-800-450-2285 TOLL FREE

109 PINE STREET
P.O. Box 696
CROSSETT, AR 71635

The Crossett Chamber, and other interested citizens, has assembled quite a file concerning this project and we will be happy to furnish you an executive summary. I was hopeful Lynn & I would be overnight guests at the White House, and perhaps, could have spoken with you personally about this much needed road. We are still asking Ann McCoy to arrange a visit. (I doubt if we will be invited after January 20th.)

We continue to keep you in our prayers for your safety, and wisdom in the awesome decisions you make daily. We wish you happiness and prosperity after you leave the Presidency. I can only try to imagine the emotions you must be experiencing; not only the missing of all the trappings, but for the things which you were unable to accomplish during your terms. If we could have only somehow managed a Democratic controlled congress during the past eight years!! It has been a great eight years and I only wish you could do it for another eight. I am proud of you. I look forward to seeing you in Arkansas soon and would love to just be able to just "sit and talk" for awhile.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Rodgers', written in a cursive style.

Don Rodgers

Dec. 18, 2001

Thank you again for sharing
your holidays with us. We will
cherish the memories of our visits
to the White House. It was
always a wonderful way to reunite
with all our relatives.

Merry Christmas! Love,
Muffin

EB 1-5-01
Send to ~~Cohen~~?
Yes ☒
No ☐

cl

Shes
Merry Christmas

Muffin + Allen
Sean + Alyssa

**AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU MALI AUX ETATS UNIS**

2130 R STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008 • TEL(202) 332-2249 • FAX: (202) 332-6603

'01 JAN 5 PM 2:15

N°: 002/AMW/2001

The Embassy of the Republic of Mali to United States of America presents its compliments to the Department of State and in reference to its note N° 001/AMW/2001 dated of January 03, 2001, has the honor to forward to the latter a another message addressed to William Jefferson CLINTON, President of the United States of America by His Excellency Alpha Oumar KONARÉ, President of the Republic of Mali.

The present message gives more details on the situation of the educational system in Mali and puts emphasis on the need to build the requested six teachers' training institutions before October 2001.

The Embassy of the Republic of Mali to the United States of America avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of State the assurances of its highest consideration.



Washington, D.C., January 04, 2001

Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520-1238

Send to USC?

Yes

No

1-5-01

Jan. 04 2001 12:22PM P2

PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE
SECRETARIAT GENERAL

REPUBLIQUE DU MALI
Un Peuple-Un But-Un Foi

M E S S A G E

DU : **Président de la République du Mali**

AU : **Son Excellence**
Monsieur Bill William Jefferson CLINTON,
Président des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
- WASHINGTON -

TEXTE :

L'extension de l'Education de base continue d'être une vive préoccupation pour nous. Il s'agit là d'un moyen d'accélération du développement du pays, de libération de l'individu et d'enracinement de la démocratie.

La situation actuelle où un enfant malien sur deux n'a aucune chance de recevoir une éducation, d'aller à l'école, est insoutenable en ce début du nouveau millénaire.

La formation conséquente des maîtres au plan qualitatif et quantitatif est une des conditions indispensables pour inverser la tendance.

Nous référant aux fructueux entretiens que nous avons eus au cours de la visite que nous avons effectuée dans Votre pays, nous avons soumis à Votre haute attention, une requête visant à obtenir le financement exceptionnel, nécessaire à la construction et à l'équipement des six (6) Instituts de Formation de maîtres pour un montant de **Dix Millions de dollars US.**

Nous souhaitons vivement que puisse manifester encore une fois de plus la solidarité du Peuple américain vis à vis du Peuple du Mali.

Jan. 04 20 11 12:22PM P3

Nous comptons sur Votre disponibilité habituelle et sur Votre ferme engagement dans le combat contre l'analphabétisme pour que le projet se réalise et soit fonctionnel pour **Octobre 2001**.

En Vous remerciant pour l'importante contribution de Votre pays au développement du Mali, nous Vous prions de croire, Monsieur le Président, à l'assurance de notre très haute considération./.

Koulouba, le 3 Janvier 2001



ALPHA OUMAR KONARE

F/S
PRESIDENCE DE LA REPUBLIQUE
SECRETARIAT GENERAL

REPUBLIQUE DU MALI
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi

M E S S A G E

From : President of the Republic of Mali
To : H.E. Mr. William Jefferson CLINTON
President of the U.S.A.
Washington D.C.

Quote

« Extending basic education remains a matter of major concern for us. We see it as a means for acceleration our development, for greater freedom for individuals and enhancing democracy.

The present situation in which one malian child out two has no chance to receive education, no chance to attend school is unbearable as the new millenium is dawning.

A relevant training of teachers both in terms of quality and number is one of the perequisistes to revert the trend.

With reference to the fruitful talks we had during our visit to your country, we submitte to your high attention a request aimed at obtaining an exceptionnal funding needed for the construction and equipment of six (6) Teachers Training Institutes amounting to US \$ 10 millions.

We sincerely wish the American People to show, once again, solidarity to the People of Mali.

We rely upon your usual availability as well as your strong commitment in combating illiteracy to enable us to achieve the project and make operational by October 2001.

We wish to extend our most sincere thanks for the important contribution Your country has been making for the development of Mali.

Please accept the assurance of our highest consideration./.

Koulouba, January 4, 2001

Alpha Oumar KONARE.-



JAMES A. HARMON
PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK
OF THE UNITED STATES

01 JAN 5 PM 2:06

January 4, 2001

Send to NSC? Yes 1-5-01
No

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Carol

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to report to you on my recent trip to Moscow (December 4-6, 2000). This visit marked my fifth trip to Russia as Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the US (Ex-Im Bank) and was undertaken to announce Ex-Im Bank's new program with Russian banks, to conclude two sub-sovereign agreements with Moscow and St. Petersburg, and to discuss proposed transactions involving the sale of Case and John Deere equipment to the agricultural sector.

The Ex-Im Bank Board of Directors recently approved a Russian Banking Sector Study that recommended 15 Russian banks, including 11 private sector entities, which could serve as guarantors or obligors for Ex-Im Bank-financed transactions in Russia. We announced this new program during my visit and discussed it in meetings with senior government officials, including Prime Minister Kasyanov and Finance Minister Kudrin. I believe that greater engagement between Ex-Im Bank and Russian banks will facilitate the development of Russia's nascent private banking sector and enhance Ex-Im Bank's ability to finance transactions in this market at a time when sovereign guarantees are increasingly difficult to obtain.

We signed agreements with both Moscow and St. Petersburg that establish a framework for future cooperation between Ex-Im Bank and these two cities. Under these agreements, which were signed on the Russian side by Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov and St. Petersburg Governor Vladimir Yakovlev, Ex-Im Bank will consider accepting the guarantees of these cities to secure purchases of U.S. goods and services. We are now in discussions with a U.S. company located in Buffalo, New York regarding a potential transaction with St. Petersburg that would modernize the city's schools with energy efficient lighting.

Mr. President
January 4, 2001
Page Two

Although the Case and Deere agricultural equipment transactions are critical to the future improvement in productivity of the Russian farming sector, we were unable to make any significant progress toward obtaining sovereign guarantees for these deals. I continue to be hopeful, however, that Ex-Im Bank eventually may be able to obtain the necessary guarantees from a consortium of Russian banks.

In closing, I would like to briefly comment on a subject of some concern to me. Ex-Im Bank has built a good relationship with the Russian leadership and business community, to the benefit of both U.S. exporters and Russian importers. Russian officials and business leaders have acknowledged these efforts and repeatedly expressed to me their appreciation for Ex-Im Bank's positive and constructive approach in building this partnership. At the same time, however, I am often advised that others "in Washington" prefer to dictate/lecture, rather than engage in a meaningful dialogue on how Russia can work through its economic difficulties. I am well aware of the frustration and disappointment that many in Washington feel regarding past events in Russia, but perhaps the tone of the USG's approach to economic discussions with Russia needs to be modified so our well-meaning intentions are not undermined.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as Ex-Im Bank Chairman for the past three and one-half years. During my tenure, I have worked to establish a stronger partnership with Russia, not just because it offers vast potential for U.S. exporters, but also because a stronger U.S.-Russian economic relationship helps advance global security. As always, I thank you for this opportunity and for your continuing leadership in building a more secure, more prosperous global community.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Russia
trip!

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
A private university in the public service

School of Law

40 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012-1099

TELEPHONE: (212) 998-6000

FACSIMILE: (212) 995-3156

John Sexton
Dean

December 26, 2000

Kelly Craighead
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Kelly:

A hard copy of the enclosed will be delivered to the President (and to you) tomorrow. Any help that you can give will be appreciated. If you have any questions, I can be reached between December 28 and January 2 at (970) 845-9300. Beginning January 3, I can be reached at my office.

I hope to speak to you soon.

Sincerely,

John

John Sexton
Dean

New York University Law School

Betty -

I was asked to
pan this on.

Hume

1-5-01
Bob Barnett
Send to ~~Cohen~~ for reply
Yes ☒
No ☐
cc: BL
NH: post-pan file
Carl

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
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40 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10012-1099
TELEPHONE: (212) 998-6000
FACSIMILE: (212) 995-3156

John Sexton
Dean

December 26, 2000

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Allow me to offer formally some ideas which I hope will form the basis of an ongoing relationship between you and New York University. They represent a variety of possible engagements. Of course, we would be delighted if you should choose to do all of them; let me emphasize, however, that you may choose any or all of them – or, for that matter, you may propose any modifications of them that you wish. I would be happy to meet with you or anyone you designate to elaborate on any of these thoughts.

University Involvement

We would hope that you would accept an involvement in the University and the Law School. We propose that, as a distinguished professor, you undertake any or all of the following, which could vary from one academic year to another:

- 1) A course for law students on an aspect of law of interest to you at the time. This course, which could meet on a schedule designed to fit with the other demands on your time, could be limited enrollment (20 or under) or full size (80 – 100) as you please. You also might choose to teach along with one of the Law School's resident faculty, if you wish. I know several of my colleagues who would leap at the chance (Norman Dorsen, Stephen Gillers, Ronald Dworkin, Stephen Holmes, and Ron Noble, to name a few).
- 2) A seminar, modeled on the successful Aspen seminar taught for years by Justice Blackmun and several of my colleagues, for law students and/or invited guests. The Aspen course, titled "Justice and Society," was built upon very successful materials developed here at NYU by Bob McKay, including readings ranging from Plato's *Meno* to *Billy Budd* to *Roe v Wade*. Such a seminar could be taught intensively over a week to 10 days (once in July in Florence and once in

September in New York?), or it could be done on a series of days or evenings over a period of weeks at Washington Square.

- 3) A regular series (two each semester) of roundtable or fireside discussions with students and other invited guests. If you wished, since we have an ongoing relationship with public television and a good permanent production facility built by Redmond Walsh, these conversations could be televised; of course this is not necessary and they could be confidential.

Policy Institute

There should be some formal structure through which you can continue both the policy work begun in your Presidency and the unique dialogue you initiated among world leaders and academics (with early participation by NYU Law School, we are proud to say). The proper home for this structure is an independent Policy Institute, led by you and with its own board and staff, but in a relationship with a great University and Law School. We believe that New York City and NYU (both the University and the Law School) offer unique advantages for that relationship. The Policy Institute ought to be in the world's legal and financial capital, with all of the advantages associated with being in that city. And NYU is the acknowledged leader in embracing the emerging import of globalization. The University is the only American university represented in the Council of World Universities, an association of the presidents or rectors of capital city universities, which meets twice each year; and NYU's Law School is without peer as the leader in the globalization of legal education.

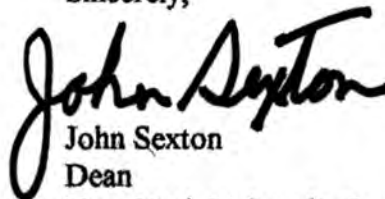
NYU and its Law School have developed successful models for relationships with independent institutes. For example, the independent Institute for Judicial Administration has become the leading training program for federal and state judges. And the Brennan Center for Justice, located at NYU just five years ago by the Justice's law clerks, has become one of the nation's leading public interest organizations, now with an annual budget of nearly 5 million and a staff of nearly 40. We are confident that we will be equally successful with a Policy Institute led by you and devoted to fostering your work.

Housing and Office Space

We assume that it would facilitate your involvement at the University and Law School if you had an apartment and an office at the school. Of course we would provide a commodious apartment in a secure building overlooking Washington Square Park. A perfect Manhattan base, it would make it easy for you and the First Lady to orchestrate your New York activities, and it would be an easy (one minute) walk to the school. And, we assume that, no matter where the Policy Institute offices are located (we have been able to locate offices for the other institutes very near the school), an office at the school would be useful as well.

As I indicated at the outset, the suggestions presented here are offered for your consideration with complete openness to any modifications you wish to make. I would be happy to pursue them as you wish. Meanwhile, please know that there is great love and admiration for you both at NYU and in the Sexton family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Sexton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Sexton" clearly legible.

John Sexton
Dean

New York University Law School

P.S. Lisa suggested a dimension to your presence in New York City which is more and more attractive with each reconsideration. She is certain that, were you to become the mayor of New York, the most extraordinary talent in the City would rush to serve in your administration. You, uniquely, could unite the world's most diverse city and what you do in the City (the world's capital) could model possibilities for the entire world. Ron Noble, your former Undersecretary and our professor, tells me that there is a European tradition whereby heads of state become mayors (today a former Prime Minister of France is the mayor of Leon). Were this option to be appealing, it is not at all inconsistent with an NYU involvement.

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRY

1-5-01

To M. Coker

F
FOWLER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
*Don is concerned about
pardon for person
on reverse.*
Donald L. Fowler
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803 799 7550 / Fax: 803 771 7442 / Email: don@fowlercommunications.com

*Stealing And
pardon*

1-5-01

Is Coker after you have

seen?

Yes ✓

No -

I.

BONNIE S. ENGLEBARDT
THREE WEST
555 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

Do nice
TY

January 4, 2001

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
200 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President,

Congratulations on Hillary's victory! It was wonderful being at the Bagley's last evening to celebrate with you and I know Senator Clinton will make all of us in New York proud that we elected her.

I wanted to thank you last evening for taking the time to make the videotaped remarks for Frank Lautenberg but it was difficult to get to you, as you were busy with all your guests. I wanted to tell you that the video was a "surprise" and not to mention it to him. But now, Frank has no idea that you made the video, but is thrilled that you told him you were saying nice things about him!

Thank you for all your years of service and all you accomplished in these last eight years. You have been an extraordinary President, a personable and charming human being, and our country has been enriched by your leadership. Your unique people skills, combined with a brilliant mind that's able to grasp all the issues, plus an innate sensitivity to those and that around you, have put you on top of the list of great Presidents. It has been an honor to know you!

I do hope Frank and I will get to see you and Hillary in New York and wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Englehardt

1-5-01

To Eugene for reply
after you have seen?

Yes — No —

475 FIFTH AVENUE - SUITE 1200
NEW YORK, NY 10017DATE: Jan. 4, 2000TO: Josh GottheimerCOMPANY: The White HouseFAX: (202) 456-2595PHONE: ()

RE:

FROM:

Bonnie ENGELHARDT

FAX:

(212) 824-1102 / 03

PHONE:

(212) 824-1100 / 1130

Email:

_____@eassets.com

PROPERTY:

FAX MEMORANDUM

MANY
Bonnie Engelhardt,
Park Lane by's
Significant other
asked that I pass this
along to the President.
Thank,
Josh Gottheimer

CC:

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 2

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1-5-00

Send to Cohen ✓
Yes ✓
No

Coral

January 5, 2001
01 JAN 5 PM 4:35

Dear Mr. President

this is a gift from Benfield

School,

Pres. wants to
see response

Attended Radio Address
Anne Edwards'
relatives. *[Signature]*

BENFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
LYNWOOD DRIVE
SEVERNA PARK, MD
21146

From, Katie and Brendan
Bargmann.

KATIE AND BRENDAN BARGMANN
516 HEAVITREE GARTH
SEVERNA PARK, MD
21146

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

01 JAN 5 PM 2:17

1-5-01

Send to Cohen

December 25, 2000

Yes ☒

No ☐

PRESIDENT CLINTON
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

need reply
BC SIG
cc: L. Lay on
incoming letter

Do Ter
P. 8/8
Calligraphy
photos he
want
Enclose
photo

Dear Mr. President...

When I was a child, about the second grade, my father (the late Rev. Reid R. White, Sr.) took us out of school and to a train station in Winston-Salem, N.C. and said, "I want you to see a great man, he is the President of the United States." I vividly capture in my memory President Dwight D. Eisenhower waving from the back of that train. I felt as if President Eisenhower was waving to me. That was my first front seat to history, and my introduction to the classroom of life.

Years later at age 13 years, I purchased my first camera (Bazooka Joe) for 50 cents and ten bubble gum wrappers. And now, as a Pulitzer Prize Winner and photojournalist for more than 30 years with both the Chicago Daily News and Chicago Sun-Times, my journey continues to be a spiritual and photographic delight, sharing daily the things I see and things I feel.

I serviced our beloved great Country as a United States Marine Corps photographer and (EPA) Environmental Protection Agency's DOCUMERICA project photographer. I have conducted seminars/workshops in more than 15 countries for The Freedom Forum, (sharing Vision, Photojournalism In America) and the first-ever seminar in Moscow (1991) and The Peoples Republic of China (1996).

Mr. President, I want to thank you for your kindness to our dear friend, the late Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. Your action reflected the embrace of a Nation, it was a crowning point for a deserving servant. Your deeds fueled his final journey and I thank you for your letter to me after receiving my book, "This Man Bernardin". It was also good to photograph my friend, Rev. Jesse Jackson, receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom at The White House.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, INC.

401 N. WABASH AVENUE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

(312) 321-3000

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

Page 2

12/25/00

PRESIDENT CLINTON

President Clinton, you are special, you are God's precious gift to humanity. You are the glue uniting the puzzle of world hopes, dreams, security, peace, freedom and oneness. Your life, light, love and spirit illuminate the heart and soul of all humankind.

Its my hope and prayer that God's blessing of health, wisdom, knowledge, love and peace, shower you and Hillary Rodham Clinton today and all the days ahead.

I know my friend Sharon Farmer has taken thousands of photographs of you, please accept this copy taken by me during your trip to Chicago 6-30-99 as a symbol of my deep admiration for you and your leadership not only for America, but the World.

My heart still smiles when I hear the words, "Ladies and gentlemen, The President of The United States".

May God Bless You Always.

Keep In Flight!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. White", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John H. White

WASH

she asked about
Tee -

THE
1-5-01

Copied
Nash
Podesta

WASH
Amur
Mr. President,
WASH

Here is the information for the South Pacific Commission
that you asked for this evening.

Smita Shah

300 S. Wacker Dr #200

Chicago, IL 60606

312-697-3695

Thank you very much. The above information is my
work address and phone number

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-5-01

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ROBERT
Gindry, La

Louisiana ATCA
asked about him

McCauley

fyh

Por

copied
Cabe
Podesta



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

1-5-01

THE DARLING HOUSE

A Bed and Breakfast Inn by the Sea

Karen Darling
Darrell Darling

314 West Cliff Drive
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Telephone 1-408-458-1958

JP - *let's discuss this*

to

December 28, 2000

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

I have a special request to make of you. You are aware of our 4 years of effort trying to pass legislation regarding the CT-43A crash that took the life of our son, Adam Darling. I mentioned it in a letter we sent with your birthday card. The bill did not pass the Appropriation Conference Committee. Chairman Stevens was the only opposing vote while ranking Senator Byrd and House Chair and Ranking Young and Obey strongly advocated passage as part of the last appropriation of the 106 th Congress.

We still need this matter attended to during this administration. Several family members who have lost spouses or children on the plane have written asking for an executive order by President Clinton to assist us in our losses. The administration was very supportive of the legislation and we have gone every way that was suggested to us to get relief, including a hearing of HR 3295 (without opposition) before the House Sub-Committee on Immigration and Claims of Judicial Committee. But now we are down to our final option. Please see that President Clinton attends to these requests so that we no longer need to suffer under this burden of seeking redress. Victims' families should not have to do this. We asked for an advocate early on and only defenders of the Pentagon were assigned the task.

Christina Kaminski lost her father on the plane and her mother died waiting for a kidney transplant a year later. She is now college age and needs help. Sheila Christian has 2 young children and minimal support because her husband was Ron Brown's Security; the government was not even able to find a way to secure continuing health benefits for her sons. Private Sector people received upwards of \$14 million individually from their claim against the government, a total of \$95 million for 13 families, while our 14 public sector families received a cumulative total of \$2 million; most of us were limited to the \$10,000 FECA limit. This disparity of 50 to 1 is unjust and demoralizing for committed government employees and shameful for our government to hide behind a technical regulation. It should be corrected. Some families are in severe financial duress. We ourselves need the compensation to keep working on the issues of air safety and reform of the Federal Tort Claims act and Pentagon accountability to a civilian government.

Please seek the President's time to give him your wise counsel on this matter while there is a moment left in this Democratic administration that our son and 13 other government employees loyally served, believing in a just cause which took their lives as a result of direct disobedience by a zealous Air Force General and lack of adherence to common safety.

Affectionately,

K
Karen Darling

*copied
Podesta*

*Congratulations on
your election. She
knew you could do it.
Look forward to great things
from you. D & K*

Families of the CT-43

Phone 831-458-1958 • Fax 831-458-0320

314 West Cliff Drive • Santa Cruz, CA 95060

December 7, 2000

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.
Washington D.C. 20500-2000

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to you about one matter that remains unresolved in your administration which it is looking as though only you can bring to proper conclusion. Our son, Adam Darling, decided at the age of six that he would be President of the U.S. He lived every day of his life practicing that worthy calling.

After several years of healing from his older brother Matt's untimely death in 1986, our family renewed our commitment and energy devoted to the political process, with Adam charting a course of unflinching support for your candidacy as early as 1990, actually from the night he watched your nominating speech for Dukakis. We were ecstatic when Hillary decided to come to Santa Cruz the Saturday before Mother's Day, 1992, and we were able to host her in our home. With Adam's appointment as speech writer for Dave Barram and then Ron Brown, the doors were open for the best man I have ever known, young as he was, to make a significant contribution to the nation and the global community.

Adam saw the Bosnia - Herzegovina/Croatian mission of commercial diplomacy as one of the boldest effective alternatives to war since the Marshal Plan. Adam was proud of you and of Secretary Ron Brown, fully aware of the detractors and of the personal and political vulnerability of every human being.

We gave the very best that it has taken our family years, generations to produce through painstaking care, faith, sacrifice and commitment. So did every family whose beloved were killed on the CT -43A on April 3, 1996. All things taken together and without fore-knowledge of the outcome, he made the right decision. The potential good was worth the apparent risks.

We are deeply appreciative of the honor you have shown our beloved. A cloud, however, still hangs over the mission, the Brown Commerce Department, and the tragically flawed decisions of the Air Force Command, as a result of the ill-motivated investigation by the Congressional leadership.

It is looking increasingly unlikely that our families will receive any relief or redress through Congressional action, HR3295/S1958 for which we and (thank you!) you and your administration have worked diligently. Our Congressman and dear friend, Sam Farr, and his staff have been the unflagging champions for all the families from day one and continue, even now, to hope against hope and to seize every shred of opportunity to move the legislation. Please continue, even at this late date, to use every potential for approving this appropriation, which does now have support or concurrence virtually from all of the appropriating principals in Congress.

In the event we are not successful in the 106th Congress, please close this painful chapter, honor the work and sacrifice of your good friend and faithful Cabinet Secretary and of all fourteen who caught your vision, served you and the nation faithfully, and gave all they had, their very lives, for the cause and vision they believed in for the hope of all humanity:

by executive order, direct the Air Force to pay the first \$100,000 of each 14 claims and the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the balance of \$2 million to each governmental employee's family, from the U.S. Continuing Emergency Fund.

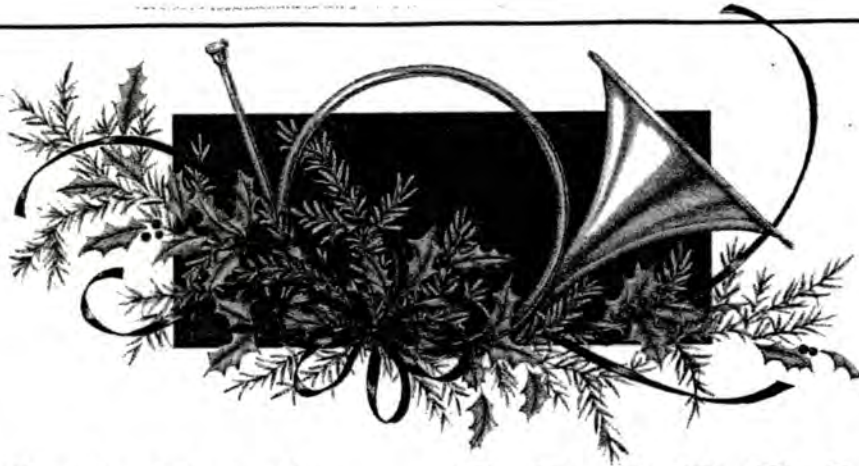
There is nothing in the law passed by Congress establishing the Military Claims Act or FECA which prevents the payment of compensation by the government to governmental employees just as it has to the 13 private sector families. The total amount paid to 13 private sector families was \$95 million; paid to 14 public sector families the total was \$2 million. The payment is prevented not by the law, but by Air Force regulations interpreting that law (Mil. Claims Act). In our lay opinion, you could in this instance direct by Executive Order that the regulation of the Air Force be waived. If this is accurate, and you were willing to take such action it would lift not only an immense burden of justice for the families; it would provide the relief from financial duress and suffering some families have experienced for these five years.

We are grateful for the 29 delightful years Adam lived. And we are grateful for the service he intended and he gave in the service to the larger human family. In all things, we thank God for the marvelous gift of life. And we will continue to seek the ways to keep faith with both Adam's commitment and our own, to serve as Christ Jesus served and calls us on.

Continue your good work. Thank you for your eight effective years.

Faithfully,


Darrell Darling For the Families of the CT-43A



SEASON'S GREETINGS

A Father's Catechism

I wanted a son whose hands were no stranger to good wood,
fingers were familiar to density and grain,
would know which timber bears the weight
of many generations' living within its walls,
whose back would bear the weight of such stout timbers,
to carry his own weight with pride
whether taken up at will or laid on him for spite,
would know which wood sands smooth so toys and cribs won't splinter.
(I'd made a cradle for my child, although more brutal if not wiser powers
forced us from our village home when the baby was full term).
Every bird builds his own nest.
I wanted a son who having nothing but a dream can build it with two hands.
I wanted a son to touch the village dust and grass with tenderness,
not grasping what must only slip away nor insisting that the earth yield answers
filling his own void, simply touching earth and creatures of the earth
with certitude he is at home with them.
I'd try to teach my son to tolerate extremes,
enduring desert heat and mountain cold with equanimity,
unfettered from frivolous fantasies undeterred by unfound fears.
Knowing pain would come in every village, I wanted him to know grief
not objectively observed but as the rain of human tears
that daily bathes his heart.
May he drop headlong in love,
never right himself from being forever in freefall in the abyss,
for whatever that by which he gains control, it is a paltry substitute for love.
I wanted my son to know no shame, have no confusion about his village place,
wherever his journey he will be forever at the center of the universe,
every star beams down on him, every sunrise lights his path,
each stranger is his brother, every woman worthy of the same respect.
He is the knower and the known.
The village is the garden which he tends as guardian
and the fruit which causes him to sing.
Yes, my heart sprang up with news I would be father of a child.
How could I teach this tiny harbinger of infinite possibilities
not my limitations but my dreams?
I'd bring to him with my two hands each craft,
each creature, each puzzlement I'd made my own.
To my delight my first born was a daughter.
I gave to her my village and two brothers.
She gave me back the world and more.

dwd 12/20/2000

*I have all 8 yrs.
of your cards on our
mantle. Thank you!
Darrell & Karen*

Copied
Podesta

JP - *Barbara Ullian* *5034742265* *1-5-00* *P. 02*
Barbara Ullian

In Oregon, a Push to Protect a Forest Before Bush Takes Office

■ Biologists call the Siskiyou region's diversity a critical link in evolutionary chain. State's timber interests pin hopes on GOP White House.

By KIM MURPHY
TIMES STAFF WRITER

CAVE JUNCTION, Ore.— Some 200 million years ago, the Pacific sea floor shoved itself beneath the coastal plate, leaving exposed a primeval ocean under crust of magnesium and iron. Rough shrubs grew. Over the years, hardy cedar and spruce pushed down roots.

Today, the serpentine slopes and forested valleys of the Siskiyou Mountains of southern Oregon are a rare window into the ancient past. Some wildflower and tree species trace their roots back further than anything in the U.S. West.

As the Clinton administration moves into its final weeks, conservationists have launched a last-minute push to get 1 million acres of the Siskiyou region declared a national monument, protecting one of the most diverse coniferous rain forests in the world from a likely new push for logging and mining under the Bush administration.

Across the country, environmental groups are zeroing in on more than a dozen potential new monuments, from Alabama to Idaho, to supplement the 11 Clinton has declared since 1993. Top priority is on permanent protection for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, threatened with oil drilling.

But such groups as the World Wildlife Fund say it is the Siskiyou region on the Oregon-California border, with 14 wild rivers tumbling through forested canyons and more than 280 plants unknown anywhere else on Earth, that is the next priority.

"It's the Noah's Ark gene pool of the West," said longtime outfitter Dave Willis. "And so far, it has had only piecemeal protection."

Biologists say the region's unique botanical diversity, with



Los Angeles Times

continuous vegetation over a span of 70 million years, represents a critical link in the evolutionary chain. That link, conservationists say, is threatened with plans to log 24 million board feet of timber a year and mining claims that could transfer thousands of acres of public forest into private hands for open-pit mining.

Yet the push by environmental groups to expand the Siskiyou wilderness comes just as the crippled southern Oregon timber industry is seeing, with the advent of a Republican administration, a potential end to more than a decade of disaster.

The 27 sawmills that once dotted the Illinois River valley have shrunk to just two as logging cutbacks have closed off all but 7% of the Siskiyou National Forest to timber harvests.

"Right now, we have zero federal timber under contract. There's a high probability that if this monument was created, we would cease to manufacture lumber," said Link Phillippi of Rough and Ready Lumber, whose \$6-million payroll is one of the only engines left in Cave Junction.

"After 150 years of natural resource production, they still think we're beautiful enough to make a monument out of," said Ron Smith of the Oregonians for Responsible Conservation Alli-

ance, which is fighting the monument. "Do you think the federal government is going to take better care of this place than the people who live here and raise their kids here?"

In the end, the debate about the proposed Siskiyou Wild Rivers monument is the same debate that is playing out across the Northwest: Are the disappearing old-growth forests, seen by many scientists as a bedrock of biodiversity upon which human survival depends, able to survive further political compromise? Do they belong to the miners and loggers who have coexisted with them for generations, or to the Earth itself? Is there a new economy that can transform dying timber towns into havens of eco-tourism and sustainable wood product production?

Cave Junction was never an economic powerhouse; gold miners in the 1850s launched the first outposts, and today the Illinois Valley is a motley mix of liberal new-agers, flannel-shirted loggers. California retirees and backwoods gold miners.

Supporters of the monument say that protecting the wilderness and its stunning, salmon-bearing rivers will bring flocks of tourists, with an estimated 6.5% increase in new visitor spending. The 143 logging jobs lost could be offset by work restoring damaged watersheds, they say.

But there is skepticism. Nearby Crescent City hardly boomed with the opening of Redwood National Park. More than 179,850 acres of the Siskiyou were protected as the Kalmiopsis Wilderness in the 1960s and 1970s, notes miner Walt Freeman, "and they promised then the mill jobs would be replaced by tourism jobs. Well, we're still waiting for the first of those jobs to show up."

On the other hand, Josephine County in October posted its lowest unemployment figure in 35 years: a 5.4% jobless rate, with substantial new growth in the service industry. The transition, many believe, is already underway.

The problem with logging and mining the remaining pristine forests, says William Mondale, the brother of the former Democratic presidential candidate who

Perspectives on the News

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2001/NA

A2



BARBARA ULLIAN / For The Times

Environmentalists want a million acres in the Siskiyou Mountains declared a national monument.

gave up his job as a labor organizer in Washington, D.C., for a cabin in the Illinois Valley, is that there is never enough wood, never enough gold.

"If we stood out of the way, and if everybody just stood back and said, 'Go!'—does anybody believe anything would be left?" Mondale asked. "And if everything went, tell me then: Where are the jobs?"

□

A narrow trail winds up near Babyfoot Lake, and Romain Cooper, a biologist for the Siskiyou Project, pauses to point out why there is no more diverse coniferous forest in the world, save perhaps small tracts in the Himalayas.

Sadler oak, Jeffrey pine, Brewer's spruce, incense cedar, Port Orford cedar, Douglas fir, sugar pine, red fir, white fir.

On the red-rocked slopes nearby, untouched by the glaciers that scoured most of the nation, low flowering plants such as the *Kalmiopsis leachiana*, an ancient relation of the rhododendron, and the tubular, insect-eating cobra lily date well before the Ice Age.

Incredibly, the Siskiyou region is home to the Alaska yellow cedar from the Arctic forest and the California desert manzanita. Plants from the Great Basin and the Pacific Coast have all found niches and prospered.

"About three years ago, me and several colleagues tried to

catalog biodiversity across the North American continent and put it in a global context," said Dominick DellaSala of the World Wildlife Fund. "What we found were a handful of eco-regions across the continent that were truly outstanding on a global scale. The Klamath-Siskiyou region was one of them."

President Clinton already has imposed some protection in a new roadless area policy that will exempt much of the Siskiyou from new road building and logging.

But Barbara Ullian, conservation director for the Siskiyou Project, worries that policy will do nothing to stop hundreds of new mining claims to be staked throughout the forest.

Already, rundown shacks and large piles of gravel mark mining claims staked across the region. The most controversial is Freeman's claims totaling more than 4,000 acres, above Rough and Ready Creek, a prime botanical resource area. His company, Nicore Inc., proposes to extract 40,000 tons a year of nickel laterite to make stainless steel.

Ullian and others fear the mine would devastate salmon in the creek and the fragile plants along its banks. The Forest Service this year approved the plan, first submitted in 1992, but with conditions that will require him to spend more than \$1 million to first prove that he can profitably extract the ore.

"They have subjected me to a war of attrition: delays, stalling, environmental impact statements. They figured I would run out of money and run out of heart, and they would win by default," Freeman said. "If people knew how their money was being squandered by these federal bureaucrats, there'd be open rebellion in the streets. And now they say this monument proposal isn't going to affect life in the Illinois Valley. Well, that's a crock."

Lou Gold, a former Illinois college professor, was another who came to the Siskiyou and never left. For much of the last decade, he has spent his summers on the face of Bald Mountain. He traveled in the winters with a slide show of the ancient forest and the vision he had that it was his life's work to protect it.

The monument plan forced him out of retirement when he looked at a map of it and saw—right in the middle—the mountain he lived on for much of his youth.

"There's a Native American story that says you go up on the mountain and you scream and you cry for a vision, and it comes out, and you spend the rest of your life trying to figure it out," Gold said. "So that's what happened. Eighteen years later, I got the other piece."

IWLA News

A MONUMENTAL PROPOSAL

Oregon Division endorses effort to protect Siskiyou.

In July, the World Wildlife Fund and Siskiyou Regional Education Project in Oregon proposed naming the Siskiyou Wild & Scenic River system in southern Oregon a National Monument. Now the Izaak Walton League's Oregon Division is strongly backing that proposal, too.

In a letter to conservation and government officials — including President Clinton, Vice President Al Gore and Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt — Oregon Division President Dawn Olson wrote, "This area is the largest concentration of wild, untamed watersheds left on the West Coast. We find that the proposed Siskiyou Wild Rivers National Monument both reflects and encompasses the doctrine of the Izaak Walton League ... to strive for the purity of water, the clarity of the air, the wise stewardship of the land and its resources."

The Siskiyou watershed includes the

Rogue, Illinois, Cherco, Elk and Smith Rivers, and covers nearly one million acres of land. It is managed by both the Siskiyou National Forest and the Medford Bureau of Land Management.

The thrust for Oregon Division to endorse the proposal came from Lynn

Jones, a member of the Beaver All-State (Ore.)

Chapter and a resident of the Siskiyou area. She is also the Division's Save Our Streams coordinator and has been conducting water quality studies in the Siskiyou watershed.

National Monument designation would limit logging and mining in the area and raise the quality of the region's environment, creating jobs and revenue through increased tourism, according to the Siskiyou Wild Rivers Web site, www.siskiyouwildrivers.org. It would also protect habitat for restoring native salmon and steelhead. — Jason McGarvey



BARBARA ULLIAN/STREP

Rough & Ready Creek is one of many rivers flowing through the Siskiyou Wild & Scenic River system.

IN OTHER NEWS...

Airguns on Target

The Damascus Air Rifle Club of the Wildlife Achievement (Md.) Chapter displayed adult airguns at the 2000 Annual Meeting of the National Rifle Association in Charlotte, N.C., winning the meeting's "Best Educational Exhibit of Contemporary Firearms" honor. Also, in September the club sponsored the Mid-Atlantic Airgun Show in Damascus, reported to be the heaviest attended airguns-only show in the world.

Chapter Land Acquisition

The Dragoon Trail (Iowa) Chapter has purchased 17 acres of land that will be the new site of its headquarters. The chapter will build a 32-by-54-foot clubhouse and will offer ranges for rifle, pistol, archery and trap shooting. The total cost for the new headquarters will be more than \$160,000. As for the chapter's old home, a 12-acre site located in the City of Ankeny, the city plans to develop it into a community park.

Cribs for Fish

There are two byproducts of the Illinois state licensing exams for plumbers: licensed plumbers and discarded PVC pipes. In 1998, members of the Champaign County (Ill.) Chapter salvaged the pipes and used them to build cube-shaped fish cribs that will protect young fish from predators. In September, the chapter installed the cribs in Clinton Lake with the help of local Boy Scouts. It was one of the last major projects for the chapter's president, Gene Shove, who passed away in October (see p. 16) and was a long-time protector of the region's watersheds.

Big Game Show

The Rockingham-Harrisonburg (Va.) Chapter held its annual Virginia Big Game Trophy Show in September, attracting nearly 2,500 people and raising more than \$26,500. Hunters displayed deer, bear and turkey trophies hoping to win top honors in their regions. But perhaps the real winner was the League itself, which ran a special "Join the IWLA today and get in show free!" and signed up about dozen new members.

CLAYTON NAMED CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

Chuck Clayton has handled some tough issues in recent years: Improving the national Farm Bill, oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, destruction of the Florida Everglades. In September, Clayton was honored for his efforts to protect natural resources when he was named South Dakota Conservationist of the Year — the South Dakota Wildlife Federation's highest honor. Clayton, who serves on the Federation's Executive Board, is the current president of the League's South Dakota Division and a member of the Beadle County Chapter and National Executive Board. An avid hunter of deer, upland birds and waterfowl, Clayton makes his home in Huron.



After receiving the League's Conservation Award in July, Chuck Clayton was named South Dakota Conservationist of the Year.

VIC SNYDER

2D DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

HOME OFFICE:

3118 FEDERAL BUILDING
700 W. CAPITOL AVENUE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201-3270
(501) 324-5941
TDD (501) 324-5922

1-5-01
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0402

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
1319 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0402
(202) 225-2506
SNYDER.CONGRESS@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV

web: www.house.gov/snyder

January 4, 2001

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your many years of service to our country and to the great state of Arkansas. I appreciate all of your efforts during these past several years. Prior to your leaving office, I would like to ask your assistance in a few last-minute projects of importance to the Second District and the state of Arkansas.

First, as you know, the state of Arkansas has been devastated by a series of ice storms. I appreciate your declaration of 52 Arkansas counties, including 6 of the 8 counties in my district, as state of emergency areas and then your declaration of these counties as major disaster areas. However, this declaration will not cover all of the associated damages, particularly since the area was still in recovery from major tornadoes during the last few years. I therefore request additional Federal assistance from HUD in the amount of \$20 million to aid in general community redevelopment.

Secondly, I and other members of the Arkansas delegation have contacted FEMA to request that FEMA cover 100 percent of the ice storm recovery costs rather than 75 percent as provided for under the major disaster declaration. County judges from two of the six counties in my district that were declared disaster areas have already contacted my office about this matter, and I am expecting to hear from the others shortly. I would ask you to take this matter up with Director Witt.

Third, I would ask your assistance in securing the release of funds for the Little Rock Central High. As you may recall, your budget contained \$2.5 million under the "Save America's Treasures" account for this project, and the funding for the project was approved by the Congress. I would ask your assistance in speeding the release of this money by the National Park Service so that the repairs to the school can proceed. Ken Smith and I personally toured the facility last fall.

Fourth, I ask your assistance with a grant request currently pending before the EDA for the Little Rock Port Authority. The grant would be used to construct a dock to further the port project, which is vital to the continuing economic development of Central Arkansas. The grant request is in the amount of \$1.28 million, which is the 80% Federal share of the \$1.6 million project. The remaining share would be provided by the City of Little Rock, which has already made

Witt

copied
Kountoupes
Brain
Podesta

arrangements to raise this money. I request your assistance in expediting the final disposition of this grant.

Fifth and finally, I request your assistance in locating \$200,000 for bilingual education in Yell County. I requested funding for this as part of the Labor/Health/Human Services appropriations matter, but my request unfortunately went unfulfilled. In recent years this county has become home to a significant number of Hispanics, and this money would help supplement the limited funding the school system can dedicate to this purpose. Any help you can provide Yell County in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your assistance with these requests and for your years of service. Should you or your staff have any questions about these requests, I hope that you will not hesitate to contact me or Ed Fry of my staff.

Sincerely,

Vic Snyder
Member of Congress

Thank you



Pulaski County

F.G. "BUDDY" VILLINES
COUNTY JUDGE / CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
201 SOUTH BROADWAY, SUITE 400
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
501-340-8305
501-340-8282 FAX

December 29, 2000

CITIES

ALEXANDER
CAMMACK VILLAGE
JACKSONVILLE
LITTLE ROCK
MAUMELLE
NORTH LITTLE ROCK
SHERWOOD
WRIGHTSVILLE

Mr. James Lee Witt, Director
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street
Washington, DC 20472

Dear James Lee:

This letter with similar letters from every mayor in Pulaski County will be presented Tuesday, January 2nd at 2:00 p.m. to the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management. This will be done at a meeting at the Jeffrey Hawkins Conference Room, 401 West Markham in Little Rock.

We got this help during the tornado damage a couple of years ago. We need help now because the amount of debris is far greater than it was then.

Thank-you.

Sincerely,

Floyd G. Villines, III

Floyd G. Villines, III
County Judge/Chief Executive Officer

FGV:dp

enclosure

UNINCORPORATED
AREA
600 SQUARE MILES

MILITARY
BASES

LRAFB
CAMP ROBINSON

Lanny E. Fite**Saline County Judge**

200 N. MAIN ST. - SALINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 117
BENTON, ARKANSAS 72015
303-5600 • FAX 303-5611

December 29, 2000

Mr. Bud Harper
Director, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management
P. O. Box 758
Conway, AR 72033-0758

Dear Mr. Harper:

I am requesting immediate direct federal financial assistance for Saline County at 100% utilizing the Army Corp of Engineers. The ice storm of two weeks ago coupled with this most recent disaster is placing financial hardships on both our county general fund and road department. Our emergency financial reserves are precariously low. Damage to our county infrastructure appears to be significant. Your immediate attention to this request is important to our recovery efforts. Should you require any additional information, please contact Paul Doramus, Director Saline County OEM, or me.

Sincerely yours,

copy

Lanny E. Fite
Saline County Judge

LEF/jb

Dear ~~Mr~~ President, ~~My~~

12/18/00

1-3-01

This note is long overdue - I have been meaning to write and say thank you since I left the White House in July but have been thoroughly intimidated by what I might say.

Thank you for letting me be a part of what you created. You assembled a remarkable group of people, people who truly believed in your vision. I have often heard you say to people: "this is your White House." You made me feel that way from almost the first time I met you - You made me feel

welcome and you made me feel like I belonged there. I can never thank you enough for that.

As you know, I started Stanford Law School this fall - It'll be another three years before I'm out in the real world again. In any case, please let me know if I can ever again be of service.

Warmest Regards,

Dawn Smalls

1/5/01

Send to Eugene?

Yes ☒

No ☐

cal

D. Smalls

796 Escendido Rd #86
Stanford, CA 94305

Martha Cornwell Haguewood
2262 West Lensfield Place
Fayetteville, AR 72701
501-444-7921 - Phone
501-443-1801 - Fax

01 JAN 5 PM 3:45

DATE : 5 January 2001
TO : Betty Curry
RE : Presidential Pardon Request
TOTAL PAGES INCLUDING FAX COVER PAGE : 3

MESSAGE: Betty - please give this to the
President. This is in furtherance of a
letter from my brother, Thomas Cornwell.
Thank you! Martha

CONFIDENTIALITY ALERT: The information being transmitted is
intended for the exclusive use of the Add

1-5-01
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ot the
to the
:minat
nsmis

To Meredith Cabe?
Yes ☒ No ☐

B.

Meredith
Cabe

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	[Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	01/05/2001	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Staff Secretary
Lisel Loy (Chron Files)
OA/Box Number: 22086

FOLDER TITLE:

Friday, January 5, 2001

2019-0680-S
rs3254

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]

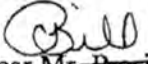
Martha Cornwell Haguewood
2262 West Lensfield Place
Fayetteville, AR 72701-2740

5 January 2001

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20050

Transmitted via Facsimile
Original Will Not Follow

RE: Tanasukhal "Tom Bhakta;
207 Lake Road, Springdale, AR;
SSN: (b)(6)


Dear Mr. President:

I am writing this letter at the request of my brother, Thomas Cornwell, and on behalf of Tom Bhakta with whom I am acquainted. Mr. Bhakta has previously addressed correspondence to you requesting that he be considered for a Presidential pardon. My letter is in furtherance of his request, subsequent correspondence from my brother, and hereby requests that you give his plea consideration prior to the end of your term in office.

Mr. Bhakta was convicted of tax charges stemming from a problem with tax reporting for his businesses. Mr. Bhakta is a native of India and had been conducting his businesses here in accordance with accepted business practices of his native country. He had made all the appropriate disclosures to his accountant who in turn failed to properly report the matter. However, the accountant was properly reporting the income on all states sales tax documents and failed to properly report and document on his federal tax returns. Upon the advice of his legal counsel at the time, Larry Douglas, he pleaded guilty to the charges instead of a negotiated settlement and was sentenced to a three-month prison term by Judge H. Franklin Waters. Mr. Douglas indicated that the guilty plea would probably only render him a monetary penalty but no prison term. At the present time Mr. Bhakta is represented by Ken Mourton.

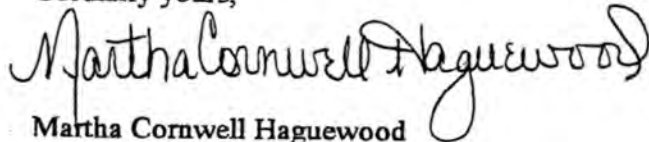
Dan Downing, Mr. Bhakta's present accountant, was formerly an Internal Revenue Investigator. It is his impression that Mr. Bhatka was given erroneous legal advice by Mr. Douglas. Mr. Downing told Mr. Bhatka that if he had been worked on the case while it was being investigated by the IRS, and with the knowledge of the facts as presented, he believes that Mr. Bhatka would not have had charges filed against him. Mr. Downing feels that a negotiated settlement involving payment of the under-reported income, plus penalty and interest could, and should, have resolved the matter. Mr. Downing has so stated in a previous correspondence to you also requesting your consideration of a pardon.

President William J. Clinton
5 January 2001
Page 2

At the present time Mr. Bhakta owns six motels in Northwest Arkansas and one in Taos, NM. He has proven to be a prudent non-resident alien of our community and our country. He has a desire to become a United States citizen and is unable to apply for citizenship due to this prior conviction. For this reason, he has requested that he be given a pardon so that he may attain his life-long dream of becoming a naturalized American citizen. His wife and children are naturalized citizens and he wishes to join their ranks and one day vote in an election. He and his family have been supporters of both you and Mrs. Clinton in the past. He wishes to be support his candidates by being able to vote.

Mr. President, I respectfully request that you give Mr. Bhakta's request for a Presidential pardon your utmost attention and that after reviewing the facts of the case, find that he is indeed worthy of receiving a pardon. If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me.

Cordially yours,



Martha Cornwell Haguewood

MCH/s

THOMAS MARK CAPLAN

01 JAN 5 PM 9:49

3rd January 2001

Dear Nancy,

The President was kind enough to give me this quote for my new book (which has nothing to do with him or anyone real) and asked that I send this copy to you for his records.

So, here it is – along with every imaginable happy wish for you and Lewis and, of course,

Lots and lots of love,



1-5-01

Original to Nancy?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Copy to RM?

Yes ☒ No ☐

B.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

10/26/2000

Dear Tommy,

I am happy to offer you this quote:

The Wind's Will is utterly missing,
It captures the many aspects of and
competing pressures on the Presidency
with ~~data~~ on accuracy and clear
perspective. Anyone who wants to
understand, to really feel what it
is like to be President of the United States
should read it from cover to cover.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

KIT BOND

Mexico, Missouri

December 27, 2000

'01 JAN 5 PM 9:49

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

You have recently received letters from my colleagues Chris Dodd and Tom Daschle about the Presidential pardon petition on behalf of Ed Downe.

Ed graduated from the University of Missouri in Columbia and through many mutual friends in my state I have had the opportunity to get to know Ed and have seen him from time-to-time over the last 30 years.

Ed is a very generous and community service-oriented individual who made a serious mistake a number of years ago. The sentence he received was for 3,000 hours of community service and he has fulfilled that commitment but continues to serve. Ed teaches mostly minority students at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University in New York City. He has continued to do this work, and he has done many other outstanding acts of kindness and service.

I concur with the requests that Chris and Tom have made, and hope that you will give his request for a pardon serious consideration.

Sincerely,

1-5-01



Christopher S. Bond

CSB/jlp

Is Meredith Cable?

Yes / No -

B.

cc: Cohen to coordinate reply
w/ case / leg

Lowell Weiss
4718 Asbury Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016



THE PRESIDENT

1/5/2001

Dear Lowell —

I can't tell you how much
your advice in the on your experience
in the White House meant to me —

You were great here, and I'm
glad you left feeling you did good things
for America, because you did —

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

Personal File

Copied

Blumenthal

T. Branch

Padesta

pen fin (cc sin 5/T Branch

1-8-01

AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER

Veteran Clinton speechwriter Lowell Weiss reflects on his presidential strategies: Don't ask, don't tell. Read his lips. And feel his pain

It has been said, accurately I think, that working in the White House is like dating the sexiest, most glamorous woman you've ever seen. You know the relationship can't last. You know it's not healthy. But man, it's hard to give up.

Five months ago, I did manage to leave. After I finished writing my 181st speech for President Clinton, I turned in my covered West Wing pass and loaded my hatchback with several boxes of memorabilia—movie listings from *Air Force One*, signed copies of State of the Union Addresses, a tomato crate from an Arkansas farming cooperative. My three-year fling with the White House was finally over.

Like most great jobs, writing for President Clinton began as a sink-or-swim proposition. I was twenty-nine at the time, and I came to the job with only a single, four-month speechwriting gig under my belt (for Vice President Gore in the 1996 reelection campaign, so at least my references were good). It was like being called up from the farm team. In the new job I'd be scripting words and arguments that would be uttered by William Jefferson Clinton, one of the most brilliant communicators of our era. It was the speech-writing equivalent of composing concerti for Itzhak Perlman or Isaac Stern.

On day fifteen, I sank. Moments before a major East Room

event on the science of global warming, President Clinton, Vice President Gore, and I stood in a huddle in the White House basement. The President, an inveterate procrastinator, was reading over his speech—only the third I had written since joining the staff. "I can't say this," he grumbled, his eyes fiery and fixed on my draft. "It's nothing but rhetoric!"

I had no idea how I had gone so wrong. I'd worked for days on that speech—studying reams of briefing memos, gathering the views of a dozen of the president's top advisers, and attempting to tease a few lines of poetry out of the dense discourse of science (one line that made him seethe: "We must uphold the sacred pact between the generations to ensure that today's progress does not come at tomorrow's expense"). Yet here I was: a speechwriter scared speechless.

Fortunately, Gore stepped in. "Mr. President," he said, shooting me a big, broad wink, "don't worry. The American people like rhetoric!" Clinton smiled and gave me a pat on the shoulder. He walked upstairs and gave a brilliant speech—75 percent of it off-the-cuff.

It wasn't easy writing words for someone for whom talking was as natural as breathing. Each one of Clinton's nine speechwriters has spent agonizing days and sleepless nights writing a

critical speech, only to watch the President discard the bulk of it and move an audience to tears by simply speaking from his famously empathetic heart.

Part of the problem—and, as the President himself might say, it's a high-class problem—is that Bill Clinton is just so damned smart. Often, when I'd go into the Oval Office to brief the President before an event, he'd be sitting at his imposing oak desk, reading glasses on his nose, unlit cigar in his mouth, editing my speech. Without looking up, he'd tell us to start the briefing. At first, I assumed that there was no way he could be taking in our comments while simultaneously making unrelated edits in his indecipherable southpaw scrawl. But not once in three years did I hear him say something from the podium that suggested he had missed even the most esoteric of points.

Another problem is that the President just does not feel comfortable delivering the kind of lofty, made-for-marble lines that every brash, young speechwriter is itching to write. One time, he pointed out a line I wrote for a millennial toast that a Kennedy or Reagan would have found subdued: "From the beachheads of Normandy to the buses of Montgomery, patriots from all walks of life have advanced the heroic march of human liberty." "If I say that," he told me, "I'll look like a big, bragging peacock."

The final complication is that we didn't often get to ask the boss what he might like to say. On the hit TV show *The West Wing*, the president's speechwriter, played by Rob Lowe, marches right into "the Oval" to engage President Bartlett in witty repartee whenever he's in the mood. In real life, no speechwriter since the Kennedy administration has had an open invitation to drop by and ask the president what's on his mind. So unless it's a State of the Union Address or a declaration of war or peace, we'd spend a couple of days—or minutes, depending on the deadline—typing away at our computers without any input from the President. Then we'd turn in the speech, show up to brief him a few minutes before his address was to begin—and pray that we'd got it right.

Over time, I got much better at giving the President the kind of material that suited his salt-of-the-earth style, which usually involved hunting down the personal details that he liked to invoke to humanize even the wonkiest subjects. If I were writing about legislation to provide mentors for at-risk teenagers, I might call up his cousin Marie or childhood friend Carolyn Staley to coax out a colorful story about the encouragement the fatherless Clinton received in Hot Springs from his band teacher, Virgil Spurlin. Several times during briefings, the President would pause at this kind of detail and ask, "Where the hell did you get this?" I think he was both impressed and a little bit spooked. These passages didn't always make it into the eight-second sound bite on the evening news. But on my best days, Clinton would turn these fine-grain details into stardust, sprinkling it over the audience to create an enchanting intimacy that few speakers have ever matched.

Like a biographer who devotes years studying and writing about a single human being, I often felt an eerie sense of con-

nection to Bill Clinton. Not only did I write hundreds of thousands of words that came out of his mouth, I heard his hoarse but honeyed voice when typing at my keyboard. I memorized his favorite passages from the Bible (for instance, Isaiah 40:31, "They shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint"). I knew volumes of his childhood stories he'd never told (like the time he integrated the Hot Springs Boys Club by marching in with his African-American friend and band mate, Glenn Mahone). When writing, I truly lived inside his head.

And yet, in person, I didn't know him well at all. In a normal week, I would meet with Clinton only once or twice, for a few minutes at a time. So when I spent the occasional casual moment with him during trips, it was pretty hard to relax.

Once, I sat next to him on a C-20, a small plane in the presidential fleet. At the start of the flight, I taught him how to introduce himself in the Navajo language for an "Ich bin ein Berliner" moment I'd scripted for a speech he'd deliver later that day. Then he started dealing out cards to me, his deputy chief of staff, and his press secretary. "Ever played Oh Hell?" he asked me. I told him I hadn't, and he was happy to explain the rules, which weren't complicated. But I missed every other one: I was

unnerved by the fact that I—not some paragraphs I had written—was the focus of his intense, tractor-beam gaze.

Ironically, the one time I truly did feel at ease with the President was during the Year of Lewinsky. Yes, there was a part of me that was angry with him for his recklessness, but I wasn't so prudish as to be appalled by the allegations. And frankly, the President became noticeably more approachable when under siege. Two

days after the scandal broke, Clinton pulled me aside during a diet Coke break in our State of the Union rehearsals. "Hey, Lowell," he said. "You wrote a beautiful statement for the Medal of Freedom ceremony." And then, to make it absolutely clear that this wasn't just a boilerplate compliment akin to his standard "nice tie," he repeated three of his favorite lines from memory. He had given the Medal of Freedom speech almost two weeks before. Was that just his way of shoring up his base? Perhaps; I'm not naive. But I didn't mind one bit.

President Clinton never asked me to write any of his infamous scandal-related speeches; he wrote those himself. But neither did he pretend that the scandal didn't exist. During many Oval Office briefings and in one private conversation I had with him over the phone, he brought up the subject in a crestfallen but not self-pitying way. And I couldn't help but—you know—feel his pain.

In the end, many of us who worked for the President are going to miss the hell out of the guy—his big heart and brilliant mind, his everyman roots, his improbable rise, his unequalled ability to get back up after falling down. I'm sure I'll continue to see the world through his eyes, and I suspect I'll always hear his voice in my head. My years with Clinton were an affair I'll never forget. □



Head games: The writer (left) had to guess what the Prez wanted to say in a speech.

1-5-01

To M. Coker

E.
FOWLER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
*Don is concerned about
pardon for person
on reverse.*
Donald L. Fowler
Chairman
Advertising & Public Relations
2725 Devine Street / PO Box 50627 / Columbia, South Carolina 29250
803 799 7550 / Fax: 803 771 7442 / Email: don@fowlercommunications.com

*Stealing Andrus
pardon*

1-5-01

*Is Coker after you have
seen?*

*Yes - No -
3.*