

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

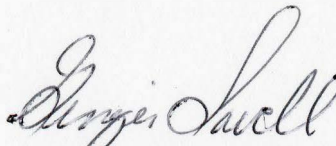
REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

DATE: July 6, 1972

SUBJECT: President's Environmental Merit Awards Program

TO: Howard Cohen

Here is the report on PEMAP as requested.


Ginger Savell

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 7, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK HOWARD

FROM: HOWARD A. COHEN

SUBJECT: PEMAP

USE BULLETS → ● The President's Environmental Merit Awards Program was created by Executive Order on October 25, 1971. ● Informational brochures were mailed to 25,000 high schools in November. *CONCERNING THE PROGRAM* Of these 25,000, only 2,800 responses were received. ● The first bulletin was transmitted to enrolled high schools early in January, *1972* ● Responding to the obvious lack of *PARTICIPATION* visibility, WDR expanded PEMAP to include summer camps as of March 10, 1972. ● The first Merit Awards were presented at a White House ceremony by Ms. Julie Nixon Eisenhower on April 19. At that time, it was announced that the program was again expanding to include not only high schools and summer camps, but also junior highs and elementary schools. *TAB A (See attached)* *WDR JOE SCHLESER*

- THE PRESIDENT ESTABLISHED *A* 13 MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM APRIL 19, 1972. (TAB B)

Q As mentioned, the first awards were *PRESENTED* given April 19. In May and June of this year, 4,600 awards of merit and excellence were presented to students and schools. Total enrollment last semester was 2,900 high schools.

(TAB C)
(Attachment Reg.)

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To date, 355 summer camps have enrolled.

④

The media coverage of PEMAP since its conception in October has been sparse (attachment Press). (TAB 5)

Poor media management and planning by the BPA are possible reasons why visibility of this worthy program was held down. MINIMAL.

REPORTEDLY, 115,000 HIGH, JUNIOR HIGH, & ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WILL BE ENROLLED IN 1973 IN ADDITION TO 11,000 SUMMER CAMPS.

In order to adequately plan awards ceremonies, media coverage and managing staff, the PEMAP has prepared a timetable for both summer camp activities (TAB 5) (see attached) (TAB 5) (SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM)

and next year's school program. (TAB 5) (see attached) (SCHOOL PROGRAM)

Also Requested is an increased budget and more staff. (TAB 5) (see attached) (BUDGET) (TAB 5) (TAB 11)

④

Public visibility of the President's environmental concern is a vital part of his whole image. PEMAP, if effectively and efficiently operated, could and should provide that visibility.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

July 6, 1972

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM
(PEMAP)

Current Status Report of PEMAP

115,000 high, junior high, elementary and private schools will be enrolled in 1973 in addition to 11,000 summer camps.

4,600 awards of merit and excellence were presented to students and schools in May and June 1972.

2,900 high schools were enrolled last semester, and to date 355 summer camps have enrolled in the program.

Press Coverage--See Attached Clippings

The press coverage of PEMAP was not nearly as good as it could or should have been. We are taking steps to correct this. For instance:

1. Gladys O'Donnell has worked out a complete timetable and game plan for both the summer camp program and next year's school program beginning in September.
2. As you will see under the budget section, we have asked for a considerably higher budget and more staff. This has not yet been approved, but we are very hopeful.
3. By working much more closely with our regional public affairs directors and by greater emphasis from the press staff in this office, we anticipate much greater media coverage.
4. We are asking the schools to appoint a member of the press from their community to serve on the Awards Panel. This should also serve to stimulate interest, cooperation, and coverage with local newspapers.
5. TV and radio spots should also provide visibility and interest in the Program.

THIS WAS MAILED TO:

2,700 SCHOOLS

1,942 CAMPUS PRESS

605 CAMPUS RADIO STATIONS

2700
schools
Campus
1,942 press +
605 radio
stations

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

6/28

FOR:

Howard Cohen

FROM:

KATHLEEN BALSDON

✓
FYI

PLEASE HANDLE

COMMENTS:

In the event you didn't
see the finished product,
here is the PEMAP mailing.
To read it, you would think
Ruck was running in Nov.
instead of R.N.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

File
Environment
OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR

As Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, I am deeply aware that a vital part of our mission is the education of Americans for active involvement in efforts to clean up our environment. It is particularly important that today's young people share widely in the development of a new ethic leading toward environmental restoration and a more humane quality of life.

As a step to channel the manifest strengths, imagination, and energy of our youth into increasingly effective activities in behalf of this goal, President Nixon last October announced the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program, and assigned the EPA to run it. After only seven months of operation, the program has more than 2600 high schools enrolled and has been so successful that it has now been expanded to junior high and elementary schools.

On April 19, during Earth Week '72, Mrs. Julie Nixon Eisenhower presented the first certificates honoring work of environmental excellence to students from four schools representing all areas of the Nation. I think the program's theme, "Life...Pass It On," sums up in a few words the crucial importance of the work it seeks to advance.

Because of your interest in youth and the environment, I am enclosing materials regarding the President's program, as well as some recent press releases on a variety of important issues.

I would be interested in your comments on these activities in the Environmental Protection Agency. The EPA has operated since its establishment in 1970 on the premise that response to comment and criticism by citizens is the best way to develop and maintain a sound public policy; please do not hesitate to communicate with me about your environmental concerns.

Sincerely yours,

William D. Ruckelshaus

William D. Ruckelshaus
Administrator

Enclosures

FACT SHEET

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM

The President's Environmental Merit Awards Program will make it possible for students of the Nation's high schools to receive recognition for individual or group projects that benefit the environment. Opportunity to participate in the program is being offered to some 38,000 public and private high schools across the country.

All students who undertake and complete a responsible environmental service project will receive an award. Additional awards will be given to projects deserving special recognition. Panels made up of student, faculty and community representatives will administer the program. National support for this program will be provided through the Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Education.

Suggested projects for the program could fit into four categories -- education, environmental awareness, community service and public affairs. Students could seek assistance with their projects from private as well as governmental agencies at all levels -- Federal, State and local. The best primary sources of help would be provided by local libraries and environmental groups.

Objective - To provide a vehicle through which the Federal Government may recognize and reward constructive, responsible environmental services performed by American high school youth throughout the country.

Scope - The President's Environmental Merit Awards will encompass youth activities throughout the entire country and will be offered through more than thirty eight thousand high schools, both public and private.

Structure - Environmental service awards will recognize two levels of accomplishment in the performance of environmental service. The first level will be granted to all students or student groups who undertake and complete a responsible environmental service project. The second level will be awarded for projects which are considered by a judging panel to merit special recognition for achievement.

Administration - The awards program will be administered at the local level, using judging and advisory panels made up of student, faculty and community representatives. This method of administration is considered essential because evaluation of projects should be made using community needs and problems to determine the criteria.

Participation - Students may take part as individuals or as members of school organizations. They can choose a more passive role concerned in a general education - type project or play a more active role by becoming involved in a project concerned with governmental process.

Categories of Concern - Individual or group activities could be undertaken under a number of objectives such as:

Education - Possible activities could be to conduct pollution surveys, to gather watershed analysis data, to develop inventories of consumer habits or to study government and legislative processes.

MORE

Environmental Awareness - This category would carry the education process one step further by giving presentations at community meetings, preparing articles for local newspapers, sponsoring ecology fairs and working with younger children.

Community Service - Suggested projects could include restoring streams to their natural state, eliminating vermin, cleaning up litter, landscaping a park, staffing an environmental information center or operating a recycling program.

Public Affairs - Direct involvement in government at work could include cooperating with public officials, attending public hearings, presenting environmental data to zoning boards, sewage districts planning authorities and utility commissions.

Support - Private as well as governmental agencies at all levels -- Federal, State, and local offer a wide variety of assistance to projects. While capable of supplying general information needs, large agencies are best utilized once specific program objectives have been determined. Local libraries and environmental groups are the primary source of information during initial project development.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

Temple (202) 755-2770
Hoffman (202) 755-2770

FOR RELEASE AFTER 4:30 P.M., FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1972

EPA DENIES ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF 1975 AUTO EMISSION STANDARDS

William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, today denied a one-year extension of the legal requirement for 1975 auto emission standards that had been requested by five companies.

Ruckelshaus said the companies had failed to produce sufficient evidence required under the Clean Air Act to justify such a postponement of the standards.

"We have concluded that although auto manufacturers demonstrated difficulties in their efforts to reduce exhaust pollutants, they have not established that the technology does not exist. Impressive progress has been achieved in controlling auto emissions by a variety of control systems employing catalysts. Our analysis of all data suggests the technology may well be available for the 1975 cars to meet these standards," Ruckelshaus said.

"We recognize that it may require financial commitments by auto makers to catalyst suppliers before all testing has been completed, but it appears that such commitments, already taken by one major auto company, are necessary to achieve the air pollution control objectives mandated by the 1970 Clean Air Act."

The Clean Air Act calls for a 90 percent reduction in emissions of hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide in 1975 model autos compared with emissions from 1970 models.

The Act also authorizes the EPA Administrator to grant a one-year suspension of the 1975 standards if after hearings and examination of evidence he determines that the suspension is

(more)

essential to the public interest or public health and welfare; that the applicant for a waiver has made good faith efforts to meet the 1975 standards; and that the applicant has established that effective control technology is not available or has not been available long enough to achieve compliance with the standards.

Five companies applied for the one-year suspension prior to EPA hearings that began April 10. They were Volvo, Incorporated, of Sweden; International Harvester; General Motors; Ford; and Chrysler. A sixth company, American Motors, also filed for a suspension after the hearings began, but its application was not included in today's decision, and a separate hearing will be scheduled soon on its request. Any other company seeking a suspension must submit a formal application with supporting data.

A number of other auto companies and makers of emission control systems, as well as public interest groups, testified during the three weeks of hearings. A total of 2,926 pages of testimony were received and are on file at EPA headquarters for public inspection.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

EPA NEWS FEATURE

Deister (202) 755-2770
Hoffman (202) 755-2770

FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, MAY 14, 1972

EPA WILL BUILD "ARTIFICIAL OCEAN" TO TEST OIL SPILL CLEANUP METHODS

An "artificial ocean"--complete with its own wavemaking machinery -- will be built in New Jersey by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to test equipment for cleaning up spills of oil and other hazardous materials.

The \$1.8 million concrete test tank -- measuring 600 feet long and holding more than two million gallons of water -- will be the only one of its kind in the world.

The test facility, to be completed by May 1973, will be built on a five-acre marshland site leased to EPA by the Earle Naval Ammunition Depot in Leonardo, New Jersey, located on the south shore of Raritan Bay.

Known as OHMSETT (Oil and Hazardous Materials Systems Environmental Test Tank), it will test new types of booms, skimmers and other devices used to contain and clean up spills.

In order to test the various devices under realistic conditions, the OHMSETT facility will be equipped with a wave generator, to produce regular, irregular and "confused" waves up to two feet high.

The tank, 65 feet wide and 8 feet deep, will contain about 2.6 million gallons of water drawn from Raritan Bay. A tracked bridge spanning the tank will tow test equipment lengthwise down the tank at speeds of up to six knots.

Data will be transmitted to a small control building for recording and processing. Some water quality analyses will be done in a small laboratory near the tank.

The data collected from OHMSETT will help EPA reduce the harmful impact of accidental discharges of hazardous pollutants upon beaches and the marine environment. Such spills have become a problem of major dimension for America's lakes and coastal waters.

(More)

In 1970, the U.S. Coast Guard recorded 3,335 oil spills (a total of about 15 million gallons) and 376 spills of hazardous materials and other substances (about 1/4 of a million gallons).

Since the OHMSETT facility will, on a continuous basis, make use of oil and other hazardous materials, EPA has taken precautions to insure that the tank does not harm the surrounding environment.

Wastewater, oil and other materials from the tank will be piped directly to an adjacent treatment facility; the effluent from the treatment facility will be of higher quality than the water pumped in from Raritan Bay.

Oily portions separated from the wastewater will be re-refined, and solids will be stored and eventually transferred to State-approved landfill sites.

The OHMSETT facility is funded by EPA's National Environmental Research Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. It will be operated by NERC's Water Quality Research Division in Edison, New Jersey, which is located in EPA's Region II.

The winning construction bid -- of \$1,828,800 -- was submitted by Remsco Associates of Matawan, New Jersey. Another New Jersey firm, Engineers Incorporated of Newark, designed the OHMSETT facility and will supervise its construction.

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(Note to editors: A photo of a model of the "artificial ocean" is available upon request from the Office of Public Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency.)

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

Deister (202) 755-2770

Farkas (202) 254-7526

FOR RELEASE P.M.'S FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1972

EPA MOVES TO SHARPLY CURTAIL USE OF MERCURY PESTICIDES

William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, today acted to stop the interstate shipment of nearly all remaining pesticide products containing mercury in an effort to avoid further hazard to human health and contamination of the environment from this source.

In a two-part move, Ruckelshaus ordered the suspension of federal registrations for all alkyl mercury pesticides and all other mercury products applied to laundry fabrics and rice seed, and mixed in marine anti-fouling paints for vessels.

Suspension is the most drastic regulatory measure available to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The order immediately halts all interstate commerce in these products on the grounds that their continued sale would constitute an imminent hazard to the public.

"Alkyl mercury is highly toxic and can accumulate in the brain, causing damage to the nervous system," Ruckelshaus said. "The other suspended products come in direct contact with and can contaminate water resources. Once in the water, they can be converted by biological processes into a more toxic form of mercury whose residues find their way into fish and other aquatic life likely to be consumed by the public."

The order cited the concern for build-up in the environment and food chain. Ruckelshaus said in his order: "To allow a course of conduct today that may create an uncorrectable and highly dangerous situation tomorrow is to engage in environmental brinksmanship."

The alkyl mercury products suspended by the order are registered for fungicidal use on cotton, farm and greenhouse equipment, ornamentals, turf, and on trees and shrubs to control anthracnose,

leaf spots, and blights. They are also used to retard mold and mildew on surfaces and as a wood preservative. Alternative methods of control are available for most of these uses, according to the EPA.

Certain alkyl mercury pesticides used to treat seed were suspended in 1970 by the Federal Government after several New Mexico children were seriously poisoned after eating meat from a hog fed waste seed treated with the chemical.

No attempt will be made by the Government to recall the suspended mercury products already in the hands of distributors or on dealers' shelves because of serious problems related to disposal and storage that a massive recall would create. The Agency pointed out that safe disposal techniques for mercury, particularly in large quantities do not now exist. The safest method of disposal is to proceed with normal use, observing established precautionary procedures, with resulting diffusion in the environment.

In a simultaneous action, the EPA Administrator has given notice of intent to cancel the federal registration of all other mercury pesticide products, including those used in mildew-proofing paint, treatment of logs and lumber to prevent stain and mildew, and for control of stinking smut on wheat, snow mold on golf courses, and leaf stripe disease on barley.

A cancellation notice does not immediately stop interstate commerce in the affected products, as is the case with a suspension order. Rather, it allows manufacturers or users 30 days in which to challenge the cancellation notice itself by filing an administrative appeal. An appeal initiates a scientific review or a public hearing on the cancellation action, during which period the manufacturers can continue to market their products.

Under the law the Environmental Protection Agency must commence administrative action by cancellation whenever a "substantial question of safety" exists with regard to a pesticide.

Last year, over 771,000 pounds of mercury were used in mildew-proofing paint, 137,639 pounds in agricultural products, and as much as 44,000 pounds for treating an estimated 10 billion board feet of logs and lumber. Agricultural use of mercury pesticides declined 33 percent from 1969.

(more)

"Although non-pesticide uses of mercury constitute the major source of environmental contamination, mercurial pesticides account for a significant proportion of such contamination," Ruckelshaus said. "The continued widespread use of such pesticides would raise serious questions of safety to man and the environment."

EPA pesticide officials estimated that approximately 12 products would be suspended and about 750 cancelled as a result of the two orders.

In October, the EPA affirmed the cancellation of three mercury pesticides used to kill algae in swimming pools and water cooling towers after the original cancellation notices had been reviewed by a scientific advisory committee on appeal from the manufacturer, with the committee recommending that the cancellations be sustained.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

Hoffmann (202) 755-2770
Deister (202) 755-2770

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1972

EPA ASKS COURT ACTION TO STOP POLLUTION OF LAKE SUPERIOR

William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, today asked the Department of Justice to file suit against the Reserve Mining Company to halt pollution of Lake Superior by Reserve's ore processing plant at Silver Bay, Minnesota.

In a letter to Attorney General John N. Mitchell, Ruckelshaus said that Reserve's daily discharge of 67,000 tons of taconite tailings "endangers a unique natural resource". The volume put into the Lake by the company is many times greater than the total volume of material carried into the Lake by its tributaries, he added. The Environmental Protection Agency Administrator requested the Department of Justice to institute legal action requesting a federal district court to set "a schedule of time within which the company must terminate the pollution."

Ruckelshaus added that a notice had been issued to Reserve on April 28, 1971, calling formal attention to its violation of water quality standards, and that in an effort to reach an amicable solution, EPA had employed the consulting firm of Roy F. Weston, Inc., of West Chester, Pennsylvania, to determine the feasibility of alternative methods of total and partial on-land disposal. Weston, after extensive investigation, reported five alternative plans, all of which were rejected by Reserve Mining Company, leading to the present impasse.

The EPA Administrator said that Reserve raised many objections to each of the plans, and that this could have led to "endless discussions and technical arguments, with little possibility of a fruitful conclusion." Ruckelshaus said, "My responsibility is to protect the environment, and I intend to discharge that responsibility as expeditiously as possible." He further said, "I have concluded with regret that our dispute cannot be resolved without the assistance of the court, and for that reason I have on this date forwarded the matter to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal action."

Ruckelshaus noted that the States of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan have frequently expressed a continuing concern in protecting the purity of Lake Superior. These States are parties to the Lake Superior Federal-State enforcement conference. For that reason, he said he has written to the respective Governors suggesting that they consider intervention in the proposed action and participation with EPA and the Department of Justice in seeking an end to the pollution.

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Bellevue (202) 352-2330
Bellevue (202) 352-2330

THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE - THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1972

EPA ASKS COURT ACTION TO STOP POLLUTION BY LAKE SUPERIOR

William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, today asked the Department of Justice to file suit against the Minnesota Mining Company to halt pollution of Lake Superior by massive ore processing plants at Silver Bay, Minnesota.

In a letter to Attorney General John E. Mitchell, Ruckelshaus said that Minnesota's daily discharge of 65,000 tons of massive tailings "endangers a unique natural resource." The volume of ore being mined by the company is now being processed at the Silver Bay plant, which is located on the shore of Lake Superior. The Environmental Protection Agency Administration requested the Department of Justice to institute legal action requesting a federal district court to "enjoin" the company which the company was

DICK IMMAN
GINGER SEVICK @ EPA

Ruckelshaus added that a notice had been issued to Minnesota on April 28, 1971, calling attention to its violation of water quality standards, and that in an effort to reach an amicable solution, EPA had employed the consulting firm of Kip T. Warner, Inc., of West Chester, Pennsylvania, to determine the feasibility of alternative methods of metal and particle removal. Warner, after extensive investigation, reported five alternative plans, all of which were rejected by Minnesota Mining Company, leading to the present litigation.

The EPA Administrator said that massive mining operations to much of the globe, and that this could have led to "serious discussion and technical arguments, with little possibility of a federal solution." Ruckelshaus said, "The responsibility is to protect the environment, and I intend to discharge that responsibility as expeditiously as possible." He further said, "I have concluded with regret that our dispute cannot be resolved without the assistance of the court, and for that reason I have on this date forwarded the matter to the Department of Justice for appropriate legal action."

Ruckelshaus noted that the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan have frequently expressed a continuing concern in protecting the purity of Lake Superior. These States are parties to the Lake Superior National-States Conference. For that reason, he said he has written to the Minnesota Government suggesting that they consider intervention in the proposed action and participation with EPA and the Department of Justice in seeking an end to the pollution.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

Date: May 3, 1972
Reply to
Attn of: Ginger Savell
Subject: On-Going Program of PEMAP
To: Tom Hart

Created October 25, 1971 by Executive Order of the President.

25,000 informational brochures mailed to high schools November 1971. Approximately 2,800 responses received.

First Bulletin mailed to enrolled schools in January, 1972.

Administrator Ruckelshaus announced on March 10, 1972 the expansion of the PEMAP program to include summer camping activities.

Information regarding PEMAP sent to all Regions on April 7, 1972.

First Awards Presentations in the White House Rose Garden on April 19, 1972. The awards were presented by Mrs. Julie Nixon Eisenhower and Administrator William D. Ruckelshaus. Mrs. Eisenhower announced that the program had been expanded to cover junior high and elementary schools. This makes a total now of 107,000 schools to be included in the program.

Awards were presented to:

California	Long Beach Unified School Program. (5 high schools)
Illinois	Oak Park and River Forest High School
Pennsylvania	Juniata-Mifflin Counties Area High School
Texas	Fort Worth United High School Council (43 schools involved)

Eight students and four school sponsors attended the presentation ceremony.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
PROJECT REPORT

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>FUTURE PRESENTATIONS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<u>GENERAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS</u>				
PEMAP	Region I	Incomplete	May 10 - Danielson, Conn. May 25 - Belmont, Mass. - Hartford, Conn. May 15 - Maine	Tentative date Tentative date
PEMAP	Region II	April 25 New York		
PEMAP	Region III	Incomplete	May 5 - Halifax, Pa. Five additional schools	No dates yet
PEMAP	Region IV	April 27 Atlanta		
PEMAP	Region V	April 24 - Cleveland, Ohio April 27 - Lawton, Michigan Incomplete	Additional Schools	No dates yet
PEMAP	Region VI	Incomplete	Truth or Consequences, N. Mexico and Eagle Pass Tex. to Dallas (late May)	Roger Stauback to present awards
PEMAP	Region VII	Incomplete	Four Schools	No dates yet
PEMAP	Region VIII	Incomplete	One School	No date yet
PEMAP	Region IX	Incomplete	Four Schools	No dates yet
PEMAP	Region X	Incomplete April 28 -	Three Schools Selkirk High School Ione, Washington	No dates yet

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TO:

5/2
Howard Cohen

FROM: Richard M. Fairbanks

FYI

284
APRIL 20, 1972

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE

OF

CLARENCE WALTON, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT'S PANEL ON NONPUBLIC EDUCATION

IVAN E. ZYLSTRA, AND

BISHOP WILLIAM E. McMANUS

THE BRIEFING ROOM

11:45 A.M. EST

MR. BALL: Members of the President's Panel on Nonpublic Education have just met with the President and with other members of the Administration. We have a list to post for you on that.

As you know, the purpose of this morning's meeting, which began at about 11:00 o'clock and has just ended, was the presentation to the President of the panel's report on problems facing nonpublic primary and secondary schools.

The report, which you have and which is embargoed until after this briefing, is the final report of the panel. The panel was appointed by the President on April 21st of 1970.

Clarence Walton, the chairman of the panel and president of Catholic University, is here to report on the meeting and to take your questions.

MR. WALTON: Before reporting on a very fruitful meeting with the President, I should like to make clear my indebtedness to my colleagues on the panel, one of whom is not here, William Saltonstall, who has had long experience in the independent school sector and, unfortunately, could not make it.

Ivan Zylstra, of Michigan, is with us, and Bishop McManus from Chicago is also a panel member.

Briefly, our meeting with the President was a most satisfying one. There are two or three items that I believe might be indicated as our major impressions.

First of all, the President's warm reception of our ideas that the private sector itself has a very significant and vital role to play in its own survival. I indicated, on behalf of the panel, that that is one part of the report, some 13 important recommendations, which we hope will receive due attention and stress.

Number Two: The President obviously restated his dedication to the importance of pluralism in American education, the importance of character formation, and these two are obviously part of our report.

The third aspect that impressed us was his deep concern in having this report widely read, and widely analyzed by the American people.

MORE

I move from those three points to suggest that the four of us on the panel felt from the very beginning that we were invited to undertake or embark on an historic enterprise. We hope the report is worthy of the effort, and significant portions on the public sector would deal with the following:

Basically, we are aware that important differences do divide the American people and have always divided the American people on the role of nonpublic education in American life. We are persuaded that there has been an enormous change in the climate of public opinion, a climate that recognizes that the public and nonpublic systems are part of an interlocking, interdependent system, and, therefore, it is in the public interest -- in the public interest -- that this interlocking relationship should be quite clearly recognized.

We have, therefore, very quietly, but we hope effectively, spelled out our own beliefs, and they may be subject to analysis by others. So far as we are concerned, they do represent a consensus that was arrived at after considerable debate among ourselves on views of the nonpublic and public world.

Number Two: When we looked at the problems of education, we became keenly aware that the nonpublic school is an important ingredient in the inner city, where youngsters are often locked into a cycle of poverty and where the dependence is almost totally on public clinics for health, public stamp officials, if you will, for diet, public schooling and public housing, and that for those people, their humanity and their personalities must be recognized by according to them a meaningful kind of choice.

For that reason, we spent a considerable amount of time analyzing the problems of the inner city youngster, and we moved from the logic that was spelled out in the full Commission on School Finance report, that public and nonpublic students must be helped in the public interest to develop the notion that some of the proposals for welfare reform are predicated quite clearly on the idea that people should be encouraged to move off welfare rolls and into the working society, and that anything done to advance that cause made sense for the individual and for the public interest.

Working mothers, or programs for aid to dependent children, do provide a measure of support for such persons who want to take education to upgrade their own schools. The panel looked at that very carefully, and has made a recommendation that that concept would be extended so that the parent who wished to send the child to a nonpublic school or public school, that the notion of choice should be there, and that the cost might run up to \$100 per person. We tried to cost it out very realistically, and have come to the conclusion that about \$30 million would be represented by such an enterprise that we think is just, humane, and important.

We also feel within this inner city level that the voucher system might be pushed a bit more aggressively, so that the notion of choice is made real to such persons and the virtues or weaknesses of the voucher system can be more amply tested.

MOR:

We have moved beyond the poor in the inner city to consider those who would fall into that middle range income of \$8,000 to \$14,500. As we examined that particular class in our society -- and incidentally, they represent by and large the parents of the youngsters in the nonpublic school sector -- we came to the conclusion that Federal tax credits make the best sense, make the best sense from an economic standpoint and make the best sense from a political standpoint, and make the best sense from a constitutional standpoint.

Finally, moving our analysis to the suburbanites who face possibly less financial pressure, we became aware that school construction was often a major handicap. The capital investment was high, the private sponsors were unprepared or unable to meet construction cost needs, and we recommended in this instance the enactment by Congress of a loan program for construction purposes.

These are our essential recommendations on the public side. I urge you not to forget, too, that this panel report has given just as much serious consideration to those private initiatives that can make the nonpublic system viable and more effective in the days ahead.

We have, finally, come to the conclusion, quite clearly, that the style of our report does reflect a deep concern for the child, does recognize the important and vital role of the public sector, and does take into account that the nonpublic sector is an important, indeed indispensable, aspect of the entire educational enterprise.

Q Mr. Walton, is it correct to interpret your explanation of the President's reception of your report in a way that he did not, in fact, accept your recommendations for massive Federal aid to nonpublic schools?

MR. WALTON: I find the question a bit loaded -- massive busing, massive public aid.

Q Leave out the "massive".

MR. WALTON: Then I think the inference in your question is not true. I think we were very much encouraged that the President was much impressed by the logic of our report. We did our arithmetic, and it added up to about \$500 million or less for tax credits, \$30 million to help the inner city poor, and when you take those costs and offset them against the cost of absorption of 5 million nonpublic school students, quite clearly, from a financial standpoint, it makes sense.

Q Could I follow that up, please?

Then I understand you to be saying that the President, in fact, endorses the idea that the Federal Government should go into tax credits for parochial or nonpublic schools?

MR. WALTON: I think realistically that what the President said to us -- and I welcome comment and clarification from my two colleagues who were there with us -- I believe that the idea of tax credits as a recommendation was acceptable to the President.

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He is perfectly aware of some of the constitutional issues we must face. That is my impression of our meeting with the President.

BISHOP McMANUS: I would put it directly. At Philadelphia, the President said, "You can count on me for the support of proposals that would come to grips with the financial crisis in the nonpublic schools." The panel's major recommendation is tax credits, and from my participation in the meeting this morning, I would say without any hesitancy that I feel confident of the President's support for the development of tax credit legislation in the present Congress.

MR. WALTON: I want to make one slight modification. When the Bishop said "the major one," I think it is part of an interdependent package. The inner city poor is major in any view, and I think the President's conclusion is to look at this in terms of a total package, without being explicit in its endorsement of any part.

BISHOP McMANUS: Put the word "a" in there.

Q You said the tax credits would cost about \$500 million. What is that based on -- a \$400 maximum per child deduction?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

Q How much?

MR. WALTON: \$400 maximum tax credit per child. In every instance, the other half of the tuition load would have to be carried, quite clearly, by sponsors or by consumers.

Q Mr. Walton, is this tax credit you are talking about off of the actual tax bill the person would pay, not as a deduction?

MR. WALTON: It is not a deduction. It is a credit.

Q Did you discuss at all the fact that both Gerald Ford and Wilbur Mills have introduced nonpublic school tax credit bills in the House?

MR. WALTON: We did not discuss that with the President.

Q Did the President give you any idea what is going to happen next? Is he going to submit that report to his associates and give it to Congress? What happens now?

MR. WALTON: I think the President intends to submit this report for prompt and immediate analysis by his staff.

Q Can you tell us, Mr. Walton, if the tuition reimbursement program wouldn't add considerably to the cost, the Federal cost of this? Exactly how would that work?

MR. WALTON: The reimbursement plan in our report is, in a sense, anticipatory if the Federal Government goes in on a larger scale for Federal support of education. At

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that point, we are insisting only as a panel that if non-public school youngsters are counted in for purposes of distribution, they do not be counted out when the States make the allocations. The precise amount involved I do not know.

Q Could you estimate how much these proposals of your panel would cost on an annual basis?

MR. WALTON: I am going to call on the financial expert.

BISHOP McMANUS: The source of the panel report statement that the cost of tax credits would be a half a billion a year is a study that was done by the staff of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue under Mr. Mills' direction. This study took into account present tuition rates, the estimated annual income in various categories of the people who send their children to nonpublic schools, the number of those who would be disqualified from receiving any tax credit because they are in the upper income brackets, and those who would have so little tax liability that they wouldn't get any.

The final figure worked out, with all factors taken into account, and done professionally, was \$500 million a year. That presumes, of course, that tuition rates and income and other things would stay constant.

What the rate would be in the following years would depend a lot on the inflationary spiral of the economy in escalating costs in the nonpublic schools, and so on. This is not a ball park figure of a half a billion. It is a figure that has come out of very careful research that was done by people who know how to estimate the cost of modifications of our tax laws.

Q Might I just mention that I was wondering what the school construction loan program would cost; in other words, besides the tax credit?

MR. WALTON: We couldn't make an estimate because we were not really sure what demand there would be for this area. All we were saying at that level was that with the loan program, one could afford to be experimental and find out what the market would generate. Adjustments would have to be made as we went along.

Q I was trying to balance against the \$3 billion your report estimates it would cost if the nonpublic schools just dissolved. It would cost the public education program an additional \$3 billion?

MR. WALTON: The offsetting cost, yes.

Q Is \$3 billion a correct figure? I thought it was closer to \$7-1/2 billion.

MR. WALTON: It could go up to \$7 billion 700 million. I believe this is the figure we were told.

Q I think it would still be helpful if you could make some kind of estimate, perhaps within a range, of the annualized cost of all of the elements in your proposals

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added together as a total. For example, there is \$4 billion to \$5 billion over five years for State incentives. Five years into \$5 billion would be \$1 billion a year, which is considerably above the \$5 billion you talk about. Is there some overall annual figure?

MR. WALTON: That quotation you just used is not out of our report, but out of the Commission report, the estimated \$5 billion. We didn't make that estimate.

Q What I am after, sir, is some kind of an overall figure that would contemplate each portion of your proposals pulled together for one figure or one range of figures on an annual basis.

BISHOP McMANUS: The two precise figures we have in the report are for the modifications of the welfare program that would help mothers of dependent children, and the parents of the working poor, send their children to non-public schools. We estimate that at \$30 million. Tax credit is estimated at \$500 million. Our other three proposals are not costed out.

We have recommended, as members of the President's Commission on School Finance, that the Congress enact into law a comprehensive program for urban education which would cover both public and nonpublic schools. It would be impossible at this point to give a reliable estimate of how much of that money would go to the nonpublic schools. The estimate would require a lot more knowledge on the details of the Urban Education Act itself.

We recommended that if there is going to be general Federal aid, which is the hypothesis, then that legislation should include in it a vehicle for helping the nonpublic schools by way of tuition reimbursement. I think if you wanted to use a ball park figure, you could figure if 10 percent of the total population is in the nonpublic schools, then 10 percent of this open-ended general Federal aid would go to the nonpublic schools. But there is no firm program on the books yet for general Federal aid.

On the loans, as Dr. Walton said, we recommended as a policy that low-interest Federal loans be available for the construction of suburban nonpublic schools. The amount that would cost depends on many unpredictable factors such as the demand there would be, whether the suburban parish could anticipate it would have enough income to pay back the loan.

Q The report was very critical of last year's Supreme Court decision having to do with nonpublic schools. Did you, in your discussion with the President, raise the issue of Supreme Court decisions? Was there any indication from him, as he is having the Justice Department intervene in busing cases, that he might take your side before the court on some of these constitutional issues?

MR. WALTON: We raised the question in the report, and it was raised with the President on the uncertainty of the constitutional issue. The President, to my recollection, made -- it was put in such a way that we didn't invite the

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President to state to us any kind of intervention at this particular time. I think what we came out with was the sense that on this constitutional issue, it is evolving so rapidly that it is almost impossible to predict what a decision will, in fact, be; but that we also are operating on the premise -- and I tried to get that across in my preliminary statement -- that the courts look at the laws, but are not insensitive to inputs from sociological-cultural factors, and we think the sociological-cultural climate is better than ever before.

Q You said tax credits made the best sense for families with income between \$8,000 and \$14,500, if I remember correctly. Would your plan begin to phase out the credit at \$14,500, or would it end at that point, or just what happens to people with incomes above \$14,500?

MR. WALTON: We do advocate a cut-off point; that there would be a certain level of reportable income above which no tax credits would -- first of all, that there would be a diminution in the amount of tax credit allowed, and at a certain point there would, indeed, be no tax credit. We did not put a cut-off point in there precisely.

My own feeling is that around \$20,000 or \$25,000 represents a sensible diminution point.

Q Cut off at \$25,000, or begin diminution?

MR. WALTON: Begin diminution.

Q What would your cut-off point be?

MR. WALTON: My personal cut-off point would probably be \$30,000. Mine; not the panel's.

Q Could you elaborate a little more on the constitutional issue; why you think the Congress might be more amenable now to large-scale Federal aid to nonpublic schools?

MR. WALTON: Why I think that the Congress might be more amenable?

Q Yes.

MR. WALTON: I was asked a little while ago, did we talk about Congressman Ford or Congressman Byrnes or Congressman Mills' proposals. I forget how many tax credit schemes are already in the hopper and being proposed. Everything that we have seen in our dialogues with the leaders of the nonpublic sector, whatever input we had from our own staff in watching what is going on on the Hill, suggests that the Congressional climate is good, and that the strategy, if you will, would be a strategy that would have to focus and separate out this tax credit proposal from some of the other proposals that are possibly more complex and possibly more controversial.

Eventually, after the proposal becomes law, undoubtedly it will be put to a constitutional test.

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Q Did the President tell you that he will propose legislation to this Congress on the tax credit question?

MR. WALTON: He did not tell us that.

Q Bishop McManus indicated he felt confident that the President would support such legislation in this Congress. Did I misunderstand that?

MR. WALTON: He said he felt confident, but you asked a different question.

Q Can you clarify this? Why do you feel confident if he did not say it?

BISHOP McMANUS: I think the history of the thing is the justification for the confidence. First of all, the President appointed the four of us two years ago independently of the Commission on School Finance and asked us, as members of it, to come up with specific recommendations to him. That is what the order said; that over a two-year period we were to come up with specific recommendations, not generalities.

Secondly, the President, on at least three occasions, publicly has stated his grave concern about the financial plight of the nonpublic schools. In Philadelphia, speaking to the National Catholic Educational Association, the President said he was waiting for the report that was presented to him today. We put it before him today, and we said in unmistakable terms that, given the constitutional situation as it is now, given the situation in Congress, and given the attitude of the public we represent, the tax credit was the best route to go.

The President said, then, "That, I take it, is, aside from your recommendations" -- which he appreciated very much -- "on help for the inner city, that is your major recommendation?" and we said it was. He said, "Then if that is your major recommendation, that is what you should stay with and you should try to generate the kind of acceptance that is necessary to win the kind of public support," and that "I see merit in this."

Obviously, the President will make his own decision. As he has said before -- it is a matter of public record; he said it in Philadelphia -- when he is ready and has his whole package together, he will send to the Congress a three-pronged program, something on where to get the money, perhaps related to the value added tax or in some way to generate revenue to take care of the needs of all American education, he will have a program for the public schools, and he will have a program for the nonpublic schools. They will all be specific.

One specific thing that is resting on the President's desk, not because it is the ideal, but because it happens to be the only one that has any constitutional or political viability at the present time, is the tax credit measure. It is conceivable that with the advice of staff, he could come up with a better idea. If he does, fine.

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The overriding consideration is that there be some help. The method is secondary to the goal.

Q You do expect this recommendation to be linked to the other questions of public school financing?

BISHOP McMANUS: I think so, yes. I think the President has been clear on that several times; that he is coming in with a package.

Q Didn't he indicate in Philadelphia he wasn't going to move too fast on that; that there were great problems in trying to do that in an election year, and we were going to take extra time?

BISHOP McMANUS: I don't have the speech in front of me. I don't think he said so much what he was going to do as much as he described the situation, which he described again this morning. It is obvious that in an election year something as controversial as this is always hard to deal with.

I don't want to put the President in the role of a prophet, but I do want to declare emphatically, as I did before -- and I am not retracting in the least -- I am supremely confident that he means to support viable, practical, specific measures to save the nonpublic schools from the financial crisis and financial disaster confronting them.

Q Did he indicate this session of Congress or the next one?

BISHOP McMANUS: I think there is an indication he has said -- again it is a matter of record -- he is waiting for the report of the Advisory Commission studying this whole tax question in light of the Serrano decision. I presume this is one of the factors that will go into the time schedule in making his specific recommendations.

Q Do you see aid by this fall?

MR. WALTON: It is not totally impossible. I think the expectations have to be very realistic in terms of the total educational package the President is interested in.

Q What are those expectations? Do you expect it this year?

MR. WALTON: Ours.

Q Yours?

MR. WALTON: Let me put it straight: My hope is that something will occur before September.

Q What did the President tell you this morning about his timetable?

MR. WARREN: If you want to talk about what the President's timetable is, I can discuss that with you in a moment. If you have two or three more questions here, we ought to get rid of those. Then I can move into my briefing and get this over with.

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Q Dr. Walton, does your report envision programs of tax credits and tuition reimbursement simultaneously?

MR. WALTON: No, not simultaneously.

Q In other words, you have one or the other?

MR. WALTON: We are moving first toward tax credits.

Q Why do construction loans go only to suburban school districts rather than urban areas?

MR. WALTON: The answer is that we should like to see that urban assistance program recommended by the full Commission on School Finance. We should like to see that go into some kind of direct grants for construction for inner city schools. That is where the need is.

Q Does your panel also support tax credits for parents of children in private colleges?

MR. WALTON: We were not asked to deal with the college section. We never really discussed it; only in the most peripheral way. Therefore, on behalf of the panel, I can say we have no position.

Q You just cut off at 12?

MR. WALTON: Our mandate was grades K through 12.

Q Doesn't it make sense that if a program of tax credits for elementary and secondary public schools were established, the next logical step would be to extend that to colleges?

MR. WALTON: It could happen. As a university president, I hope it does.

MR. WARREN: Just to recap what these gentlemen have said, the President -- and I am not trying to recap what he said, but to give you the President's view once again -- the President is most appreciative of their work on this report.

As the President has indicated to you and to others before, it is going to take some time before these recommendations can be studied. It will be some time before the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations can finish its report, and the President is most interested in property tax relief and assistance for schools, both public and non-public.

There is no timetable for the recommendations which the President will send to Congress.

I think that takes care of that.

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MR. ZIEGLER: I overheard this coming out of the hall. In fairness to Jerry, I have just talked to the President about this tax credit question. I think there may be a question or two or three about it. What are the questions?

Where is Pierpoint? I couldn't miss his voice.

Q Ron, to go back in history here, in case you weren't listening when this started, we asked Mr. Walton if in fact the President endorsed this tax credit proposal that they put to him. He said -- and I believe I am quoting him correctly -- "I believe the idea of tax credits was perfectly acceptable to the President."

MR. ZIEGLER: Let me just state the President's position as he just gave it to me. As you well know, the President is committed to seeking and obtaining relief for the nonpublic schools in the country. The President considers the tax credit approach a very active option.

He was very much impressed by the presentation this morning and impressed with the case that was made for the tax credit.

The President will now have his staff people look into this option, which I referred to as an active option, and look into it to a great extent on its constitutionality.

So I think the answer to your question is that he is impressed by the approach. He considers it an active option, but there is still study that has to be undertaken before he would make a final decision to proceed with that recommendation.

Q In other words, he is not sure what the report recommends is correct? In other words, the report says that aid to parents and children will pass judicial muster. Does the President agree with that?

MR. ZIEGLER: I think the point is we have just received the report. We will now take the report, as is the procedure, and study it. I think, as I said earlier, the President was impressed with the case put before him by the Walton Commission.

Q The issue focuses on the constitutionality issue primarily as to whether or not he adopts it.

MR. ZIEGLER: I don't want to isolate it to that one consideration. It is an active option.

Q What are the other considerations?

MR. ZIEGLER: It is an active option to be considered and examined, as I said, on its constitutionality. The other options to be considered are the other options that I think you are familiar with in terms of providing relief to nonpublic schools.

Q Is relief for nonpublic schools tied into the larger question of the property tax, the whole school finance issue, or can it be handled separately?

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MR. ZIEGLER: I think it has to be handled separately. It certainly can be handled separately. I think it is a correct statement to say it has to be handled separately as part of the whole problem. I couldn't slip that by.

Q Is it going to be handled first before November or October, or will it be handled later? Is it a top priority to deal with the nonpublic schools first or to deal with all education finance problems?

MR. ZIEGLER: I hate to put priorities on them. We are concerned about both areas. The President, as I have said, and as he has stated, is committed to seeking and obtaining relief for nonpublic schools.

We are also concerned with financing schools in the country. I don't want to put one on top of each other. There are matters we are looking at the same time.

Q Do you have to wait on the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations before making a decision on this question of nonpublic schools?

MR. ZEIGLER: We don't have to wait. I think our intention is to look at their report when it comes in. I don't think any final decisions will be made until that report comes in.

Q When do you expect the Advisory Commission's report?

MR. ZEIGLER: We asked them to report to us as soon as possible. We don't have a date from them as to when they will report.

Q In Philadelphia the President gave a very distinct implication that the nonpublic and public part of this package would go together and go to Congress at the same time. Is what you are saying intended to modify that impression, or was the impression that I think most of us received from the President's speech incorrect?

MR. ZIEGLER: Let us ask the man who is working very closely on that, Mr. Kenneth Cole, a Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs.

MR. COLE: That impression is still correct. It is a terribly complicated problem. It could be that we would advance something separately, but right now that is not our intention. The option to do it in any number of ways is still open, and we don't want to say today it is something that forecloses or leads somebody to believe we are going to do it one way when our minds are not made up yet.

Q Did you plan to do it as one package?

MR. COLE: That is part of our plan, that is correct.

Q Structurally, on this Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, how is this report going to be received -- by a subcommittee or one man? Structurally how are you going to handle this?

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MR. ZIEGLER: Would you repeat your question.

Q Now you have got this report. It is going to receive staff study. If what the President said in Philadelphia is still correct it would go to his Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. What I want to know is: How is it going to be received?

MR. ZIEGLER: I think you would assume after we receive a study, such as the Walton Commission study, we would study it and examine it. That does not go to the Advisory Commission. The Walton Commission report does not go to the Commission. They conduct -- and correct me if I am wrong -- an examination of their own, and we are interested in their opinions and the results of their efforts, also.

Q One more attempt to clarify. I thought I just heard you say, Ron, this has to be handled separately from the public school financing property tax issue, and then I heard this gentleman say the plan was to make it a package.

MR. ZIEGLER: I was saying what he was whispering.

MR. COLE: It has to be looked at in the context of the whole financing of the education problem and the role of both public and nonpublic schools in the educational system of our country. How the programs, whether it is one, two or three programs or whatever, will be advanced is still undetermined.

This particular panel report will be studied in the context of other reports which we will receive from the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, the report from the President's Commission on School Finance, which we received a couple of weeks ago, and ongoing efforts of other departments and agencies of the government that are actively working on this problem, which is terribly complicated, as I have said before.

MR. ZIEGLER: That, hopefully, will at least clear it up and give you the correct Presidential thinking that I believe Jerry had given you before. I wanted to make sure it is clear.

END (AT 12:30 P.M. EST)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR JULIE EISENHOWER

FROM: Richard M. Fairbanks *RMF*

SUBJECT: President's Environmental Merit Awards
Program Ceremony

Attached for your preparation for the first awards given under the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program (PEMAP), which you are scheduled to make on Wednesday, April 19 at 10:00 A.M., are the following papers:

- 1) Proposed remarks for you at the ceremony.
- 2) Remarks which Administrator Bill Ruckelshaus of EPA intends to make in introducing you.
- 3) A press release on the ceremony to be released by the White House Press Office.
- 4) The Executive Order establishing the Advisory Committee of PEMAP.
- 5) A list of the members of the Advisory Committee which will be made public on Wednesday.

We intend to have the eight students receiving the awards and their four faculty advisors in either the Oval Office or the Rose Garden, if the weather is favorable. Bill Ruckelshaus will escort you into the meeting and make his remarks, followed by your remarks and the presentation of the awards. Press coverage will consist of still photographers and a reporters' pool.

For your information, the itinerary of the students is as follows: They will take a tour of the White House on Wednesday morning at 9:00 and will assemble for the ceremony in either the Oval Office

or Rose Garden at a few minutes before 10:00. After the ceremony they will be given a tourists' view of Washington until 12:30 when Bill Ruckelshaus and I will host a luncheon for them on Capitol Hill. In the afternoon, they will have individual meetings with their respective Congressmen and Senators (hopefully building on the publicity for the PEMAP). On Thursday morning they will be given briefings on the Environmental Protection Agency and its programs, and on youth involvement in the environment. They are scheduled to return home on Thursday afternoon.

Attachments

cc: John C. Whitaker
Helen Smith
Neal Ball

✓ bcc: Howard Cohen

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS (JULIE EISENHOWER)

All of us know that this is Earth Week, certainly a very appropriate time to be honoring excellence in environmental action.

But let me also remind you of another important anniversary which we observe today. It was on April 19, 1775 -- 197 years ago this day -- that the Minutemen took their stand at Lexington and Concord and fired the "shots heard round the world."

Now America, especially young America, is on the march again -- fighting this time not for national independence, but for ecological interdependence. We have declared our basic human right to surroundings that are green and healthy and alive and clean. We have accepted our patriotic duty to defend that right. We will not be summer patriots or sunshine soldiers -- we are in the battle to stay. We know that the earth we save will be our own.

I like to think of the Environmental Merit Awards as decorations for valor, for heroism above and beyond the call of duty in serving the environmental cause. It is with great pleasure that I will now present the first four of these awards to participants in four outstanding projects across the United States -- north, south, east, and west.

First, from Oak Park, Illinois, Miss Nancy Stockholm and Mr. John Rudzinski, winners of an excellence award for their innovative

environmental education and action program at Oak Park-River Forest High School.

Next, from Fort Worth, Texas, Mr. Frank Laux and Mr. Dan Goldstein, to receive an excellence award for their successful paper collection and recycling project in the Fort Worth community -- with special mention to Diamond Hill High School for its outstanding leadership efforts in that project.

Next, from Lewistown, Pennsylvania, Miss Dorothy A. Kline and Mr. William C. Lash of Juniata-Mifflin Area Vocational Technical School, to receive an excellence award for that school's county-wide, low-cost tree planting project.

And finally, from Long Beach, California, an excellence award to Miss Elizabeth Bell and Mr. Jeffrey Bentley for an ambitious and highly successful program of recycling, tree planting, and environmental education at the elementary level, involving students from 5 Long Beach High Schools.

On behalf of my father, may I congratulate all eight of you, and all your fellow students, teachers, and advisers who shared in these projects.

Many, many more students will be following in your footsteps during the months and years ahead. Already the growth in this program has been phenomenal. Seven months ago there was no

Environmental Awards program at all. Now there are more than 2500 senior high schools taking part, representing all 50 States. Recently the scope has been broadened to take in summer camps as well. And I am delighted to tell you at this time that my father has asked me to announce plans to include junior high schools and elementary schools too in the awards competition beginning this fall.

Ladies and gentlemen, that amounts to a tremendous mobilization of youth power on behalf of environmental quality in the United States. With thousands of schools and millions of young people taking part, and with the support and leadership of this distinguished new Advisory Committee for the program, I predict that we are going to see some miracles performed. Thank you very much.

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William D. Ruckelshaus
Remarks
White House Awards Ceremony
April 19, 1972

The wave of environmentalism which has swept over this country during the last 2-3 years has been in many respects a movement of youth and young adults. That should not surprise anyone, since social change is often initiated by those who come to a problem with fresh vision. And whose vision is less clouded with the sorry excuses of the past than those who know they must design the future of the human race? It is clear that even in the short run new ecologic awareness and remedial action will continue to depend critically upon the initiative and support of the young.

Recognizing that fact, the President last year inaugurated this special awards program to encourage even more environmental action by individuals and to recognize their outstanding achievements. Those of you who were selected for these first national awards have much to be proud of--and the teachers and mentors who helped you must be especially proud--yet you are but the first wave, the avant-garde, of the hundreds and thousands who will follow.

You have certainly set your successors a standard that will be hard to match, yet it is always in the nature of youth to go all out and try. So this is an auspicious day, one which augurs well for the prospects of the nation.

And now to present the individual awards, I am pleased to present to you a lady who needs no introduction from me, but whose interest in the environment is of several years standing, Mrs. Julie N. Eisenhower.

. Similarly, a group of students at Oak Park-River Forest High School in Illinois developed a wide-ranging program to stimulate community awareness of environmental issues and to promote consideration of environmental legislation.

. In Texas, the Fort Worth United High School Council conducted in conjunction with a local radio station an interschool recycling contest and used the proceeds to plant trees and provide an irrigation system for them. The program saved 19,932 trees.

. Students at the Juniata-Mifflin School in Lewistown, Pennsylvania, developed a soil conservation and beautification program which provided a low cost tree planting program for Union County. Over 2,750 trees were planted as a result of the efforts of the students.

Students accepting the awards for the projects were: Miss Elizabeth Bell and Mrs. Jeffrey Bentley of Long Beach; Mr. Frank J. Laux and Mr. Dan Goldstein of Fort Worth; Miss Dorothy A. Kline and Mr. William C. Lash of Lewistown; and Miss Nancy Stockholm and Mr. John Rudzinski of Oak Park.

During the ceremony, held during Earth Week, Mrs. Eisenhower also announced that President Nixon has today established by Executive Order a special Advisory Committee for the awards program. This

committee, composed of well-known and concerned citizens, will aid the President and the Environmental Protection Agency in stimulation of the program and in making awards nation-wide.

Mrs. Eisenhower further announced that because of the great interest and enthusiastic response shown thus far, the President's Environmental Awards Program will be expanded to include junior high and elementary schools this fall. Formerly it was open only to high school age youth in schools and summer camp programs. All ages participating in summer camp programs will be eligible immediately under the previous arrangement made for summer camps.

Administrator William Ruckelshaus, who also participated in the awards program, noted that over 2500 high schools in each of the 50 states have joined the program since it was initiated last October. He explained that the awards made today were symbolic of the representation of the North, South, East and West sections of the United States. Ten more symbolic initial awards will be given on the regional level within the next two weeks by EPA regional offices with the cooperation of the newly formed Advisory Committee.

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. Mary Belle Bloch - Graduate student, presently working on
(Chairman) community air pollution problems under
a Rockefeller grant.
2. Karen Dreifort DuMont - Executive Director, Environmental Action.
3. Lester John Fischer - College student, active in local environ-
mental programs.
4. Clark Graebner - Professional athlete.
5. Lance King - College student, active in environmental programs;
spent the last 6 months heading EPA youth program.
6. Marlin McKeever - Professional athlete.
7. James Larry Parker - College student, active in environmental
programs.
8. Donald Schollander - Olympic swimming champion.
9. Jody Smith - Mayor of Ayrshire, Iowa.
10. Fredrick Snowden - Head Basketball Coach, U. of Arizona.
11. Bart Starr - Professional athlete.
12. Roger Staubach - Professional athlete.
13. Esther Stroy - High school student; youngest member of 1968
Olympic team.

ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM

On October 31, 1971, I announced the establishment of the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program. The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Commissioner of Education sent letters to high school principals inviting them to participate in this program by establishing local tripartite committees to supervise and direct local Environmental Merit Awards Programs, and to make awards to individual students or groups of students for significant environmental accomplishments by them. These committees were to be composed of students, faculty and interested members of the community.

Today, more than 2,500 high schools, including schools in each of the 50 States, are actively involved in this program.

In view of this encouraging response, I have concluded that I should establish a national committee to advise me of ways in which this program can be further expanded and enhanced and of other ways in which the environmental accomplishments of individuals and groups may be appropriately recognized.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the President's Advisory Committee on the Environmental Merit Awards Program. The Committee shall be composed of ~~a Chair-~~
Stet ~~man, to be designated by the President, and~~ such members as the President may, from time to time, appoint.

(b) The Committee shall advise the President and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency on ways in which the Environmental Merit Awards Program can be expanded and enhanced. The Committee shall select individuals or groups of individuals who deserve special recognition for

their local environmental accomplishments and confer appropriate Environmental Merit Awards upon them on behalf of the President. The Committee shall perform such other related functions as the President may, from time to time, specify.

Section 2. No member of the Committee shall receive compensation from the United States by reason of service as a member of the Committee but such members may be allowed such travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as may be authorized by law.

Section 3. The Environmental Protection Agency shall provide, to the extent permitted by law, administrative support for the Committee and the Environmental Merit Awards Program.

THE WHITE HOUSE,

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of thirteen persons to be members of the President's Advisory Committee on the Environmental Merit Awards Program which is being created by Executive Order signed today. Members include:

Mary Belle Bloch, 24, of Louisville, Kentucky, Graduate Student, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Miss Bloch has been designated as Chairman of the Committee.

Karen Dreifort DuMont, 27, of New York City, Executive Director, Environmental Action, New York, New York.

Lester John Fischer, 19, of Pascagoula, Mississippi, Junior, Mississippi Gulf Coast College, Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Clark Graebner, 28, of New York City, Tennis Star and Assistant to the President, Hobson Miller Paper Company, Inc., New York, New York.

Lance King, 19, of Santa Cruz, California, Sophomore, University of California, Santa Cruz, California.

Marlin McKeever, 32, of Corona Del Mar, California, Linebacker, Los Angeles Rams, Corona Del Mar, California.

James Larry Parker, 25, of Atlanta, Georgia, Junior, Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia.

Donald Schollander, 25, of Lake Oswego, Oregon, Olympic Swimmer, Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Jody Smith, 19, Mayor of Ayrshire, Iowa.

Fredrick Snowden, 36, of Detroit, Michigan, Head Basketball Coach, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

Bart Starr, 38, of Green Bay, Wisconsin, Quarterback, Green Bay Packers, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Roger Staubach, 30, of Richardson, Texas, Quarterback, Dallas Cowboys, Dallas, Texas.

Esther Stroy, 18, of the District of Columbia, Olympic Sprinter, Washington, D. C.

The Committee is established for the purpose of advising the President on ways in which the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program, which was established on October 31, 1971, can be expanded and the accomplishments of individuals and groups recognized. The Committee shall also select individuals or groups who deserve special recognition for accomplishments in the environmental area and confer appropriate Environmental Merit Awards on behalf of the President.

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REPS & REG. PROG.

PRESS RELEASE

SUMMER CAMP PROG.

FALL PROG.

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APRIL 15, 1972

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Ottawa, Ontario, Canada)

THE WHITE HOUSE

PRESS CONFERENCE
OF

GEORGE SOTEROFF, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION, ENVIRONMENT CANADA
HON. JACK DAVIS, MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT FOR CANADA
A. T. DAVIDSON, ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
THE ENVIRONMENT, POLICY, PLANNING AND RESEARCH SERVICE
W. K. WARDROPER, DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RUSSELL TRAIN, CHAIRMAN, U.S. COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WILLIAM E. RUCKELSHAUS, ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
RONALD L. ZIEGLER, PRESS SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM
GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE CENTRE

8:10 A.M. EST

MR. SOTEROFF: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We are briefing this morning on the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. You will notice in your press kits that there is an embargo time of 9:30 a.m. That is not a valid embargo time at this time. The embargo is removed and release is immediate.

At 9:00 o'clock this morning there will be buses at the back door to take members of the press corps directly to the West Block for the signing, so we will be free of the conference by 9:00 a.m.

I would like to introduce to you the members of the group at the head table here. On my right is the Honorable Jack Davis, Minister of the Environment for Canada.

On his right is A. T. Davidson, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of the Environment, Policy, Planning and Research Service, and on his right is W. K. Wardroper of the Department of External Affairs.

On my left is Russell Train, Chairman of the United States Council on Environmental Quality, and on his left is William Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency. At the far left is Ronald Ziegler of the White House Press Staff.

We do have members of the technical side of the agreement, people who did negotiate some of the technical matters, and who are the experts on this, who may be drawn on by members of the podium here. They are seated on your right, and they will identify themselves as they are required to answer questions.

I will ask Mr. Davis to begin with his opening statement, please. Mr. Davis.

MORE

MINISTER DAVIS: Well, very briefly, Mr. Chairman, today, with the signing of the Canada-United States agreement for cleaning up the Great Lakes, we will have completed eight years of increasingly intensive study and negotiation of one of the world's great pollution problems, and be releasing to the public the text of what amounts to a contract between two sovereign nations for the cleaning up of the Great Lakes and the Upper St. Lawrence River.

This is an immense project, and it is a milestone in world history insofar as pollution abatement is concerned. It involves two different nations, it involves three levels of government on both sides of the International Boundary Line, it involves many millions of people. It involves the cleaning up of the drainage system, a drainage system which draws on the industrial heartland of North America.

It comes at an interesting time. It comes on the eve of the Stockholm Conference, the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, on Pollution, on the Preservation of Living Things. It is a precedent. It is a precedent not only in terms of scale, but in terms of involvement of different countries. It has resulted in bridging a great many gaps which existed in the past, not only between Canada and the United States, but between the several levels of government and between government and industry.

What we have in this agreement really is a firm understanding that both countries will do their utmost to achieve common water quality objectives, objectives which go a long distance back toward pure water, water in which anyone can swim without any concern whatsoever.

I know my opposite numbers from the United States will want to comment further on the nature of the agreement, but it is an agreement which is very firm in technical terms. It declares the objectives in terms of water quality out in the middle of the Lakes, out in the middle of the river, and both nations, together with their State and Provincial governments, will have to do whatever has to be done in order to achieve those objectives by 1976.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

MR. SOTEROFF: Thank you, Mr. Davis.

Mr. Train, Chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality.

MR. TRAIN: Bonjour, messieurs et mesdames: For those of you who are not bilingual, good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

Today's signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement culminates some almost two years of close negotiation and hard work on both sides together. I think it was in June of 1970 when I came up here with the United States group to launch our two countries on the discussions which culminates today in the signing of this really historic agreement.

As our two nations enter into this commitment and into this agreement, I think the action of our two Heads of State in signing such an agreement symbolizes in a very dramatic

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fashion the rapidly changing priorities in the affairs of our society and of the States in general. That two Heads of State would, in fact, enter into a comprehensive environmental agreement is now, and I think it does signal a change, a change for the better, I might add, in the affairs of state.

We see this agreement, which by all odds is the first such comprehensive example of a joint international environmental undertaking, certainly in any comparable detail, as an example to the rest of the world for comparable action among nations.

So many of the difficult environmental problems facing the countries of the world tend to be regional in nature and can best be dealt with on a bilateral, or otherwise regional basis, rather than by some very broad, multi-national undertaking. So we see this Great Lakes Agreement between Canada and the United States as pointing the way to comparable agreements among the countries bordering the Mediterranean, the Baltic, the rivers of Europe, and other regional environmental problem areas around the world.

I am going to Europe tonight, and I am taking copies of the agreement with me, both in English and French, and I know it will be received with great interest by the other countries abroad, and I am sure it will have an influence far beyond the specific geographic area to which it is directed.

Thank you, Minister Davis. That concludes my remarks.

MINISTER DAVIS: If I might interject, Mr. Chairman, I am going to take copies of this same agreement out to some of our Provinces, and we will be negotiating, I hope, similar ones across Canada.

MR. SOTEROFF: Mr. William Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: In December of 1970, the Environmental Protection Agency of the United States came into existence. It was formed at the request of the President under an Executive Reorganization Act, and it did very much what the Department of the Environment in Canada has done, in that it put under one umbrella most of the anti-pollution agencies of the Federal Government, and most of the problems involving the environment in a more general sense.

Since the formation of this agency, I have traveled all over the United States, from the West Coast to the East Coast, and North and South, and the one question that more people have asked about the environment in our country than any other one is, "What are you going to do about the Great Lakes?"

The Great Lakes, in our country, symbolize for the American people the problems that exist in the environment. I had thought at the beginning of the formation of this agency that probably only the people who live in the

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Middle West and around the Great Lakes themselves would be the ones most concerned about the problem, but what I found was that the State of Washington, California, Florida, in the shadow of the Rockies, really all over the country, people were wondering what we were going to do about the Great Lakes.

I think, for that reason, this agreement that will be signed by the heads of both Canada and the United States today has enormous significance for the people of the United States, as I know it does for the people of Canada. It is a solemn commitment on the part of the heads of both of those governments that we are going to do something to restore and preserve this absolutely priceless treasure that lies between our two countries.

I believe that symbolic and real commitment that the signing of this agreement represents will give great hope, I know to the people of our country, that the commitment that has been made to do something about the environment is going to be carried out. I am sure that with the signing of this agreement this morning, we will find this is a giant leap forward in assuring that the Great Lakes are, in fact, restored and preserved.

MR. SOTEROFF: We are now open for questions. Because of the configuration of the room, you will have to use the microphones to make yourself heard, and for those people interested, there will be copies of the treaty available immediately after the signing, in French and English.

MORE

Q Mr. Ruckelshaus or Mr. Train, I am wondering how the American commitment squares with the fact that the Office of Management and Budget has held up \$112 million in funds already authorized for a Clean-up the Great Lakes Program passed by the American Congress?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: The fact is that the monies that were requested in a submission that the Environmental Protection Agency made through the Office of Management and Budget are not authorized funds, and that is the crucial point that has to be understood.

The agreement calls for many -- particularly in Section 5 -- programs to take place in order to achieve the objectives of the agreement itself. Among those are the handling of the problem of pollution caused by storm and sanitary sewer overflow.

When we submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for some \$114 million, what the Office of Management and Budget pointed out, correctly, I think, is that until the Water Quality Bill amendments that are pending in Congress pass, there is no authorization at this time to spend \$100 million, which is what we had in the request for handling the problem in a demonstration way, of the storm and sanitary sewer overflow.

So they did not turn down the request, finally, for \$114 million, but just postponed it until we could see what the results of the bill itself were and how they handled the problem of storm and sanitary sewer overflow.

In fact, we have accelerated our commitment from the Federal contribution to the construction of sewerage treatment plants nationwide from some \$215 million just three years ago to \$2 billion in this fiscal year, \$400 million of which will be spent in the Great Lakes area for solving the problem of municipal sewerage treatment plant construction.

Q I am not talking about what you have done nationwide. I am talking about the Great Lakes Program that has already passed, and the money is at OMB. The fact that it is at OMB means the money has been authorized for that. Now I understand they are waiting for the new legislation to pass to see how that is going to affect things.

I don't know why the \$112 million can't be released as Senator Griffin has suggested.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: It is important that you understand this: The \$114 million is not authorized. It is not at OMB and being held up. It was a request that we made to OMB for an accelerated program that would take new legislation or legislation of the type that is included in the bills that have passed both the Senate and House, to authorize that money to be spent for the construction or the handling of the problem of storm and sanitary sewer overflows.

Q With the ultimate result, when would you expect the Great Lakes to be cleaned up?

MINISTER DAVIS: First if I might comment from the Canadian side, we will have made a very long stride back towards getting them to the original state of the lakes by 1976. We won't have gone all the way, but we will have gone a very large percentage of the way back. There will have to be additional refinements, higher objectives declared in the late 1970's or early 1980's, but substantially the Great Lakes will be in the condition, and particularly the lower lakes, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, will be in a condition where people can swim in them, where the higher grade fish like trout can survive by 1976.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: I think the question is in terms of when it is going to be cleaned up. It depends on how you define cleaned up. If you look at the objectives in the agreement itself, and particularly in the annex where it specifically spells out what needs to be done in order to achieve those objectives, to the extent that that annex will be complied with by 1976, the lakes will, under that definition be cleaned up, which will provide the kind of use of the water that Minister Davis has spelled out.

We have requested both an authorization and budget funds in our country, sufficient monies to achieve the purpose of this agreement, and where there is a need for more funds to be requested, there is in the agreement again, specific commitment on the part of the United States to request the funds necessary to achieve the objectives in the agreement.

It will be cleaned up for all the uses that Minister Davis mentions.

MINISTER DAVIS: In the agreement itself, and in the descriptive material you will be getting after the signing of the agreement, you will see reference to the International Joint Commission being asked, for example, to look into the affect of runoff, particularly from forestry and agricultural operations, to look for it specifically at the upper lakes, Lake Superior and Lake Huron.

Clearly there are additional stages. We have launched ourselves into the first major stage with respect to clean-up of all the Great Lakes, but there will be additional steps and stages -- refinements, if you like.

Q I would like to ask Mr. Ruckelshaus, regarding waste treatment and sewage treatment, what does this treaty commit the United States to do that it would not have done under existing legislation and existing programs and under the pending clean water legislation?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: There are no commitments in the agreement that were not planned to be carried out by the United States anyway. But I think it is important to remember in the history of the efforts to clean up the Great Lakes and other waters like that around the country, there have been in the past plans and implementation schedules and abatement schedules to achieve certain purposes, and the problem has not really been the plans or the standards, the problem has been that they haven't been achieved; that the schedules haven't been kept and the implementation plans haven't been met.

The significance of this agreement is that it is a solemn commitment by the Heads of States of both of these countries to achieve the objective set out in this agreement itself, and that is of enormous importance in getting the kind of impetus necessary in our country and at every level of government, to assure that the commitments set out in here are in fact kept.

Q But is this a guarantee or is this \$2 billion figure, for instance, going to require one Congressional appropriation to match the funds from State legislatures?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: The first part of your question was cut off. Was the \$2 billion you mentioned the commitment for the next five years in here?

Q Is that a guaranteed pay out from the American government, or is it simply money which the Administration is now committed to request Congress to appropriate, and furthermore, will that money be used if the State legislatures don't act?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: It is impossible for me to sit here and guarantee what Congress is going to do, obviously. The Administration has requested over the next three years, starting with this fiscal year, \$6 billion a year of Federal funds to match \$6 billion from the States. Included in that request is the monies that are needed to meet the objectives of this agreement.

The Congress has, in both the Senate and the House, if anything, showed a willingness to request even more money to be appropriated, so I don't believe we are going to run into a problem of insufficient money to meet this commitment, because it has been made over and over again by the Administration and by Congress, both.

MINISTER DAVIS: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, I might comment on this question from the Canadian side. As we see it, the agreement stipulates water quality objectives out in the middle of Lake Erie, for example, out in the middle of Lake Ontario, and the main stretches of the St. Lawrence River.

That is the important statistic. The dollar figures are estimates of costs of meeting those objectives, and if because of inflation, the dollar figure turns out to be higher, we will, in fact, at the federal level in Canada, and at the provincial level in Canada, and at the municipal level, have to come up with the additional funds necessary to meet those objectives. We will have to renegotiate some of our agreements, perhaps, but we have a firm, contractual understanding between the Canadian government and the government of Ontario to meet those objectives.

The cost figures, you see, are estimates of the cost of clean-up. They may have to be increased. Hopefully, we can cut a few corners and decrease the figures.

MR. TRAIN: I would like to make a couple of points with respect to that last question, because I think it does raise some very important questions.

Obviously we both live in democracies, fortunately, and we cannot commit appropriations or legislative action by executive agreement alone. These must be referred to the appropriate legislative bodies, and that is certainly as it should be. So don't get this agreement out of that overall perspective.

But we are committing our two nations to work together on cleaning up the Great Lakes. Now, that is an exceedingly important undertaking, and one that can be highly productive in terms of improved water quality in the years immediately ahead.

We are not just talking about pursuing our own individual courses in this respect, we are committing ourselves to work together, and in doing that, we are setting specific objectives and specific deadlines for meeting those objectives.

With that, we are identifying and strengthening a watch-dog body, the International Joint Commission, to monitor the progress of this effort, to review it and report publicly, periodically, and this whole process is one that is going to be laid out for the public on both sides of our borders to watch carefully, and this will, as you know, provide a very significant influence on the governments.

So this is the kind of thing that I think is very important to keep in mind, and among the reasons why I think this is going to be a very significant step forward.

Q I would like to ask representatives of both the governments, looking now at the monitoring role that the International Joint Commission and its Water Quality Board will have, how much money do you propose to add to the International Joint Commission's budget to beef it up and give it more strength?

MINISTER DAVIS: I will ask Mr. Wardroper and perhaps he can deal with this.

MR. WARDROPER: We have made a preliminary examination of the requirements in the way of the staffing. It is recognized by both parties that the role which is being given to the Joint Commission is an essential part of the agreement. It gives it credibility. We have an arms-length monitoring of the implementation of the agreement, not just monitoring of the water.

It is envisioned that to carry this out, each of the sections of the International Joint Commission be strengthened. The Commission will have a board which would be drawn from operating agencies in order to provide the feed-back relationship between the Commission and those responsible for maintaining water quality in the various jurisdictions, Federal, State, provincial.

Finally, there is authorization for the creation of a joint office to provide a permanent staff specifically directed towards the operation of this agreement. This is not envisioned to be a super-agency, or anything of that kind but merely a professional staff to permit the Commission to carry out its responsibilities.

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You asked for a financial figure, and this is a personal guess -- it would be in the order of maybe \$200,000 for each of the two countries. But this, as Mr. Train has well pointed out, is in the hands of the legislatures as well. But I think it would be recognized that the task cannot be carried out without competent people to pursue the responsibilities of the Commission itself in a professional way.

Q Could we hear from either Mr. Train or Mr. Ruckelshaus on it?

MR. TRAIN: The U.S. on its side, commits itself to seek the necessary appropriations for the strengthened staff capability and office to which Mr. Wardroper refers. I am really not familiar with just how much is involved. I don't think that the amounts are very large or that that is the significant point in the matter.

Much of this research and monitoring activity which we are committing ourselves to mesh together on both sides of the border is being done by various agencies. There is no desire here to duplicate and proliferate, if you will, this kind of scientific work, but to bring it to a better focus, to mesh it together, publish it and make it available to both sides in a coordinated fashion. So that is what I think is involved, and I don't think it is necessarily dollar amounts for the IJC that are the really significant factors here, although those are important to some extent.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: I think it is important also to point out that in both Article 7 and Article 8 of the agreement there are specific requirements for any of the monitoring that is done by the governments involved to be turned over to the Joint Commission for their review and purview, all so they can perform the function they are supposed to perform under the agreement which is to act as an overseeing agency and to prod both governments and to bring to the public's attention the fact, if it is a fact, that the governments are not living up to their commitments under the agreement.

There are specific requirements in the agreement for our agency, which does a good deal of monitoring in the Great Lakes, to turn all that information over to the Joint Commission, and they also are required to make an annual report to both governments under this agreement.

MR. TRAIN: IJC is in a position to use that data to interpret it as it sees fit so that you have got an independent joint international body making the ultimate judgment as to how progress is being made.

Now I am informed that as far as dollars are concerned, that we have already asked for a supplemental appropriation of \$112,000 to increase the staffing of our side, the United States' side, of the IJC.

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Q I would like Mr. Davis to compare the Canadian and United States positions with relation to phosphorus as related to detergents.

MINISTER DAVIS: We have taken an important step in Canada at the Federal level. This was taken under the Canada Water Act approximately two years ago. The first step was to reduce the phosphate content of detergents to 20 percent. That level was met 18 months ago. We have as a target a 5 percent figure for the end of this year; that is, December 31, 1972.

This will be the law of Canada, and obtain throughout the whole of the Canadian side of the Great Lakes. This means that our manufacturers and/or importers of detergents will have to observe this lower figure in 1973 and subsequent years. It also means that the costs of cleaning up effluents by the municipal sewage treatment systems will be less, because there will be less phosphate input into the systems as a result of those measures.

Q How about the United States position? You said this action by Canada would have no effect unless the United States took similar action with respect to detergents.

MINISTER DAVIS: I wouldn't go so far as to say it would have no effect, but because of the larger population on the U.S. side, it would have a smaller effect than comparable action on the Canadian side. I wouldn't like, myself, in the presence of Mr. Train and Mr. Ruckelshaus, to comment on the U.S. side. Perhaps they might wish to do so.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: Let me start out by stating precisely what the problem is, and that is that under the terms of the agreement, our country is committed to reducing the phosphorus loading in Lake Erie and Lake Ontario by specific amounts. The Annex 2 couldn't make it much more specific as to precisely what we are committed to do.

Under the terms of the agreement, the method by which those reductions are to be achieved is left to the individual governments. In our country, we have examined the control stages that are available in the Great Lakes for reducing the phosphorus loading to the lakes, and have determined that it could be done in many ways.

I have to be, first of all, careful to pinpoint the sources of phosphorus, and they are essentially three: rural agricultural runoff, industrial and municipal sewage or waste. The reducing of phosphorus in detergents is one of the strategies that can be used to achieve the reduction in loadings necessary to live up to the agreement.

Other ways of doing it that we are at present implementing in both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario are to make sure that the municipalities that are discharging sewage into both Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, which contains high degrees of phosphorus, implement phosphorus removal technology that is presently available and is being installed in many of the areas around the Great Lakes now, to the extent necessary to meet these loading reductions which we are committed to in the agreement.

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If, say, in Cleveland or Detroit, you took all of the phosphates out of the detergents, you would still have to remove phosphorus from sewage, because only about 50 percent, or up to 50 percent of the phosphorus comes from detergents. You would still have to implement a phosphorus reduction system in both of these cities, and both are now under orders from the Environmental Protection Agency to remove up to 93 percent of the phosphorus that is being discharged into Lake Erie, so that in this way we intend to live up to the commitment that we have made in the agreement, and it is spelled out in detail in Annex 2.

This does not preclude us from, in the future, if some adequate and safe substitutes for phosphates in detergents become available in addition to the ways I spelled out a moment ago, reducing phosphates from the lakes by also ordering phosphates removed from the detergents, but the control strategy itself, under the terms of the agreement, is left to the individual countries.

Q I have a hypothetical question for the American spokesmen which I feel is well within the realm of possibility. That has to do with the part played by the three major States bordering the Great Lakes -- New York, Ohio and Michigan. If those three jurisdictions choose, for any reason, not to commit the necessary funds, in concert with the Federal Government, to meet the objectives, does this not, in effect, scotch the agreement?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: The answer is, as I think Chairman Train mentioned a moment ago, that it is impossible for us to sit here and commit every legislative body in the country, including the Congress and the State legislative bodies and the municipal legislative bodies, as to what they might do. I think that just as there is a commitment at the national level, there is also a commitment at the State and community level that is being implemented at the local level to assure that the terms of this agreement, by New York, Ohio and Michigan, are met.

All of those States have indicated a strong interest in seeing this agreement implemented and seeing the reductions spelled out in the annexes met, and if, for instance, a municipality were not to agree to take the kinds of steps necessary to achieve the agreement, then we have the power, in the Environmental Protection Agency, to bring legal action against them to force them to do so, just as we have already done in the case of Detroit and Cleveland, and again, there is implicit in this agreement the commitment on the part of our agency, as the enforcement arm of the Federal Government, to do precisely that: to see that the commitment that has been made here is carried out.

MR. TRAIN: If I might just add, the States have been involved with the development of this agreement obviously not in the same day-to-day negotiating basis that the representatives of the Federal Government have, but I think all of our States, and, of course, the Province of Ontario, were represented at the last ministerial meeting in Washington, which was last June, as I recall, and this has been the practice from the very beginning. They have been fully informed right from the start.

MINISTER DAVIS: If I might make a comment on the Canadian side, our situation is simpler. We have only one Province substantially involved, Ontario. Also, there is now an agreement, essentially a financial agreement, in existence which will now be continued between Canada and the Government of Ontario which insures that the funds will be necessary in order to meet the objectives as outlined in the agreement.

So ours is substantially a financial agreement between the Federal and Provincial Government in this case to insure that the agreement is, in fact, carried out.

Q I would like to ask a question of Mr. Train or Mr. Ruckelshaus relating to industrial pollution. As I understand it, this agreement requires a good deal of cooperation as far as controlling industrial pollution, and I would like to know if there is anything in any of this that environments either tighter controls or closer enforcement that would insure cooperation by industry.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: We have a cost estimate for what it will cost industries on the American side to achieve the terms of the agreement of somewhere between \$700 million and \$1 billion between now and 1976. We have instituted enforcement actions where they have proved necessary, several times against industries that are in and around the Great Lakes. We have instituted schedules for abatement of whatever pollution is being caused by the standards that have been adopted by the State and Federal Governments and in these standards are precise schedules as to each industry and what they must achieve, and we are committed to seeing that the terms of this agreement, as they relate to the industrial dischargers around the Great Lakes, are met and kept.

There has, again, in this area, as in many areas of the country, been a history of schedules that have not been kept, of deadlines that have not been met, but this is ceasing in our country because of the commitment of the Government at every level, of the demand of the people, and I think of the change of attitude of American industry, that recognizes something has to be done about this, and it ought to be done in a reasonable way and on a schedule that can be kept.

I think this agreement simply reflects that nationwide commitment that has been made by our country.

Q Are you saying that the U.S. along the Great Lakes can look forward to tougher enforcement because of this agreement?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: I don't know that you could say there is going to be tougher enforcement simply because of this agreement, but there has, in fact, been tougher enforcement since the Environmental Protection Agency was created. We filed some 350 legal actions of one kind or another in a little over a year since we came into existence, and that kind of activity will continue to the extent it is necessary in order to achieve not only the objective of this agreement, but water quality objectives nationwide.

Q I would like to ask either Mr. Ruckelshaus or Mr. Train about the phosphate loading requirements contained in the agreement for Lake Erie in which the American phosphate loading is much higher than the Canadian side. The agreement calls for reduction of about 10,000 tons and the IJC report, as I recall, called for a reduction to 11,000 tons by 1976. I am wondering why it was not brought down to 11,000 tons and if, once you answer why, whether the American Government and Canadian Government expect to eventually bring it to the 11,000 tons which the IJB feels is the appropriate level.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: The answer to the first question is that as our technical people study the request of the IJC or the recommendations of the IJC, to reduce the phosphorus^{us} down to 11,000 tons, it did not appear to us to be possible in the time frame between 1972 and 1976. It was simply not possible to do so technically, and the reductions that we have renegotiated in this agreement are essentially what it is possible for us to do.

As you can see spelled out in Table 1, in Annex 2, the precise reductions in the loadings are what our studies showed it was possible to do, and the one thing that we really do not want to do with this agreement is promise to do something that is impossible to achieve.

This is what it is possible for us to achieve, and we are committed to reducing even further the phosphorus being discharged in the Great Lakes, including Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, particularly if it is shown that the reductions outlined here are not sufficient to achieve the restoration and the reversal of the eutrophication process that is presently taking place in Lake Erie.

Q Do you expect to extend the agreement to bring it down to 11,000 tons after the five year term of the agreement is up?

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: There is spelled out in the agreement the specific understanding that the agreement will be extended to achieve whatever further levels of reduction are necessary so that after the agreement ends in 1976, if it is necessary to further reduce the loads, then I think it is fair to say that as far as our country is concerned, we are committed to making that further reduction.

MR. TRAIN: On the other side of the coin, if we find out in the meantime we can move ahead faster, the agreement sets up the mechanism for consultation and modification of the agreement, and we will move ahead faster.

MR. SOTEROFF: I am sorry, gentlemen, but we are out of time.

Mr. Davis would like to make a last comment, please.

MINISTER DAVIS: I would simply like, in conclusion, to thank our friends in the United States, Russell Train and Bill Ruckelshaus, their staffs, and those people from the province of Ontario, and the tri-State governments which have worked so hard over the last few years to bring this agreement about.

We have tackled the biggest river, the largest lakes, obviously, along our borders, but there are a number of other situations which we will be looking at from Puget Sound and the Strait of Georgia area on the west, to the Bay of Fundy on the east.

I would like to congratulate the International Joint Commission for the great job they have done over the years, beginning in 1964, and we expect them to police this agreement and possibly others in the future, to assure that we have cleaner waters along our international boundary lines.

Thank you very much.

END

(AT 8:56 A.M. EST.)

APRIL 19, 1972

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS,
ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
AND

JULIE NIXON EISENHOWER
AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST CERTIFICATES
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

THE ROSE GARDEN

AT 10:01 A.M. EST.

MR. RUCKELSHAUS: Good morning. I am Bill Ruckelshaus, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and we are very pleased today to announce the first awards under the President's Environmental Merits Award Program.

I think it is particularly fitting that these awards would be presented here in this beautiful setting here in the Rose Garden.

As all of you know, just two years ago this week, the first Earth Week was inaugurated in this country, and this year the President has announced this week as National Earth Week.

Recognizing the tremendous interest that young people of this country have had in environmental improvement, the President last October, announced the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program. In that program, students all over the country have been participating and trying to develop projects that would merit the kind of award that these students are being presented today.

The program itself has been enormously successful. We now have some 2,600 high schools all over the country participating.

The awards today will be given to students from across the country, from Pennsylvania, from Illinois, Texas and California. And this really is just the first wave of participation in award-giving of these students, and we expect in the months and years to come that there will be many more just like it.

I think that we are particularly honored to have the President's daughter today to participate and give these first awards. She herself has shown a good deal of interest and enthusiasm, as has youth all over this country, in the environment.

Just a few months ago, we were in North Carolina dedicating one of the National Environmental Research Centers, and Julie Eisenhower participated in that.

MORE

Without any further ado, I would like to introduce Julie Eisenhower, who will present the awards.

MRS. EISENHOWER: I think that it is fair to say that in many cases youth leads the way in our nation today, and I think particularly in the field of the environment that youth has led the way and set the tone for the entire nation.

The Nixon Administration is committed to a program of earth renewal, and I believe we see its commitment in the great success and vigorous activity of the Environmental Protection Agency and Bill Ruckelshaus, who is here with us this morning.

My father wants to enlist the efforts of all Americans in the field of the environment and one way that he thought he could recognize the efforts of young Americans and encourage their efforts was through the Presidential Environmental Awards Program.

I have two exciting announcements today. The program has been so successful that it is now being extended to junior high and elementary schools. I think that is very fine and I am glad that the response has been so good.

Then the second announcements is that there is now an Advisory Committee of Concerned Citizens, who will be helping my father to present the awards and to encourage participation through the nation.

I would like now to present the awards individually to our representatives from the East, North, South and West of the Nation.

First, from Oak Park, Illinois, Nancy Stockholm and John Rudzinski, and their Excellence award was for environmental education. And we have to give credit to the school, which is Oak Park-River Forest High School.

Then, from Fort Worth, Texas, Frank Laux and "Red" Goldstein, an Excellence award for their successful paper collection and recycling project.

And from Lewistown, Pennsylvania, Dorothy Kline and William Lash. Congratulations for your country-wide, low-cost tree planting project. 20,000 trees, that is terrific.

And last, from Long Beach, California, Elizabeth Bell and Jeffrey Bentley. Congratulations for tree planting and environmental education, and also a recycling project. This project involved five Long Beach schools and they saved 19,000 trees. That is wonderful.

The motto of the Environmental Merit Awards program is "Life -- Pass It On," and I just want to add that I am personally very honored to be able to present these awards, because you all are really passing on life, and you are living up to the motto.

Congratulations.

END

(AT 10:09 A.M. EST.)

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Staff Director to Mrs. Nixon

Julie Nixon Eisenhower will present the first certificates for Environmental Excellence at a ceremony in the Rose Garden of the White House on Wednesday, April 19, 1972, at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Eisenhower, on behalf of the President, is honoring the constructive environmental activities of youth across the nation. The awards program, with the theme "Life -- Pass It On," was established by President Nixon in October, 1971, to recognize responsible and constructive activities of youth in improving the quality of life and environment.

The students' projects were selected from among numerous awards applications, representing all parts of the country. The students and their faculty advisors from four schools, representative of the nation, who will receive the certificates are:

Miss Elizabeth Bell and Mrs. Jeffrey Bentley of Long Beach California.
The Student Councils of five high schools in Long Beach banded together to establish a variety of innovative programs including tree planting, recycling, encouragement of and teaching of ecology at elementary schools.

Mr. Frank J. Laux and Mr. Dan Goldstein of Fort Worth, Texas.
The Fort Worth United High School Council conducted in conjunction with a local radio station an interschool recycling contest and used the proceeds to plant trees and provide an irrigation system for them.

Miss Dorothy A. Kline and Mr. William C. Lash of Lewistown, Pennsylvania.
Students at the Juniata-Mifflin School in Lewistown, developed a soil conservation and beautification program which provided low cost tree planting for Union County. Over 2,750 trees were planted as a result of the efforts of the students.

Miss Nancy Stockholm and Mr. John Rudzinski, Oak Park, Illinois.
The Students at Oak Park-River Forest High School in Illinois, developed a wide-range program to stimulate community awareness of environmental issues and to promote consideration of environmental legislation.

Participating in the ceremony with Mrs. Eisenhower will be William Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE RE-ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

April 12, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Howard Cohen
FROM: Van Shumway
SUBJECT: Youth and environment speech inserts

Per your request.

SPEECH INSERT
March 2, 1972

ENVIRONMENT

When Richard Nixon, as a candidate in 1968, promised an activist Presidency, some people were skeptical. After all, it was said, the Republicans had not put an activist in the White House since Teddy Roosevelt's time. But events have made it clear that they've put another one there now. Such bold strokes of leadership as the President's move for better relations with China, and his tough new policies to lick inflation and boost employment, testify that a strong hand is at the helm.

The Nixon activism has been less noticed but no less dramatic in the field of environmental quality. This is a field where the President was already moving -- moving to clamp a freeze on further pollution and environmental degradation -- moving to start America on a journey for peace between man and nature -- and doing it all with a kind of driving bull-moose energy unequalled since TR himself.

The cause which Roosevelt and Pinchot and Muir in the early years of this century called "conservation" -- which was shrugged off by so many for so long as someone else's problem, out West someplace -- had matured by the late 1960s into an urgent national concern with a

new name, new scope, new complexity. Suddenly the country realized that the environmental challenge is everyone's challenge, all around all of us wherever we live. It exploded into the media and reverberated through the national consciousness.

Effective and concerted national action to meet the challenge was slower in coming, however. In fact, air pollution, water pollution, pesticides, and other problems were still receiving only scattered attention when President Nixon came to office at the beginning of 1969. But he had campaigned on a call for a new strategy of quality for the seventies -- a strategy to coordinate and focus environmental programs which up to then had been mostly tactical -- and his Administration accordingly took the offensive at once.

His first official act of the new decade was to sign the National Environmental Policy Act, making all Federal activity legally accountable to the environmental ethic, and creating a Council on Environmental Quality to advise the President on goals and policy. "It is literally now or never" for the American environment, the President stated at that time -- and since then he has spared no effort to make it "now."

In February 1970 came a sweeping 37-point environment message to the Congress, spanning air quality, water quality, solid waste management, parklands and many other concerns, entirely

unprecedented in its breadth of commitment. A few months later came a reorganization proposal for creation of a new Federal super-agency big enough, tough enough, and smart enough to meet all kinds of pollution problems head on and begin to roll them back. The Congress approved, and so the Environmental Protection Agency was born.

Can you believe, ladies and gentlemen, that this society of ours, with the highest living standard in the world, with the aspiration in the sixties of calling itself the Great Society, actually got well into the last third of the twentieth century without a national watchdog agency to defend our quality of life? That might be one of the reasons why sharp eyes were beginning to detect dry rot at the base of American affluence as the seventies came in. But now, because of the President's vision and leadership, we have the will, we have the organization, and we have the tools to fight that rot, to renew our environment -- and you can see it making a difference month by month.

Look at the record. President Nixon has more than tripled Federal spending for environmental quality. He has ordered the government to practice ecological leadership by example, in everything from low-lead gasoline to paper recycling. He has end-run the legislative bickering on new water quality legislation, through an EPA crackdown on polluters under the long-overlooked Refuse Act of 1899.

Drilling in the Santa Barbara Channel has been halted; the Everglades have been saved from a super jetport; the Cross Florida Barge Canal has been stopped; the Alaska pipeline project has been subjected to intense study. Pesticide use has been reined in; stringent new clean air standards have been set; hundreds of Environmental Impact Statements on intended actions have been filed by Federal agencies.

The National Park System and Wilderness System have been expanded; scores of parcels of Federal land have been turned over to States and localities for park and recreational use; urban neighborhoods have been reprieved from freeway construction and urban landmarks preserved for historic appreciation; billboard removal along Federal highways has begun after years of delay. Endangered wildlife from whales to bald eagles have been shielded by Federal intervention.

Against this impressive backdrop, one question is being asked more and more insistently: Where has Capitol Hill been all this time? The answer is hardly flattering to the 92nd Congress.

When the President sent his latest package on environmental proposals to the Hill early in February, he was obliged to begin with a reprise on his 1971 proposals -- for his 18 major proposals had not received final action. It would be nice to

think that problems like pesticide use, toxic wastes, noise pollution, power plant siting, strip mining, ocean dumping, and careless land development have been standing still in our environment, during the 13 months that Nixon administration proposals to deal with them have been standing still in the House and the Senate -- but it just ain't so. The President, I think you would agree, was exceptionally charitable and forbearing in his reference to these damaging delays, saying only that he hopes this year will be a year of action as the past year was one of consideration.

He is far from content, however, with merely passing the blame and coasting on an unenacted agenda, and his 1972 message added another large helping of initiatives to the leftovers already on the Congress' plate. These new measures include legislation to impose the first penalty tax on air polluters, to control sediment from construction activities, to regulate highway and airport siting, to preserve wetlands, to protect endangered species more effectively, and to create a new national recreation area around the Golden Gate to complement the one proposed last year for New York Harbor. Let's just hope that everyone concerned can rise above politics and partisanship to make this the year of action he has called for.

Because action is the name of the game. You could have Earth Day once a week for the next 10 years, but that by itself would not

make the Seventies the decade of environmental achievement which they simply have to be. This issue, so loaded with romance and charisma, needed "something more" before it could really go anywhere. It needed a leader not particularly loaded with either of these things, but remarkably gifted with an activist ability to do a tough job well -- and now it has such a leader in Richard Nixon.

We're a long way from being out of the woods on some of these problems; but at least the prophets of doom don't sound so scary any more, now that the President has America mobilized and on the move for a better environment. The hundreds of thousands of high school students across the country who have joined the President's new Environmental Merit Awards Program march to a simple but stirring motto: "Life -- pass it on." That's an idea we can all unite on -- to pass on a better life and better surroundings to live in, for all the generations to come. It's a huge job, but the Nixon years so far have been a good start.

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RN QUOTES
March 2, 1972

RICHARD NIXON ON THE ENVIRONMENT

"Restoring nature to its natural state is a cause beyond party and beyond factions. It has become a common cause of all the people of this country."

* * * * *

"Clean air, clean water, open spaces -- these should once again be the birthright of every American. If we act now, they can be."

State of the Union Message
January 22, 1970

"I have sent to Congress today a sweeping set of proposals to clean up our Nation's air and water and to make our land more livable.... We are taking these actions not in some distant future but now, because we know that it is now or never."

Remarks on transmitting Special
Message to the Congress on
Environmental Quality
February 10, 1970

"Like those in the last century who tilled a plot of land to exhaustion and then moved on to another, we in this century have too casually and too long abused our natural environment. The time has come when we can wait no longer to repair the damage already done, and to establish new criteria to guide us in the future."

Special Message to the Congress on
Environmental Quality
February 10, 1970

"It is widely acknowledged that our productive economy and our advancing technology have helped to create many of our environmental problems. Now the same energy and skills which have produced quantitative gains in our economy must be used to improve the environment and to enhance the quality of life."

Statement on establishing National
Industrial Pollution Control Council
April 9, 1970

"This Administration is committed to protect the national environment without retarding social and economic progress...."

Special Message to the Congress on
Marine Pollution
May 20, 1970

"The primary responsibility for protecting and enhancing the environment lies with State and local governments, industry, and the public, but the Federal Government must -- and will -- provide vigorous leadership."

The Budget Message
January 29, 1971

"The battle for a better environment can be won, and we are winning it."

* * * * *

"While there is clearly a need for greater efforts to provide neighborhood parks and other public recreation areas, there must still be places where nature thrives and man enters only as a visitor. These wilderness areas are an important part of a comprehensive open space system. We must continue to expand our wilderness preservation system, in order to save for all time those magnificent areas of America where nature still predominates."

* * * * *

"Environmental problems have a unique global dimension, for they afflict every nation, irrespective of its political institutions, economic system, or state of development. The United States stands ready to work and cooperate with all nations, individually or through international institutions, in the great task of building a better environment for man. "

* * * * *

"As our nation comes to grips with our environmental problems, we will find that difficult choices have to be made, that substantial costs have to be met, and that sacrifices have to be made. Environmental quality cannot be achieved cheaply or easily. But, I believe the American people are ready to do what is necessary. "

Special Message to the Congress: 1971
Environmental Program
February 8, 1971

"The earth and its atmosphere are a closed system. They are finite. The good water cannot purify itself indefinitely. The good air cannot cleanse itself endlessly. And the good earth cannot sustain and repair the injustices of man forever. Man must help to put his own earthly house in order. "

Proclamation: Earth Week, 1971
April, 1971

"The work of environmental improvement is a task for all our people. It should unite all elements of our society -- of all political persuasions and all economic levels -- in a great common commitment to a great common goal. "

Message to the Congress transmitting
Second Annual Report of the Council
on Environmental Quality
August 6, 1971

"The pursuit of environmental quality will require courage and patience. Problems that have been building over many years will not yield to facile solutions. But I do not doubt that Americans have the wit and the will to win -- to fulfill our brightest vision of what the future can be. "

Special Message to the Congress: 1972
Environmental Program
February 8, 1972

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SPEECH SEGMENTS

March 1, 1972

AMERICAN YOUTH

Note: It is unlikely that all of what follows would be appropriate for any one occasion. Sections should be selected and arranged according to the interests of the audience.

In the opening chapter of his book Public Opinion, Walter Lippmann makes some telling points about mass opinion. He draws a sharp distinction between the pictures that exist in our heads and the reality of the world outside. "Under certain conditions," says Lippmann, "men respond as powerfully to fictions as they do to realities, and...in many cases they help to create the very fictions to which they respond."

Nowhere is this tendency more evident than in our views of public officials and government policies. It is a tendency which is becoming more dangerous as our society grows ever larger and more dependent on mass communications. In such an age, all of us bear a special responsibility to test the pictures in our heads against the facts of the real world and to adjust those pictures so that they accord with reality.

This task is particularly important with respect to relations between the generations. For the so-called "generation gap" has resulted in large measure from the inadequate stereotypes which young people have held about those who are older and from the false pictures which older persons have had in their heads about youth.

In his first 3 years in office, President Nixon has worked to close the generation gap by dispelling such images. One of the central themes of his speeches during these years has been a call to the American people to appreciate more fully the constructive potential of young Americans. "We see the hope of tomorrow in the youth of today," he said in his Inaugural Address. "We can be proud that they are better educated, more committed, more passionately driven by conscience than any generation in our history." And he has pursued this theme in one speech after another -- in all parts of the country and before all types of audiences -- from that moment on.

Meanwhile, young people have been adjusting their own stereotypes of "adult" society, its leaders and its institutions. While many of them still have serious disagreements with their parents and their teachers and their government, many are also coming to realize that the generations need one another -- and that the things they share are more important than the things about which they disagree.

* * *

One of the stereotypes held by young people which has begun to change in the last 3 years is the impression that the Federal Government is unresponsive to the concerns of youth. Increasingly young people have come to understand that many of their deepest concerns are directly shared by those who hold high public office, including the President of

the United States. Let us look for a moment at some of these common concerns -- and at some of the ways in which the Nixon Administration is responding to them.

At the top of this list I would put the desire of young Americans to play an active role in the political life of the Nation, to have a greater impact on the events of their time. Young people do not want to be treated as mere apprentices. They want full participation. They want first-class citizenship.

In the last 3 years they have begun to achieve these goals. The 18-year-old vote has become a reality -- with the active support of President Nixon. Departments and agencies of the Federal Government have stepped up their hiring of young people -- and have established new youth advisory councils and offices. As a symbol of the President's desire to involve more young people in government, an unprecedented number of young men and women have been appointed to positions of trust on the White House staff. The President also convened the first White House Conference on Youth -- a wide-open forum whose recommendations are receiving a thorough review by the executive departments.

* * *

A second area of major concern for young people is the military draft. Perhaps no institution in our society has had such a disruptive impact on the lives of young Americans. And no President has done

more than Richard Nixon to change this situation. Draft calls in 1971 were the lowest since 1962, down nearly 40 percent from 1970. The Administration now expects that by the middle of 1973 draft calls will be cut to zero, as the President achieves his long-standing goal of an all-volunteer army.

Even while he has been moving to eliminate the draft, President Nixon has also worked to make the draft more equitable as long as it remains in existence. Sweeping reforms, including a new lottery system, have been instituted -- reducing the period of uncertainty caused by the draft, broadening work opportunities for conscientious objectors, and remedying a variety of deficiencies and inequities in the Selective Service System. Youth advisory boards have been established in each State and some two-thirds of their policy recommendations have been carried out. The minimum age for draft board membership has been reduced from 30 to 18, and serious efforts have been made to recruit more younger members.

* * *

A third concern which binds the Nixon Administration with young Americans is the President's strong effort to improve service opportunities for those who want to make their world a better place to live. The President put it this way to a student audience early in 1971: "As we free young Americans from the requirements of the draft and of the

war, from the requirements of forced service, let us open the door to voluntary service." He then announced the establishment of his new ACTION volunteer agency -- to spearhead this effort.

The ACTION agency includes older units such as the Peace Corps and VISTA -- and both these organizations experienced a new surge of energy in 1971. Applications to the Peace Corps were up some 40 percent over 1970, reversing a 5-year downward trend. The number of VISTA volunteers grew to 4,500. In addition, a new University Year for ACTION was launched at the President's instigation in August of 1971, a program allowing college students to receive academic credit for a full year of off-campus service in antipoverty projects.

* * *

A fourth issue of special importance to young Americans is that of drug abuse. Here, too, President Nixon has been particularly active. He has created a new Special Action Office for Drug Abuse Prevention and a new Cabinet Committee on International Narcotics Control. If his new budget is approved, Federal obligations for drug abuse treatment and prevention will have risen by some 700 percent in a 4-year period, while expenditures for enforcing drug laws will also have risen by 700 percent. On the diplomatic front, the President has announced Turkey's decision to ban the growing of opium poppies and has enlisted the cooperation of other nations to stop narcotics traffic.

Just this past January he established a new Office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement to mount a concentrated assault on the street-level heroin pusher.

* * *

President Nixon has also increased Federal aid to students and to schools; his new budget allocates \$4 billion more for this purpose than was spent just 3 years ago. A number of important education reforms have also been proposed by the President -- and are now pending in the Congress. One of these proposals embodies the principle that no qualified student who wants to go to college should be barred by lack of opportunity -- a guarantee that would open doors of opportunity for many thousands of deserving young Americans.

* * *

Another major concern of young people -- one which has been ignored too long -- is the world of work. For too long, government has failed in its responsibility to help young people prepare themselves for self-sufficient, self-reliant roles in our economic life. As a result, many young people are "turned off" to the world of work, underprepared for the jobs that exist, looking for jobs that may not be available. And when an economic crunch comes along, young people are often the first to be laid off and the last to be rehired, victimized by their inexperience and their lack of skills.

President Nixon pinpointed one reason for this condition in his State of the Union Message this past January: "Too often," he said, "vocational education is foolishly stigmatized as being less desirable than academic preparation. And too often the academic curriculum offers very little preparation for viable careers. Most students are unable to combine the most valuable features of both vocational and academic education; once they have chosen one curriculum, it is difficult to move to the other.... The unhappy result is high numbers of able people who are unemployed, underemployed, or unhappily employed on the one hand -- while many challenging jobs go begging on the other."

President Nixon has approved increases in funding in vocational education each year he has been in office. Even more importantly, he has endorsed a "career education" program to ensure that young people of all backgrounds and with a wide variety of goals are provided with a better grounding in the skills necessary for the world of work. Research teams in every State now are developing new curricula for our primary, secondary, and post-secondary schools so that young people will know what kinds of jobs are available when they leave school and will be able to develop the skills necessary to compete for them.

But President Nixon has not been content merely to sit back and wait for the next generation of young people to be educated in needed skills. He has also acted forcefully and courageously to deal with the unemployment problem that exists among young people now.

As a result that problem, which has grown in part from the decline in defense expenditures, today shows signs of easing substantially.

The President's program to create new jobs includes stimulative Federal budgets, a new Job-Development tax credit, acceleration of other tax cuts, repeal of the automobile excise tax, and other measures. Soon after he was inaugurated, the President also reorganized the Manpower Administration in the Department of Labor. In the last fiscal year, 2 million persons participated in 11,000 manpower projects. Job banks, designed to bring job and job-hunter together faster, have been installed in some 100 metropolitan areas. The JOBS program has been expanded. And a major effort has been made to find jobs for returning veterans.

In short, President Nixon has acted -- both on a long-term and a short-term basis -- to create more jobs for young Americans.

* * *

To this point I have talked about six issues -- political participation, the draft, voluntary service, drugs, education and jobs -- issues which have a unique impact on young people. But perhaps the most important

point about the Nixon approach to youth is the President's understanding that young people are interested in the same issues that interest older people. He has not condescended to young people by treating them solely as a special self-centered interest group. Instead, he has treated them as serious and capable citizens whose concerns range across the whole spectrum of social issues.

Perhaps the most important of these issues for young people has been the war in Vietnam. It has also been the most important issue for the President. And he has achieved considerable success in meeting it. When the President took office in 1969, the authorized troop ceiling in Vietnam was almost 550,000 and no withdrawal plan existed. By May 1 of 1972, however, our troop ceiling in Vietnam will be 69,000, which means that in 3 years American troops in Vietnam will have been cut by 87 percent. Even more important, American combat deaths have already been reduced by 95 percent as our ground combat role in Vietnam has been ended.

The withdrawal of troops in Vietnam has been accompanied by a new and more realistic concept of America's role in international affairs, one which accords directly with the desires of most young people. The President's new "Nixon Doctrine" contends that we should "lecture less" and "listen more," that we are not the world's policeman nor the keeper

of its moral conscience. The President's efforts to build bridges of understanding with nations that have been our adversaries, including the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union, have also captured the imagination of younger citizens. They know that theirs will be a safer world tomorrow because of what the President is doing today.

Three years ago, young people all across our country were repeating a single demand so frequently that it virtually became a slogan. We must "reorder our priorities," they said; we must spend less for military purposes and more on domestic programs. In his first 3 years in office, President Nixon turned this hopeful slogan into a concrete accomplishment. For the first time in 20 years, the Federal Government is spending less on defense than on human resources. For the first time in history, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare is being allocated more than the Department of Defense. Moreover, future long-range reductions in defense spending are likely as a result of the President's careful pursuit of arms control negotiations.

And what of other social concerns of young people? On the racial front, the number of black children in the South who attend legally desegregated school systems has risen from 6 percent to 95 percent since President Nixon took office. Programs to aid minority colleges, minority laborers and minority businessmen have been significantly stepped up. The President's plan to reform the welfare system would

provide significant assistance for millions of poorer Americans.

Under the President's new budget, outlays for the food stamp program would be nine times greater next year than they were in 1969; spending on lunches for needy children would be 7 times larger than when President Nixon took office. The President has also echoed a central concern of youth with his declaration that it is "literally now or never" as far as protecting the environment is concerned and with a host of actions and legislative proposals to enhance environmental protection. He has more than tripled the budget for major environmental programs.

* * *

In all of these ways, the Nixon Administration has demonstrated its concern for those issues which concern American young people. As more young people come to appreciate these central facts, we can expect that their stereotypes of established government will be further changed. At the same time, we can also expect that more older Americans will come to share the President's appreciation for the potential of young Americans and that their images of the younger generation will be similarly revised.

As both these trends gain momentum in the months and years ahead, the divisions which plagued our country in the late 1960s will be further healed. And the generations will increasingly be able to go forward together in building a better life for all our people.

#

(RN QUOTES)
March 2, 1972

YOUTH

"We see the hope of tomorrow in the youth of today. I know America's youth. I believe in them. We can be proud that they are better educated, more committed, more passionately driven by conscience than any generation in our history."

- Inaugural Address
January 20, 1969

"My concern and our concern today is not with the length of a person's hair, but with his conduct in relation to the community; not with what he wears, but with his impact on the process by which a free society governs itself."

"The process of freedom will be less threatened in America, however, if we pay more heed to one of the great cries of our young people today. I speak now of their demand for honesty -- intellectual honesty, personal honesty, public honesty. Much of what seems to be revolt is really little more than this: an attempt to strip away sham and pretense, to puncture illusion, to get down to the basic nub of truth."

- Address at the Dedication of
the Karl E. Mundt Library,
Madison, South Dakota
June 3, 1969

"Those who bomb universities, ambush policemen, who hijack airplanes, who hold their passengers hostage, all share in common not only a contempt for human life, but also the contempt for those elemental decencies on which a free society rests -- and they deserve the contempt of every American who values those decencies."

* * *

"I would not for one moment call for a dull, passive conformity on the part of our university and college students, or an acceptance of the world as it is. The great strength of this Nation is that our young people, the young people like those in this room, in generation after generation, give the Nation new ideas, new directions, new energy."

* * *

"The true idealist pursues what his heart says is right in a way that his head says will work."

- Alfred M. Landon Lecture
Kansas State University
September 16, 1970

"There can be no generation gap in America. The destiny of this Nation is not divided into yours and ours. It is one destiny. We share it together. We are responsible for it together. And in the way we respond, history will judge us together."

* * *

"As we free young Americans from the requirements of the draft and of the war, from the requirements of forced service, let us open the door to voluntary service."

* * *

"So much is in your hands now. To those who have believed the system would not be moved, I say try it. To those who have thought that the system was impenetrable, I say there's no longer a need to penetrate; that door is open."

* * *

"And so let us forge an alliance of the generations."

- Speech at University of Nebraska
January 14, 1971

"You are coming to maturity at a time which history will remember as a great period of emancipation for young Americans. Your generation has the opportunity to participate more fully in the American adventure than young people have ever been able to do since Revolutionary times 200 years ago."

* * *

"The young in America are no longer going to be treated as a mass or a bloc in this country -- neither as a generation apart nor as a generation idolized. You deserve better than that. And you will have better, for America is rapidly moving to take you, the young, into full partnership as individuals in our society."

* * *

"Certainly, the time when the young are to be seen and not heard is gone in America -- and gone for good."

* * *

"Listen to Thoreau. He wrote, 'Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence.' You have the freedom, almost literally, to reach the stars -- and with it comes the responsibility to stretch for them with all your might. Don't let your hearts grow earthbound, for the universe is out there waiting for you."

- Remarks at 50th National
4-H Congress
December 1, 1971

#

KEY FACTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Under the Nixon Administration, upgrading of environmental quality is for the first time a major national priority. The President has taken action to reorganize the federal responsibilities, has increased funding dramatically, has strictly enforced pollution control laws, and has proposed needed new legislation.

The President has established or proposed the Federal machinery necessary to protect the environment

- Set up (1) the Council on Environmental Quality, (2) the Environmental Protection Agency, and (3) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Proposed a Department of Natural Resources.

The Administration has dramatically increased the funding resources devoted to protection of the environment

- Federal budget authority to control pollution increased over 300% between 1969 and 1972 (from \$775 million to \$3.3 billion).

This Administration has "cracked down" on polluters

- The number of criminal actions taken by the Justice Department against water polluters has increased over 400% from 46 to 191 between FY 1969 and 1971.
- In 1971, the Administration made the first use of Federal authority to shut down major industries during an air pollution crisis (Birmingham, Alabama).
- In 1972, the Administration initiated the first major action to enforce national air quality standards.

The President has urged Congress to enact sweeping legislative initiatives

- Major initiatives include: national land use policy, air and water pollution, pesticides, strip mining, toxic substances, ocean dumping, noise, power plant siting and protection of endangered species.
- 36 new wilderness areas, protection of Big Cypress Swamp, and national recreation areas in New York and San Francisco have been proposed to Congress.

The Congress has responded with inaction

- Not one of the President's major environmental proposals of the last two years has received final Congressional action. Twenty-four are presently pending.
- The President sent to the Congress twelve letters urging priority attention to these initiatives on April 20, 1972.

ENVIRONMENT

I. GENERAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. Reorganizing for More Effective Environmental Action.

1. The Council on Environmental Quality was established Jan. 1 1970 to advise the President on problems and policies related to environmental quality.

2. The Environmental Protection Agency was established in 1970 to enforce the laws against pollution and improve our environmental control efforts.

3. A new Department of Natural Resources was proposed by the President in January of 1971 as a part of his overall plan to reorganize the Federal Government. This Department would focus in one place the overall responsibility for natural resource programs which is now scattered among many agencies.

4. A new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was established in 1970 in the Department of Commerce to coordinate more effectively a variety of oceanic, atmospheric and commercial fishery activities.

5. A National Industrial Pollution Control Council was established in 1970 to advise the President and the Council on Environmental Quality concerning ways in which industry can best contribute to environmental quality goals.

6. The President also created the Property Review Board to determine what Federal properties are under-utilized and whether certain properties could better be used for other purposes, especially by being given to local governments for park and recreational use.

7. In October 1971, the President initiated the Environmental Merit Awards Program to recognize successful student projects leading to environmental understanding or improvement. Other youth oriented programs have been advanced by a variety of Federal agencies.

B. Overall Financing. Outlays for major environmental programs in fiscal year 1973 are expected to be \$2.5 billion, more than 3 times the 1969 level.

C. Congressional inaction has been a major barrier to environmental progress. Although the President proposed a sweeping legislative program for the environment in 1970, 1971, and 1972, the vast majority of the individual elements of that program are still awaiting final action by the Congress.

II. FIGHTING AIR POLLUTION

A. Outlays for air pollution control programs for fiscal year 1973 will be double those of fiscal year 1969.

B. National standards have been set for the six major air pollutants and guidelines have been established to see that the States enforce those standards.

C. A sulfur oxides emissions charge has been recommended by the President to encourage reductions in this major source of pollution.

D. Regulations to reduce motor vehicle pollution have been issued by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act. These standards require that dangerous emissions be reduced by 90 percent as compared with 1970-71 requirements. In the case of hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide this goal must be accomplished for 1975 models and in the case of nitrogen oxides it must be accomplished for 1976 models.

E. Pollution from airplanes is being reduced under an Administration agreement with 31 American airlines. The airlines agreed substantially to complete, by the end of 1972, a program to install pollution control devices in nearly 1000 jetliners. These new devices will eliminate about 70 percent of the visible smoke plumes from commercial aircraft. As of January 1, 1972, 69 percent of jetliners had already been equipped with such devices.

F. The President's new budget calls for increased research on the effects of air pollution and on ways of measuring it.

III. PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

A. The Refuse Act of 1899 has been used by the administration to regulate discharges of industrial pollutants into our waterways. Under

the Refuse Act, more than 160 civil actions and 320 criminal actions to stop water pollution were filed against alleged polluters in 1971 alone.

B. Legislation to control dumping into the oceans, coastal waters, and the Great Lakes has been proposed by President Nixon.

C. The President initiated a three-year, \$12 billion program to construct, together with State and local governments, sewage treatment facilities. In fiscal year 1973, this will mean \$4 billion for municipal sewage treatment projects, more than nine times the amount that was spent in fiscal year 1969. Already, Federal programs have helped to increase the number served by secondary sewage treatment programs from 91 million persons in fiscal year 1969 to 115 million persons in fiscal year 1973, and to remove 27 percent more sewage effluent than was removed in 1968.

D. Efforts to control sediment affecting water quality have been proposed by the President. Under this program, Federal guidelines would be developed for State regulatory programs and Federal enforcement would take place when a State failed to implement such a program.

E. The President signed the Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970, which set tough new penalties to halt the discharge of harmful quantities of oil and other water polluting substances.

F. Legislation to approve and carry out a number of international conventions to reduce pollution on the high seas has also been requested by the President.

IV. REGULATION OF OTHER POLLUTANTS

A. Pesticide regulation would be advanced through the President's comprehensive proposals for strengthening and coordinating Federal and State control efforts.

B. The President has proposed legislation to reduce noise pollution by regulating and setting labeling requirements for major sources of noise. In his fiscal year 1973 budget, the President has also requested a \$25 million increase in research and development funds for reducing noise from airplanes and trucks.

C. The President proposed legislation to regulate toxic chemical substances in his 1971 message on environment.

D. The President's proposed Toxic Waste Disposal Control Act, submitted in 1973, would establish Federal guidelines and requirements for State programs which regulate the disposal of hazardous toxic wastes. The proposed act would provide for Federal enforcement if the State should fail to establish its own program.

E. New efforts are being made to understand the effects of lead based paints and to protect children against this hazard.

F. The Administration has launched a new integrated pest management program designed to maintain both agricultural and forest productivity while protecting environmental quality.

V. IMPROVING LAND USE

A. A bold National Land Use Policy Act was proposed by President Nixon in 1971 to encourage the States, in cooperation with local governments, to protect lands which are of critical environmental concern and to control major development projects within their jurisdictions. In 1972, the President asked that this pending legislation be expanded and strengthened by requiring States to control the siting of major transportation facilities (such as highways and airports) and by imposing heavy financial sanctions on any State which does not establish an adequate land use program.

B. The President's proposed Mined Area Protection Act would establish Federal guidelines for State programs regulating surface underground mining.

C. Power plant siting was the subject of special legislation proposed by the President in 1971. The suggested law would assure that environmental concerns are properly considered when plans for siting are made.

D. The protection of coastal wetlands would be enhanced by the President's proposal to bar the applicability of Federal tax initiatives to development in such places.

VI. PROTECTING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

A. President Nixon has initiated a Legacy of Parks program --

designed to make more land available for recreational uses of all kinds. One goal of the program is to bring parks to the people by locating more of them near large population centers.

1. The President recommended and the Congress authorized the donation of surplus Federal lands to State and local governments for park and recreation use and for historic sites.

2. The President recommended and the Congress approved an increase in funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund from \$200 million to \$300 million a year. The President has also recommended a modification of the formula for allocating grants under this fund so that distribution among the States would be more equitable in terms of population.

B. Proposals in this area still pending from 1971 include:

1. The President's plan to help preserve historic buildings.
2. The President's proposals for a substantial expansion of our wilderness system.

C. Pending proposals made in 1972 include:

1. A stronger law to protect endangered species of wildlife.
2. A new Big Cypress National Fresh Water Reserve to protect the Everglades.
3. New National Recreation Areas around the New York Harbor and the Golden Gate.

4. Eighteen new wilderness areas.

D. By Executive Order in 1973, the President also:

1. Banned the use of poisons for predator control on public lands.

2. Regulated off-road vehicles on Federal lands.

E. If the President's new budget is accepted:

1. An estimated 800,000 acres of land will have been purchased for Federal recreation, historical, and natural preservation areas between 1970 and 1973.

2. An estimated 1.2 million acres of recreation land will have been purchased by State and local governments with Federal grant assistance between 1970 and 1973.

3. An estimated 40,000 acres of surplus Federal property will have been donated to local governments for park purposes between 1971 and 1973.

4. An estimated 80,000 acres of public domain lands will have been sold at bargain prices (\$2.50 per acre) to local governments for recreation purposes between 1970 and 1973.

5. Overall outlays for recreation programs will have been increased from \$372 million in fiscal year 1969 to \$640 million in fiscal year 1973.

VII. STOPPING POLLUTION FROM FEDERAL FACILITIES

A. In February of 1970 President Nixon set forth a sweeping program to correct pollution problems at Federal facilities, thus making the Federal Government a leader in the fight against pollution.

B. To carry out this program, the President has called for expenditures in fiscal year 1973 of \$272 million -- a nine-fold increase over 1969.

IX. REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS OF ENERGY PRODUCTION

A. Developing new sources of clean energy was the theme of a special message to the Congress in June of 1971. The President announced a series of steps to produce an ample supply of energy with less risk to a beautiful and healthy environment.

1. The message listed several methods for assuring a sufficient supply of clean energy -- such as a liquid metal fast breeder reactor, and other new technologies including methods for obtaining quality gas from coal, controlling sulfur oxides, developing fusion power, and harnessing solar energy.

2. The President's budget for fiscal year 1973 includes an additional \$88 million for these and related programs.

B. The Nixon Administration is also seeking new ways of conserving energy -- including revised standards for insulation in new federally

insured houses which will reduce heat loss by one-third or more in a typical home and thus save enormous amounts of fuel.

X. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

A. The President has urged a variety of measures to expand international cooperation in the environmental field -- including a number of international conventions to deal with marine pollution.

B. The President has proposed a new United Nations Fund for the Environment and has recommended that the United States commit itself to provide a fair share of funding for this project.

C. The Administration has also worked closely with other international environmental programs including those of NATO's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society.

#

ENVIRONMENT

"On the first day of this decade I stated that 'it is literally now or never' for the true quality of life in America. Amid much encouraging evidence that it can and will be 'now,' we must not slacken our pace but accelerate it. Environmental concern must crystallize into permanent patterns of thought and action."

President Richard Nixon
February 8, 1972

BACKGROUND

President Nixon is the first President in this nation's history to proclaim the protection of the environment "a national priority." As the President observed: "Environmental problems occur today because we were not alert enough, informed enough, or farseeing enough yesterday."

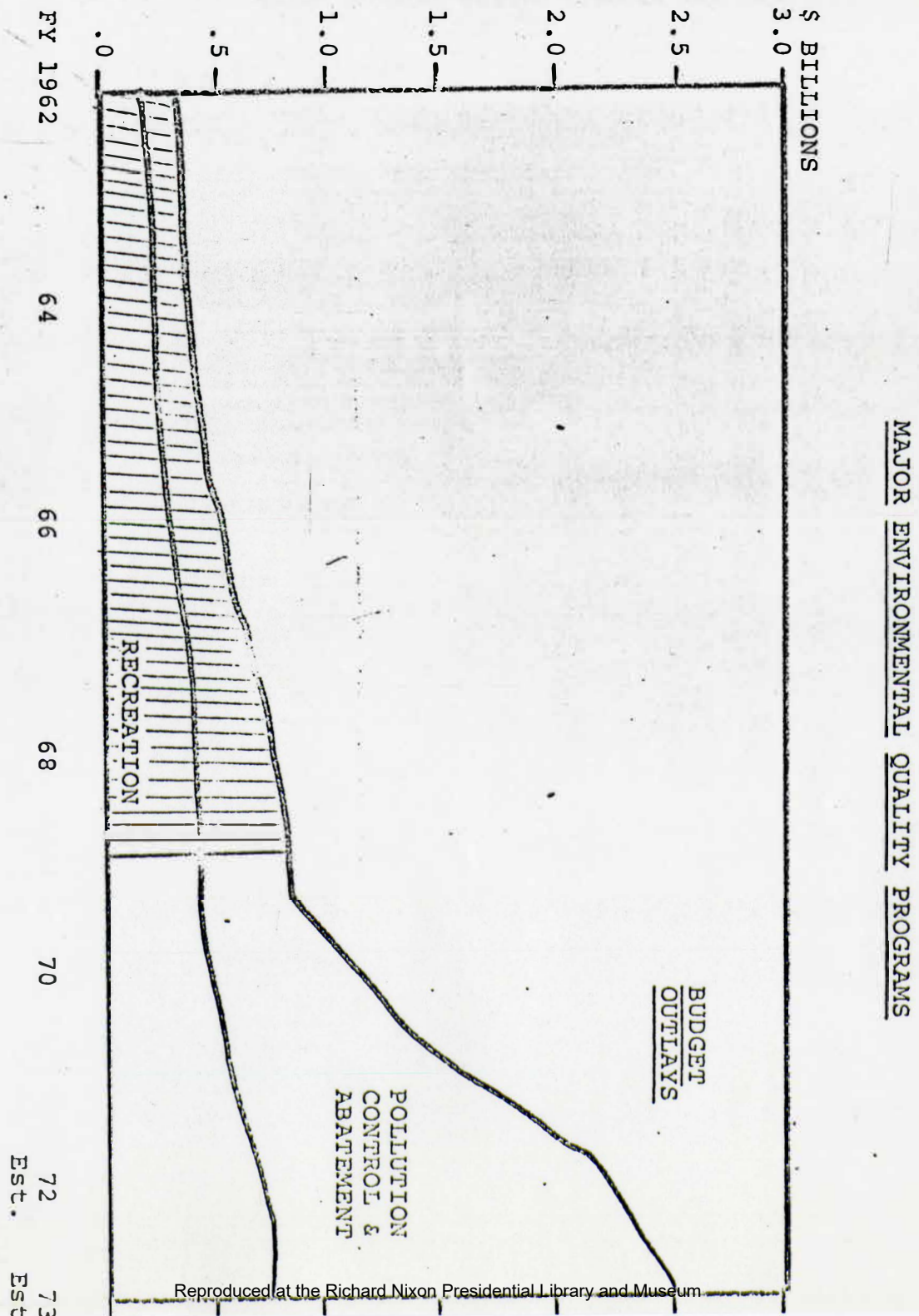
Accordingly, President Nixon has spearheaded a frontal attack on the problems facing the American environment ... to provide a better life for all Americans. Pollution-free dreams of the '60's have been transformed into the Nixon battle plan for the '70's.

Evidence of the strong Nixon commitment to protect the American environment can be witnessed through a consideration of the number of legal actions taken against polluters. In the fall of 1971, the former Attorney General, John M. Mitchell reported: "As far as the Justice Department is concerned, 239 criminal cases have been brought against alleged polluters in the last two fiscal years to date -- far more than in any like period previously; 41 civil cases have been brought under the ... (Refuse Act of 1899), compared to none before (1970)."

The Nixon commitment is further demonstrated by the funding priority afforded environmental programs. In accordance with the fiscal 1973 budget, there will be :

a sixfold increase in budget authority for programs of the Environmental Protection Agency, from \$431 million in 1969 to \$2.5 billion in 1973.

- a doubling of outlays for EPA air pollution control programs since 1969.
- a ninefold increase since 1969 in budget authority to correct pollution at Federal facilities.



REORGANIZATION

The first step toward restoring the quality of the environment is the establishment of an effective machinery to deal on a daily basis with environmental problems. To consolidate and better manage the federal environmental effort, President Nixon:

- Created the Council on Environmental Quality, which serves to provide the President and federal departments and agencies with the technical assistance needed in the planning for environmental quality.
- Called for the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA), which, since 1970, has enforced the laws against pollution and has improved environmental control efforts.
- Established in April 1970, by Executive Order, the National Industrial Pollution Control Council to advise the President and the EPA concerning ways in which industry can help to preserve the environment.
- Proposed a new Department of Natural Resources (as part of his overall plan to reorganize the Executive Branch), to provide a central source for responsibility for natural resources programs.

Other important Nixon organizational actions include the establishment of 1) the Property Review Board, to study federal land usage; and 2) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), within the Department of Commerce, to enable us to better utilize the natural resources beneath the surface of the sea.

CONTROLLING AIR POLLUTION

"Clean air, clear water, open spaces -- these should once again be the birthright of every America. If we act now, they can be."

President Richard Nixon

Reproduced at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum
State of the Union Address

Clean air is essential to the health of every American. It has been clearly demonstrated that exposure to polluted environments in urban centers has been a causal factor in a wide range of diseases, from the common cold to lung cancer.

Accordingly, President Nixon has directed an intense federal assault against air pollution:

- Budget outlays for air pollution control programs for fiscal year 1973 will be double those allocated in fiscal year 1969.
- National standards have been set for the six major air pollutants and new state enforcement guidelines have been established.
- A sulfur oxides emission charge has been recommended by the President to encourage reductions in this major source of pollution.
- Regulations to reduce motor vehicle pollution have been issued by EPA under the Clean Air Act. These directives require that dangerous emissions be reduced 90% by 1975 (from the 1970-71 requirements).
- Aircraft pollution will be reduced as a result of a Nixon Administration agreement with 31 United States airline companies. The airlines have agreed to substantially complete, by 1972, a program to install pollution-control devices in 1000 jetliners. These new devices will eliminate 70% of the visible smoke fumes presently emitted from commercial aircraft (as of January 1, 1972, 69% of the jetliners had been equipped with such devices.)
- The President's fiscal 1973 budget provides increased funds for research on the effects of various forms of air pollution.

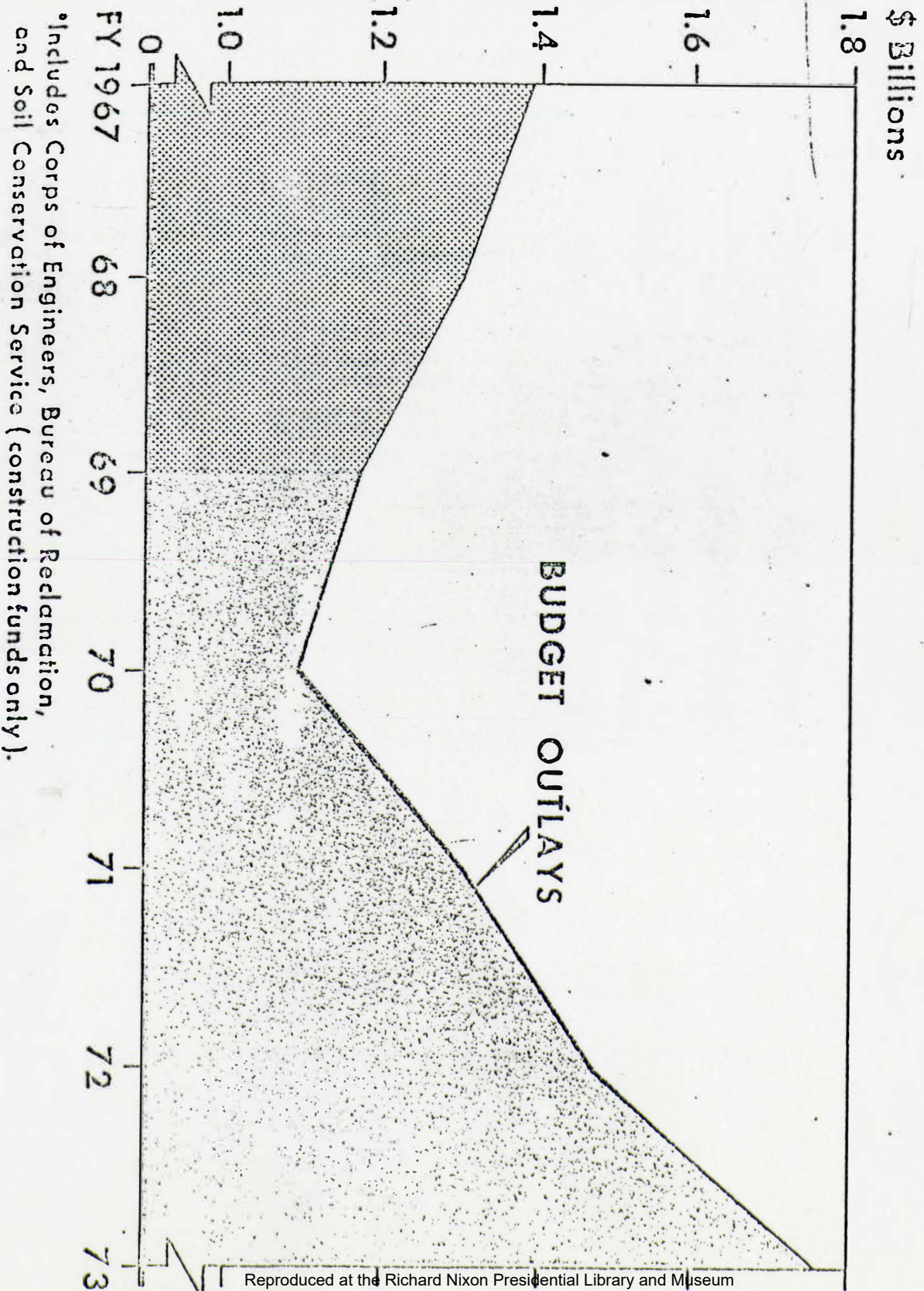
IMPROVING THE QUALITY
OF WATER

"The earth and its atmosphere are a cloud system. They are finite. The good water cannot purify itself indefinitely ... Man must help put his own earthly house in order."

President Richard Nixon
April 2, 1971

Clean water is similarly essential to the quality of life in America. American waterways affect the health, recreation and daily living conditions of everyone. The Nixon Administration's recognition of this importance is illustrated by the following chart:

FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN WATER RESOURCES



A major tool utilized by the Nixon Administration in its attempt to improve the quality of our water is the Refuse Act of 1899. It has enabled the federal government to regulate discharges of industrial pollutants into the nation's waterways. During the final year of the Johnson Administration (fiscal year 1969), there were only 42 convictions under this act. By comparison, in fiscal year 1971, alone, 160 civil actions and 320 criminal actions were filed against water polluters. In addition:

- Legislation to control ocean dumping (as well as dumping in coastal waters and the Great Lakes) has been proposed by President Nixon.
- President Nixon signed the Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970, which set tough new penalties against the discharge of oil and other pollutants into the nation's waterways.
- The President proposed federal action to control sediment that affects water quality.

The Nixon Administration initiated a three-year, \$12 billion program to construct, together with State and local governments, sewage treatment facilities. In fiscal year 1973, this will entail an increase of \$4 billion for municipal sewage treatment projects, more than nine times the allocation in fiscal year 1969.

PROTECTING THE LAND

"The public lands belong to all Americans. They are part of the heritage and the birth-right of every citizen. It is important, therefore, that these lands be managed wisely, that their environmental values be carefully safeguarded, and that we deal with these lands as trustees for the future."

President Richard Nixon
February 8, 1971

The Nixon Administration has acted to both protect and improve the use of public lands.

President Nixon proposed a bold new National Land Use Policy Act. This proposal is designed to encourage the state and local governments to protect land areas that are in critical environmental danger and to provide better controls for major development projects. In 1972, the President requested that this pending legislation be expanded and strengthened by requiring states to control the siting of major transportation facilities and by imposing heavy financial sanctions on any state that does not establish an adequate land use program.

In addition, the President has:

- Proposed a Mined Area Protection Act to establish federal guidelines for state programs regulating surface underground mining.
- Initiated special power plant siting to assure that environmental concerns are adequately considered during the formulation of siting plans.

The President has also focused increased attention on the need to expand potential recreational use of public lands. He has initiated a Legacy of Parks program to provide more land for recreational purposes. As part of this "parks to the people", the President secured Congressional authorization for the donation of surplus federal lands to state and local governments to be used for parks, recreational, and historical site purposes.

As a result of President Nixon's fiscal 1973 budget:

overall outlays for recreational programs will have been increased from \$372 million in fiscal year 1969 to \$640 million in fiscal year 1973.

an estimated 40,000 acres of federal properties will have been donated to local governments for park purposes between 1971 and 1973.

an estimated 800,000 acres of land will have been purchased for Federal recreation, historical, and natural preservation areas between 1970 and 1973.

an estimated 1.2 million acres of recreational lands will have been purchased by state and local governments with federal grant assistance between 1970 and 1973.

an estimated 80,000 acres of public domain lands will have been sold at "bargain prices" (\$2.50 per acre) to local governments for recreational purposes between 1970 and 1973.

Finally, President Nixon has made a real effort to protect remaining portions of the American countryside that have not, as yet, been touched by technology. As the President stated on February 8, 1971:

"While there is clearly a need for greater efforts to provide neighborhood parks and other public recreational areas, there must still be places where nature thrives and man enters only as a visitor."

In order to achieve the goal of "...sav(ing) for all time those magnificent areas of America where nature still predominates," President Nixon has proposed bold legislation. His 1971 proposal for a substantial expansion of the nation's wilderness system is still awaiting Congressional action. Also pending in Congress are the President's 1972 proposals to:

- enact a stronger law to protect endangered species of wildlife.
- create 18 new wilderness areas.
- establish a new Big Cypress National Fresh Water Reserve to protect the Everglades region.

Also, by Executive Order, the President banned the use of poisons for predator control on all public lands.

ENERGY CRISIS

"A sufficient supply of clean energy is essential if we are to sustain healthy economic growth and improve the quality of our national life ..."

President Richard Nixon
June 4, 1971

The President has also been concerned with the development of new sources of clean energy. In a Special Message to Congress in June, 1971, President Nixon presented a series of steps designed to yield the ample supply of clean energy that America so desperately needs. Also towards this goal:

President Nixon's fiscal year 1973 budget provides for an additional \$88 million for energy-related programs.

The Nixon Administration has sought new ways of conserving energy -- including revised standards for insulation in new federally insured homes.

CONCLUSION

President Nixon has acted decisively to protect the American environment. In terms of both leadership and action, he has, more so than any American president before him, channeled the full resources of the federal government into this crucial fight for survival. The President observed:

"The pursuit of environmental quality will require courage and patience. Problems that have been building over many years will not yield to facile solutions. But I do not doubt that Americans have the wit and the will to win -- to fulfill our brightest vision of what the future can be."

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20460

Date: April 13, 1972
Reply to
Attn of: A. James Barnes
Subject: PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM
To: Howard Cohen

This memorandum is to inform you of the latest developments in the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program (PEMAP).

Although the program is relatively new, some of the schools participating already had initiated and sometimes completed projects. For example, one school is presently active in air sampling to gain evidence for the passage of a city clean air ordinance. Another has already built two parks for a large village master plan. Many schools have been conducting recycling and clean-up campaigns. Of the 2500-plus schools that have become members of the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program, over 400 are in cities which have a population of over 100,000 persons. The public schools from these cities have enrollments which range from less than 1,000 to well over 5,000 students.

Schools from every state in the nation as well as from American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands have joined the program. The highest concentration of schools occurred in the midwestern states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. The schools in these states constitute roughly 23 percent of the total number of schools in the program. The southeastern United States has the second highest concentration of almost 12 percent. The highest number of schools in one state is California, with New York second and Pennsylvania third, none of which are in the two regions of the highest percentages. The average enrollment of the schools is around 800, meaning that 2.0 million students could be involved in projects to help our environment. Student response has been enthusiastic with many requests for additional information and many letters endorsing the program.

On March 10, 1972, we announced the expansion of the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program to cover summer camping activities. The program, formerly limited to high schools, is now open to summer programs and youth organizations geared to the summer activities. Appropriate bulletins and a computer-based environmental information service are now being developed for the use of the participants. When these services are fully operative individuals or groups will have rapid

access to information that will assist them in defining their projects and carrying them out.

To date, we have received applications for awards from 40 schools. Another 50 schools have indicated that their applications were in the mail. Of these, 4 schools were chosen to receive the symbolic first awards at the first awards ceremony in Washington during Earth Week. These schools will be representative of the North, South, East and West sections of the United States. 10 more symbolic first awards will be given on the regional level within the next two weeks.

A special Advisory Committee comprised of well known and environmentally committed citizens will assist with awards presentations nationwide whenever possible. The honorary chairman of this committee will be Mrs. Julie N. Eisenhower.

As each school submits awards applications, press releases will be made to local media from Washington or from the Regional offices. In addition, each school's Congressman will be notified of the award and the scheduled date of any local awards ceremony.

April 4, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID PARKER

FROM: Richard M. Fairbanks
SUBJECT: PEMAP Award Ceremony

Attached is the brief resume of the accomplishments of the project at the Oak Park High School whose representatives we would plan to bring in to receive the first award under the program. Prior to bringing in the students we would attempt to assure that none would be attempting to use exposure to the President for their own ends. Let me reiterate that we feel personal involvement by the President in this presentation would be beneficial for the following reasons:

- . It provides an easy way to get personal identification of the President with both the environment issue and with youth.

- . We intend to use the Advisory Committee to the PEMAP as the focus of activities during Earth Week (the week immediately following the first award presentation) in order to increase both awareness of the program and of the President's personal commitment.

- . We would hope to use both the still photographs and perhaps movie tapes of the awards ceremony in further publicizing the PEMAP program.

- . It gives us a good environmental news lead to build on as the President takes off to Canada. The Canadian trip itself has turned into a virtually uniformly environmental one (signing of the U.S. - Canadian Great Lakes Water Pollution Agreement; agreements to exchange information on marine sciences and environmental problems; announcement of negotiations to create a huge international park on the common border between Alaska and Canada).

Attachment

cc: John C. Whitaker

~~Howard Cohen~~

PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM

School

Oak Park-River Forest High School

Oak Park, Illinois

Genesis

The exciting, imaginative programs at Oak Park-River Forest High School began as an outgrowth of an environmental workshop at Southern Illinois University in which the high school participated. Students were so motivated by the presentations by conservationists, scientists, educators, and industry that they drafted a proposal to the school administration for special courses in problems of the environment which have attracted almost half of the students in the high school.

Activities and Accomplishments of the Program:

Environmental Education established.

Establishment of a Pollution Control Center.

Program of community awareness:

Student lectures to organizations.

Promotion of community awareness of environmental needs by media.

Clean-up projects:

Lake Michigan Beach

Des Plaines River

Promotion of environmental legislation:

Study of proposed legislation.

Organized letter writing campaigns.

Sponsored Environmental Advisory Committee for
Oak Park.

Formation of an environmental coalition of Illinois
high schools involving 20 active high schools.

Purpose: Strengthen activities

Spread interest in environment

Broaden understanding and dispense dependable
information about problems.

Motivate participation.

Nancy Stockholm
1512 Forest Ave.
River Forest, Ill. 60305
(312) 369-7104

Student Chairman
Pollution Control Center

Mr. Edward C. Radatz
Oak Park & River Forest High School
201 N. Scoville Ave.
Oak Park, Ill. 60302
(312) 852-5637

Faculty Sponsor

ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARD PROGRAM

On October 14, 1971, I announced the establishment of the President's Environmental Merit Awards Program. The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Commissioner of Education sent letters to high school principals inviting them to participate in this program by establishing a tripartite committee, composed of students, faculty, and the community, to supervise and direct local Environmental Merit Awards Programs, and to make awards to individual students or groups of students for significant environmental accomplishments by them. Today, more than 2,500 high schools, including schools in each of the 50 States, are actively involved in this program.

In view of this overwhelming response to the program, I have concluded that I should establish a committee to advise me concerning ways in which this program can be further expanded and enhanced and of ways in which the environmental accomplishments of individuals and groups may be appropriately recognized.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the President's Advisory Committee on the Environmental Merit Awards Program. The Committee shall be composed of a Chairman, to be designated by the President, and such members as the President may, from time to time, appoint.

(b) The Committee shall advise the President and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency concerning ways in which the Environmental Merit Awards Program can be expanded and enhanced. The Committee shall select individuals or groups of individuals who deserve special recognition for their local environmental accomplishments and confer appropriate Environmental Merit Awards upon them on behalf of the President. The Committee shall perform such other related functions as the President may, from time to time, specify.

Sec. 2. No member of the Committee shall receive compensation from the United States by reason of service as a member of the Committee but such members may be allowed such travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as may be authorized by law.

Sec. 3. The Environmental Protection Agency shall provide, to the extent permitted by law, administrative support for the Committee and the Environmental Merit Awards Program.

THE WHITE HOUSE

, 1972

ENVIRONMENT

I. GENERAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. Reorganizing for More Effective Environmental Action.

1. The Council on Environmental Quality was established Jan. 1, 1970 to advise the President on problems and policies related to environmental quality.

2. The Environmental Protection Agency was established in 1970 to enforce the laws against pollution and improve our environmental control efforts.

3. A new Department of Natural Resources was proposed by the President in January of 1971 as a part of his overall plan to reorganize the Federal Government. This Department would focus in one place the overall responsibility for natural resource programs which is now scattered among many agencies.

4. A new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was established in 1970 in the Department of Commerce to coordinate more effectively a variety of oceanic, atmospheric and commercial fishery activities.

5. A National Industrial Pollution Control Council was established in 1970 to advise the President and the Council on Environmental Quality concerning ways in which industry can best contribute to environmental quality goals.

6. The President also created the Property Review Board to determine what Federal properties are under-utilized and whether certain properties could better be used for other purposes, especially by being given to local governments for park and recreational use.

7. In October 1971, the President initiated the Environmental Merit Awards Program to recognize successful student projects leading to environmental understanding or improvement. Other youth oriented programs have been advanced by a variety of Federal agencies.

B. Overall Financing. Outlays for major environmental programs in fiscal year 1973 are expected to be \$2.5 billion, more than 3 times the 1969 level.

C. Congressional inaction has been a major barrier to environmental progress. Although the President proposed a sweeping legislative program for the environment in 1970, 1971, and 1972, the vast majority of the individual elements of that program are still awaiting final action by the Congress.

II. FIGHTING AIR POLLUTION

A. Outlays for air pollution control programs for fiscal year 1973 will be double those of fiscal year 1969.

B. National standards have been set for the six major air pollutants and guidelines have been established to see that the States enforce those standards.

C. A sulfur oxides emissions charge has been recommended by the President to encourage reductions in this major source of pollution.

D. Regulations to reduce motor vehicle pollution have been issued by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act. These standards require that dangerous emissions be reduced by 90 percent as compared with 1970-71 requirements. In the case of hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide this goal must be accomplished for 1975 models and in the case of nitrogen oxides it must be accomplished for 1976 models.

E. Pollution from airplanes is being reduced under an Administration agreement with 31 American airlines. The airlines agreed substantially to complete, by the end of 1972, a program to install pollution control devices in nearly 1000 jetliners. These new devices will eliminate about 70 percent of the visible smoke plumes from commercial aircraft. As of January 1, 1972, 69 percent of jetliners had already been equipped with such devices.

F. The President's new budget calls for increased research on the effects of air pollution and on ways of measuring it.

III. PROTECTING WATER QUALITY

A. The Refuse Act of 1899 has been used by the administration to regulate discharges of industrial pollutants into our waterways. Under

the Refuse Act, more than 160 civil actions and 320 criminal actions to stop water pollution were filed against alleged polluters in 1971 alone.

B. Legislation to control dumping into the oceans, coastal waters, and the Great Lakes has been proposed by President Nixon.

C. The President initiated a three-year, \$12 billion program to construct, together with State and local governments, sewage treatment facilities. In fiscal year 1973, this will mean \$4 billion for municipal sewage treatment projects, more than nine times the amount that was spent in fiscal year 1969. Already, Federal programs have helped to increase the number served by secondary sewage treatment programs from 91 million persons in fiscal year 1969 to 115 million persons in fiscal year 1973, and to remove 27 percent more sewage effluent than was removed in 1968.

D. Efforts to control sediment affecting water quality have been proposed by the President. Under this program, Federal guidelines would be developed for State regulatory programs and Federal enforcement would take place when a State failed to implement such a program.

E. The President signed the Water Quality Improvement Act of 1970, which set tough new penalties to halt the discharge of harmful quantities of oil and other water polluting substances.

F. Legislation to approve and carry out a number of international conventions to reduce pollution on the high seas has also been requested by the President.

IV. REGULATION OF OTHER POLLUTANTS

A. Pesticide regulation would be advanced through the President's comprehensive proposals for strengthening and coordinating Federal and State control efforts.

B. The President has proposed legislation to reduce noise pollution by regulating and setting labeling requirements for major sources of noise. In his fiscal year 1973 budget, the President has also requested a \$25 million increase in research and development funds for reducing noise from airplanes and trucks.

C. The President proposed legislation to regulate toxic chemical substances in his 1971 message on environment.

D. The President's proposed Toxic Waste Disposal Control Act, submitted in 1973, would establish Federal guidelines and requirements for State programs which regulate the disposal of hazardous toxic wastes. The proposed act would provide for Federal enforcement if the State should fail to establish its own program.

E. New efforts are being made to understand the effects of lead based paints and to protect children against this hazard.

F. The Administration has launched a new integrated pest management program designed to maintain both agricultural and forest productivity while protecting environmental quality.

V. IMPROVING LAND USE

A. A bold National Land Use Policy Act was proposed by President Nixon in 1971 to encourage the States, in cooperation with local governments, to protect lands which are of critical environmental concern and to control major development projects within their jurisdictions. In 1972, the President asked that this pending legislation be expanded and strengthened by requiring States to control the siting of major transportation facilities (such as highways and airports) and by imposing heavy financial sanctions on any State which does not establish an adequate land use program.

B. The President's proposed Mined Area Protection Act would establish Federal guidelines for State programs regulating surface underground mining.

C. Power plant siting was the subject of special legislation proposed by the President in 1971. The suggested law would assure that environmental concerns are properly considered when plans for siting are made.

D. The protection of coastal wetlands would be enhanced by the President's proposal to bar the applicability of Federal tax initiatives to development in such places.

VI. PROTECTING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

A. President Nixon has initiated a Legacy of Parks program --

designed to make more land available for recreational uses of all kinds. One goal of the program is to bring parks to the people by locating more of them near large population centers.

1. The President recommended and the Congress authorized the donation of surplus Federal lands to State and local governments for park and recreation use and for historic sites.

2. The President recommended and the Congress approved an increase in funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund from \$200 million to \$300 million a year. The President has also recommended a modification of the formula for allocating grants under this fund so that distribution among the States would be more equitable in terms of population.

B. Proposals in this area still pending from 1971 include:

1. The President's plan to help preserve historic buildings.
2. The President's proposals for a substantial expansion of our wilderness system.

C. Pending proposals made in 1972 include:

1. A stronger law to protect endangered species of wildlife.
2. A new Big Cypress National Fresh Water Reserve to protect the Everglades.
3. New National Recreation Areas around the New York Harbor and the Golden Gate.

4. Eighteen new wilderness areas.

D. By Executive Order in 1973, the President also:

1. Banned the use of poisons for predator control on public lands.

2. Regulated off-road vehicles on Federal lands.

E. If the President's new budget is accepted:

1. An estimated 800,000 acres of land will have been purchased for Federal recreation, historical, and natural preservation areas between 1970 and 1973.

2. An estimated 1.2 million acres of recreation land will have been purchased by State and local governments with Federal grant assistance between 1970 and 1973.

3. An estimated 40,000 acres of surplus Federal property will have been donated to local governments for park purposes between 1971 and 1973.

4. An estimated 80,000 acres of public domain lands will have been sold at bargain prices (\$2.50 per acre) to local governments for recreation purposes between 1970 and 1973.

5. Overall outlays for recreation programs will have been increased from \$372 million in fiscal year 1969 to \$640 million in fiscal year 1973.

VII. STOPPING POLLUTION FROM FEDERAL FACILITIES

A. In February of 1970 President Nixon set forth a sweeping program to correct pollution problems at Federal facilities, thus making the Federal Government a leader in the fight against pollution.

B. To carry out this program, the President has called for expenditures in fiscal year 1973 of \$272 million -- a nine-fold increase over 1969.

IX. REDUCING ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS OF ENERGY PRODUCTION

A. Developing new sources of clean energy was the theme of a special message to the Congress in June of 1971. The President announced a series of steps to produce an ample supply of energy with less risk to a beautiful and healthy environment.

1. The message listed several methods for assuring a sufficient supply of clean energy -- such as a liquid metal fast breeder reactor, and other new technologies including methods for obtaining quality gas from coal, controlling sulfur oxides, developing fusion power, and harnessing solar energy.

2. The President's budget for fiscal year 1973 includes an additional \$88 million for these and related programs.

B. The Nixon Administration is also seeking new ways of conserving energy -- including revised standards for insulation in new federally

insured houses which will reduce heat loss by one-third or more in a typical home and thus save enormous amounts of fuel.

X. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

A. The President has urged a variety of measures to expand international cooperation in the environmental field -- including a number of international conventions to deal with marine pollution.

B. The President has proposed a new United Nations Fund for the Environment and has recommended that the United States commit itself to provide a fair share of funding for this project.

C. The Administration has also worked closely with other international environmental programs including those of NATO's Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL MERIT AWARDS PROGRAM SET

A Presidential Environmental Merit Awards Program is being established to recognize the achievements of high school students who have made constructive environmental contributions during the scholastic year, William D. Ruckelshaus, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, said today.

Ruckelshaus made the announcement after he conferred with President Nixon on the program.

"The President feels that young people make up the vanguard of the population most concerned with environmental renewal," Ruckelshaus said. "He feels that young people can be an extraordinarily capable force for improving the quality of life in America, and that such service must not go unrecognized or be dismissed with a mere 'thank you.'"

The EPA Administrator said that the President's program is designed to reward student efforts, to encourage a wide variety of activities and to promote excellence by recognition of environmental service projects in the schools and surrounding communities. The program was developed through the joint efforts of EPA and the Office of Education.

"The President has instructed Dr. Sidney P. Marland, Jr., U.S. Commissioner of Education, and me to contact high school principals throughout the country to explain the objectives of the program to them," Ruckelshaus added.

Because the program is designed to provide national recognition for the activities of the youth in their own communities, project guidance, evaluation of programs and presentation of awards will be made at the local level. An awards panel composed of faculty, student and community representatives is to be appointed by each participating school principal.

Awards will be judged on the basis of service in the fields of educational achievement, environmental awareness, community service, or public affairs. If there is a positive outcome of a project, this will merit presentation of the President's Environmental Merit Award.

(more)

In addition, a small number of the President's Special Awards for Environmental Excellence will be awarded to those projects that display exceptional qualities. These would be projects which could be utilized as a basis for other activities, result in continued positive environmental improvement, or include planning that could be implemented in the future.

Individual or group activities that could be undertaken under the category of educational achievements might be the conducting of pollution surveys, an inventory on consumer habits, a comparative analysis of environmental legislation developed by a history class, camera contests based on environmental preservation topics, and exhibits of reforestation needs and methods that the Future Farmers of America or 4-H clubs could produce.

Environmental awareness projects could be presentations made at community meetings, sponsorship of ecology fairs, or community attitude surveys on environmental matters published in the school newspaper.

Community service could be restoring of a stream, landscaping a park, operating a waste recycling center, or staffing a community environmental information services center.

Under the category of public affairs, students could present environmental information to zoning boards and sewage districts, work with local authorities to establish a wildlife refuge, or participate in urban renewal projects.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Education will be in touch with school administrators to explain the specific criteria that will be used as a guide in judging the projects.

Ruckelshaus said that President Nixon emphasized that the major premise that will be applied in judging the merits of all projects will be the constructive contributions which they make to improving the local quality of life.

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