

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-JUN-1999 15:39:12.00

SUBJECT: Fwd:Negative e-mail on Gore/HRC

TO: Philip G Dufour (CN=Philip G Dufour/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael B. Feldman (CN=Michael B. Feldman/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Monica M. Dixon (CN=Monica M. Dixon/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth J. Potter (CN=Elizabeth J. Potter/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ansley Jones (CN=Ansley Jones/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ron Klain (CN=Ron Klain/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/23/99
03:39 PM -----

winnie stachelberg <winnie.stachelberg@mail.hrc.org>
06/23/99 02:50:56 PM

Record Type: Record

To: dbrazile@gorennet.com, Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP,
kyamaguchi@gorennet.com, jtrammel@hillandknowlton.com
cc:
Subject: Fwd:Negative e-mail on Gore/HRC

Folks --

I just wanted to share with you some (there's more) of the email traffic
that is
being directed at HRC -- and the Vice President -- on this issue.

>From: Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov
>To: hamilton_c@hotmail.com
>Subject: I assume you know....
>Date: Tue, 22 Jun 1999 08:26:35 -0400
>
>

>
>Apperently our HRC is at it again, when will you learn
>
>
>To the Editor,
>
>On June 16 and 17, AIDS activists disrupted presidential hopeful Al Gore's
>campaign stops in Carthage, Tennessee, and in Manchester, New Hampshire,
>in
>protest of his threat of trade sanctions against South Africa for allowing
>local companies to produce low-cost generic AIDS drugs. Gore defends
>American pharmaceutical firms' patent rights, even though name-brand
prices
>place AIDS drugs out of reach for many of South Africa's 22.5 million
>people
>with HIV. The average South African income is \$2,600 per year; name-brand
>AIDS drugs cost \$12,000 per year.
>
>A Friday, June 18 Washington Post article quoted a Human Rights Campaign
>(HRC) representative who wondered why Gore has been singled out for this
>outrage. The same Post article confirmed Gore's personal involvement in
>negotiations in which the US bullied South African President Thabo Mbeki,
>even though production of generic drugs is entirely legal under current
>trade agreements.
>
>Will HRC excuse or ignore Gore's decision to side with corporate profits
>over human lives? The AIDS crisis teaches us that we face another kind of
>radical rightwing in addition to the theocratic bigotry of the Jesse
>Helmses
>and Pat Robertsons. Fanatical devotion to a corporate power and profit
>rules
>both Democratic and Republican parties. We see this allegiance in
>everything
>from the defeat of universal health care to the award to corporations of
>patents on medicines developed through taxpayer-funded research. We saw it
>locally in a recent tax cut chiefly benefiting DC's corporate elite,
while
>much of the social safety net for DC's neediest goes unrestored.
>
>Because of their cherished access to the corridors of power, organizations
>like HRC refuse to recognize this other radical rightwing. It's why they
>fawn on politicians who voted for the Defense of Marriage Act, it's why
HRC
>last year endorsed the appalling Al D'Amato for reelection to the Senate,
>it's why Democrats take queer votes for granted. And it's why HRC's
>Millennium March in 2000 promises to be a pep rally for pet politicians
>with
>feeble records of support for our rights and our well-being.
>
>If Vice President Gore tried to block low-cost AIDS drugs in the US, we'd
>denounce him as a genocidal monster. I urge every Blade reader to call the
>White House (202-456-1111) and demand that Clinton and Gore abandon their
>atrocious, indefensible threat of international sanctions, lest their
hands
>be steeped in the blood of millions of South Africans with AIDS.
>
>Scott McLarty
>(Adams Morgan)
>
>

>
>
>
>
>Get Free Email and Do More On The Web. Visit <http://www.msn.com>
>
>----- RFC822 Header Follows -----
>Received: by mailserver.peacecorps.gov with ADMIN;21 Jun 1999 19:45:17
>-0500
>Received: from law-f225.hotmail.com ([209.185.130.163]) by
>pcf firewall.peacecorps.gov
> via smtpd (for mailserver.peacecorps.gov [199.100.193.25]) with
>SMTP;
>21 Jun 1999 23:41:07 UT
>Received: (qmail 31775 invoked by uid 0); 21 Jun 1999 23:46:22 -0000
>Message-ID: <19990621234622.31774.qmail@hotmail.com>
>Received: from 206.124.71.200 by www.hotmail.com with HTTP;
> Mon, 21 Jun 1999 16:46:21 PDT
>X-Originating-IP: [206.124.71.200]
>From: Scott McLarty <scottmclarty@hotmail.com>
>To: scottmclarty@yahoo.com
>Subject: Letter to the Blade: Gore, South Africa, and AIDS drugs
>Date: Mon, 21 Jun 1999 16:46:21 PDT
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
>
>
>

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-JUN-1999 15:22:22.00

SUBJECT: letter from VP

TO: astilwell@ustr.gov (astilwell@ustr.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Hon. James Clyburn

Chairman

Congressional Black Caucus

June 23, 1999

Dear Mr. Chairman

Thank you for your letter, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, inquiring into the issue of affordable AIDS medicines in South Africa. I share with the Caucus an abiding interest and affection for the people of South Africa and of Africa as a whole, and I am happy to bring you abreast of developments in our efforts to resolve our differences with South Africa over trade in pharmaceuticals.

I want you to know from the start that I support South Africa's efforts to enhance health care for its people -- including efforts to engage in compulsory licensing and parallel importing of pharmaceuticals -- so long as they are done in a way consistent with international agreements.

As you know all too well, AIDS has reached epidemic proportions in South Africa. More than three million South Africans are HIV positive, and the virus is spreading at an astonishing, horrifying speed -- infecting more than a thousand people a day. AIDS is tearing apart communities and wiping out entire families, turning wives into widows and children into orphans. At the current pace more than 2.5 South African children will lose both parents to AIDS in the next ten years. And the financial means to battle the crisis is dwindling; South Africa's economy is reduced by 1 percent each year due to the impact of HIV/AIDS.

This is why I put the issue of AIDS at the top of my agenda during my trip to Cape Town last February for a session of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. Then-Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and I had a lengthy discussion on the crisis. He has launched an important campaign of awareness and prevention, but he knows he needs to provide effective treatment to those for whom prevention is no longer an option.

In an effort to enhance health care for all South Africans, the National Assembly passed legislation in 1997 that granted the Health Minister broad, but unspecified authorities to provide more affordable drugs to its people. Out of concern that this new law might be used in a way that violate patent rights, more than 40 pharmaceutical firms -- about one third from South Africa, one third from Europe, and one third from the U.S. -- challenged the law in South African courts, claiming the law violates the South African Constitution. After more than a year, that case is still pending.

Clearly, there is a global consensus on the need for patents to protect medical research. That is why the 134 nations of the WTO concluded the WTO/TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) agreement to establish international standards for intellectual property protection.

The Administration has shared its own concerns with South Africa over the ill-defined provisions of the Medicines Act. We have asked the Government of South Africa to clarify the actions it would take under this Act, and assure us they would comply with international agreements and not undermine legal protections for patent holders.

Under her independent authority mandated by Congress, the United States Trade Representative named South Africa to the "watch list" during her Special 301 Annual Review in 1998. Naming a country to the "watch list" the lowest designation in the review -- triggers no sanctions or threat of sanctions, but calls for bilateral efforts to resolve the issue. It is also important to note the USTR action naming South Africa to the watch list was not done solely in response to pharmaceuticals, but extended to other issues, including protections for computer software, CDs, and other intellectual property.

As you may know, the pharmaceutical industry recommended this year that South Africa be elevated two levels to the designation "Priority Foreign Country." Such a designation would have required the Government of South Africa to resolve this issue to the USTR's satisfaction within a set time, or face trade sanctions. I believe that such an action would have undercut our cooperative efforts to resolve this issue with South Africa, and I urged the USTR to reject the industry recommendation. In the end, USTR maintained South Africa on the "watch list," where it had been the previous year.

In my meeting with then-Deputy President Mbeki here in Washington in August of last year, he and I agreed to seek a solution that addressed the need to bring better health care to South Africans and, at the same time, account for the legitimate interests of the manufacturers. I told Deputy President Mbeki that we were willing to discuss compulsory licensing and parallel imports of pharmaceuticals to speed the availability of lower-cost pharmaceuticals in South Africa -- so long as South Africa did this in line with international agreements.

Our efforts to resolve the issue have been slowed by the ongoing litigation, but my view is the same now as it was then: I support South Africa's effort to provide AIDS drugs at reduced prices through compulsory licensing and parallel importing, so long as they are carried out in a way that is consistent with international agreements.

During our meeting in Cape Town in February of this year, we again reviewed the issue and agreed to continue our efforts to resolve our differences. I am confident that we will reach a mutually-satisfactory agreement.

Meanwhile, I remain grateful for your interest and concern on this issue and for your support of the strong U.S. friendship with South Africa.

Sincerely,

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 15:01:23.00

SUBJECT: baltimore sun piece -- transcript of Mbeki-Gore press conference

TO: rmkhondo@aol.com (rmkhondo@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

AIDS protesters track Gore on campaign

trail

Activists want change in S. Africa policy

By Jonathan Weisman

Sun National Staff

2000

Africa, and

production

southern Africa.

week have

consciousness,

stakes when

czar.

events until

they say favors

life-and-death needs

House drive to

bypass U.S. patent

dying of

pharmaceuticals

group ACT

than public

WASHINGTON -- It is an unlikely first issue of the

presidential campaign: the AIDS epidemic in South

whether Vice President Al Gore has helped block the

and importation of cheap, generic AIDS drugs to

But three jarring protests at Gore appearances last

pushed the issue to the front of the vice president's

infuriating Gore's White House staff and raising the

AIDS activists meet today with the White House AIDS

The activists have pledged to disrupt Gore's campaign

they win a shift in administration trade policy, which

the powerful pharmaceutical industry over the

of Africa's poor. Protesters say Gore has led a White

force South Africa to scuttle an effort that would

laws to provide life-saving medicine to many Africans

AIDS.

"Gore has been carrying out the dirty work of the

companies," said Eric Sawyer, co-founder of the AIDS

UP New York. "He's putting a higher priority on trade

health."

But Gore aides -- and even some AIDS activists -- say

the
to forge a
addressing an
assistant secretary of
in opposing
the

protesters have distorted the vice president's efforts
compromise between protecting U.S. patent law and
AIDS crisis in southern Africa. Susan Rice, the
state for Africa, asserted that Gore has "led the way"
trade sanctions and other drastic actions pushed by
pharmaceutical industry.

pricing, but the vice
are," said Daniel
Council, the nation's
running for

"The root of what is wrong in AIDS care is drug
president is not the culprit -- the drug companies
Zingale, executive director of the AIDS Action
largest lobby on AIDS issues. "Of all the people
president, Gore seems like an unlikely one to target."

Africa wants to
to block
disrupted his rallies
Kills." A rally is
Gore will be

To many AIDS activists, the issue is simple: South
lower the price of AIDS treatments, and Gore is trying
those efforts. Three times last week, protesters
with taunts and signs proclaiming, "Gore's Greed
planned Monday in Philadelphia outside a hotel where
raising campaign cash.

changes its

"We're not going to go away until this administration
policy," Sawyer said.

minister
produce generic
drugs. With
price of AIDS
called its actions

Drug companies cry foul
In 1997, South Africa passed a law granting its health
authority to let local pharmaceutical companies
versions of AIDS drugs, despite U.S. patents on those
3.2 million South Africans infected with HIV, and the
drugs out of reach for most of them, the government
necessary and legal.

rushed to
and to court in
executives won an

But U.S. and European drug companies cried foul. They
Congress and the U.S. trade representative for help,
South Africa to try to block the law. Industry
injunction.

\$500 million for
to companies'

With the cost of drug development soaring to up to one new medication, patent rights have become critical survival, industry officials say.

industry," said Jeff
lobbying arm.

"Patent protection is vitally important to this
Trehwitt, a spokesman for Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, or Pharma, the industry's

New Jersey
law requiring the
to suspend or
foreign aid

At the industry's behest, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, a Republican, slipped language into last year's budget State Department to report to Congress on its efforts repeal the South African law. In the meantime, no U.S. could be released to South Africa's government.

February that is
"making use of
including the vice
the issue "a
Deputy
Gore met with
the AIDS

The State Department came back with a report in now haunting Gore. The report said the nation was the full panoply of leverage in our arsenal," president, to gut the South African law. Gore had made central focus" of his meeting with then-South African President Thabo Mbeki in August, the report stated. Mbeki in February and again brought up the issue. To activists, this document was the smoking gun.

we plan to
Philadelphia.

"Since Gore is the orchestrator of this whole policy, continue," said Asia Russell, a member of ACT UP
"We're going to escalate until these policies change."

Wrong about role, aides say

role. Leon S.

But Gore aides say the activists are wrong about his

adviser, who attended
president, said Gore
Africa shop for
import them in
the drug

Fuerth, the vice president's national security both meetings with the future South African offered to discuss an import agreement to let South the best price for AIDS drugs worldwide and then bulk. The offer "would likely be controversial with companies," Fuerth said, but Gore favored "a mutually

acceptable

solution."

facts. In an
that he had
sweeping new

And Gore aides said AIDS activists are bending other
open letter to Gore, for instance, activists asserted
authorized the U.S. trade representative to conduct "a
review of South Africa policies" on April 30.

representative's annual
more than 70
Africa was one of
"watch list," the

In fact, the April 30 report was the U.S. trade
report on intellectual property rights that looked at
countries. Gore had nothing to do with it. South
37 countries placed on the trade representative's
lowest-priority category.

pushed the
foreign country,"
disputed policy before
from Gore's

Trewhitt acknowledged that the pharmaceutical industry
administration to label South Africa a "priority
which would set a deadline for it to change its
trade sanctions would take effect. But under pressure
office, the trade representative refused to do so.

crisis in South
said.

"The vice president took the position that the health
Africa really needed to be taken into account," Rice

But AIDS activists remain unconvinced.

director of the
critic on the
for campaign
[Frelinghuysen]."

Gore's deputies "want it both ways," said James Love,
Consumer Project on Technology and a leading Gore
issue. "They want to sit around with Pharma, negotiate
contributions, then blame everything on Rodney

shortsighted. Gore
for more
noted that

The activists concede that their actions may be
has been generally friendly to AIDS groups, pushing
spending on AIDS research and patient care. Sawyer

voters,
Sawyer says, has

ACT UP's 1994 campaign against incumbent New York Gov.
Mario M. Cuomo might have turned off gay and minority
helping elect George E. Pataki, a Republican who,
been far less attentive.

"But this is a crisis of huge proportions," Sawyer said. "This is a genocide of 30 million to 40 million people of color. It cannot be seen as anything else."

Originally published on Jun 22 1999

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE

REMARKS BY
THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AL GORE
AND
DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA THABO MBEKI

PRESS CONFERENCE
KIRSTENBOSCH GARDENS
FEBRUARY 18, 1999
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

DP Mbeki: Well, thank you very much, Ronnie, Vice President and members of the South African and U.S. delegations. We, ladies and gentlemen of the press, we've just concluded the session of the Binational Commission. As you know, the Commission works in ten committees, and that gives you an indication of the volume of the work that's involved -- agriculture, conservation and environment and water and defense and criminal justice questions and health and education and so on, trade and investment. We've had a very, very successful meeting -- the volume of work that's been covered by these committees is indeed enormous. I think I need to say this, Vice President, that I think it might be necessary that we distribute some of this documentation to give a detailed picture which cannot be done in a short period such as now: A detailed picture of the scope of this very, very practical work that's being done with regard to all of these matters.

We have had opportunity during this particular session in the middle of all of this detail that had to be dealt with, had occasion to deal with some specific matters which are of importance, certainly to South Africa. One of them is the issue of job creation. We had a very detailed and very interesting exchange of ideas on this matter, drawing whatever lessons we can from the experience of the United States with regards to this particular matter.

We've looked at the issue of the scourge of HIV/AIDS and what we might do together to reinforce the cooperation that already exists with regard to this question. Both sides understand it is a matter of great challenge and of great moment, which needs to be dealt with with all the consistency and the intensity resulting from this rapidly spreading infection of HIV among the South African population.

You see the document that has just been signed by the Attorney General, Janet Reno, and our Justice Minister, Dullah Omar. It enables us to look in a concentrated fashion on these matters affecting justice and crime; that's an important area, also. For us, it'll expand a cooperation that already exists between ourselves and the United States, in these areas. The other document that was signed concerning trade and investment, again,

enables the two countries, the two governments, to be able to deal systematically with all of these questions, this being one of the most important areas of cooperation. It's a facility that enables us to deal with problems, but also to plan forward as to what we need to do in order to strengthen relations in these areas. As usual, the meeting has been very open, very frank, very businesslike, and very friendly. We've had opportunity yesterday to have some discussions between the Vice President and myself about a variety of other matters. That includes questions of peace and stability on the African continent. I must say that, in the end, what one comes out of this meeting with is a very clear vision, an understanding of the rapid growth in the detailed relations between the two countries, in a manner that impacts very positively on the development on our meeting, and on the development challenges in our own country. It was a very good meeting and I'm sure it's taken us a step further, us as South Africans, a big step further towards meeting the goals of creating in this kind of society which we are battling to create out of the legacy of apartheid.

Thank you very much, Vice President.

VP Gore: Mr. Deputy President, I want to begin by thanking you, my friend and colleague, for the chance that my American colleagues and I have had to participate in this sixth meeting of the US/South Africa Binational Commission. Somehow, Thabo, you've always managed to bring us to one of the most beautiful places on the face of the earth, and you really outdid yourself this time around. We've enjoyed being here on the slopes of Table Mountain in this beautiful garden and we've gotten a lot of work done here too and I want to thank my colleagues on both sides for all of the effort and time and attention that went into this. You know, a long time ago, we decided that we would have the meeting every six months in South Africa during your summer time, so that we could experience summer in February, and we like to reciprocate the favor to you in Washington.

I was honored to meet again yesterday with President Mandela. We have had, Deputy President Mbeki and I have had, six or seven hours of intensive one-on-one conversations. Not only about the specific issues that are being handled by our Commission, but also a number of bilateral issues that are of importance to our countries and important to Africa and to the world.

I must say that each time I've had the privilege of visiting South Africa, and this is now my fourth visit as Vice President, I feel an even greater confidence in the promise of the new South Africa. Moreover, I feel an even greater sense of the potential of our partnership together. So, I reaffirm to the people of South Africa, as I have to my friend, Deputy President Mbeki and to President Mandela, that the people of the United States of America are committed to the strongest possible partnership between the United States and South Africa. A partnership based on mutual respect with the purpose of mutually advancing the interest of our citizens.

The Deputy President and I have seen the important contributions of the BNC in promoting and deepening this natural partnership and I want to associate myself with the sentiments that he expressed a moment ago. Actually, we were privately sharing them on the way over here. Namely, that a lot of the work of this Commission is highly detailed, it involves nuts and bolts, and yet it adds up and over the years. It has led to a series of breakthroughs and accomplishments so numerous, that if we were to list them all on a single poster, it would look like quite a lot, because it is. And yet, each one of them adds to the others in a pattern

that ultimately builds the kind of partnership and friendship between our nations that we're really aiming at.

There were three highlights that I would like to mention coming out of this meeting of the Commission. First of all as you have just seen, Minister Irwin and Secretary Daley signed a trade and investment framework agreement that will, among other things, create a bilateral council on trade and investment. A council that will meet regularly to discuss specific trade and investment matters, negotiate agreements, and help remove barriers to trade and investment. There's no doubt in my mind that this new mechanism will help to speed the expansion of two-way trade and investment.

Also, in order to enhance our interaction and cooperation in the critical area of crime, Justice Minister Omar and Attorney General Reno have just signed the terms of reference for the BNC's new Justice and Anti-Crime Cooperation Committee. Already, the committee has agreed to establish a permanent working group on training and technical assistance that will help both of our countries to share experience, training and resources to support the fight against crime.

I'm also delighted to announce that our sustainable energy committee and its co-chairs, Minister Maduna and Secretary Richardson, have agreed to work together to promote clean energy initiatives that will address climate change goals while promoting economic growth. The committee has also agreed to begin working together with other countries in the region to promote clean energy, protect the environment and address the issue of climate change. Now, we've also focused on jobs and although the session benefited from the fact that it was not open press, I do wish that it had been in a way, because the interchange was very, very productive. There were so many good ideas and there's so much work underway by the South African government to stimulate the creation of jobs, especially in small and medium enterprises. It's a very exciting prospect. These things take time, of course, but my colleagues and I are just filled with admiration for what Thabo Mbeki and his team are doing to promote progress here in South Africa.

In closing, let me say that the real secret to whatever success we have had, and I think we've had a lot, has been the work with the Deputy President and the friendships that we have forged between the two of us and between the co-chairs of our committees and the teams in both countries. It really is a labor of love; it seems worth every ounce of energy that we can possibly put into it. And it helps to see these results occurring on a regular basis. So, thank you again for the wonderful hospitality and we look forward to some questions.

Thank you very much.

April Ryan, American Urban Radio Network: Vice President Gore and Deputy President Mbeki, you're both wearing lapel pins dedicated to the fight against AIDS. How can you effectively fight the spread of the disease when many people here and in the United States run from issues of AIDS testing and prevention techniques?

Mbeki: Well, what we are trying to do in this country is to engage in as widespread and sustained as possible a campaign of AIDS awareness. It's a very major challenge to educate the entirety of the South African population about this issue to make sure everybody knows what's involved, what's at stake, what preventive measures to take and so on. And we are quite certain, and I think universal experience around the world, shows,

including Africa, shows the critical importance of that kind of campaign. Of course, you need also to keep a very close watch on this as to practically what is happening in the society on rates of infection and all of these kinds of questions. And, these are areas in which there is cooperation between ourselves and the United States to be able to keep an eye on this. But, as I say, we are quite convinced that the most effective way to deal with this is continuously, at all levels of society, the entirety of the society, the entirety of its leadership, business, labor, politicians, religious people, everybody, artists, sports people, and so on; to engage this thing in a way that makes its impact. And that's the direction in which we are setting.

Gore: If I could respond also. In the United States of America, the AIDS epidemic really began to hit home around 1981. Our national leaders did not really raise the alarms at that time. There are many reasons for it; I won't go into it lest my comments be misinterpreted. The point I'm trying to make is a simpler point; we did not ring the alarm bells. Our national leadership did not raise the roofs in trying to alert people to what was going on. It took some time before that happened. Now, finally, we have begun to see a little bit of progress, but we're not out of the woods yet. Here in South Africa this epidemic, which is really a pandemic, has hit with hurricane force. South Africa is blessed with a leader in Thabo Mbeki who has been speaking out forcefully, boldly and often. In order for South Africa to turn the corner, his leadership must be joined with leadership from every sector of society. Please forgive me, as a non-South African, for speaking in this way about a matter affecting your country. I'm wearing this pin because my friend, Thabo Mbeki, gave it to me this morning after a very lengthy conversation we had about HIV/AIDS last night. This is a crisis for South Africa. Listen to what Deputy President Mbeki is saying and ask the leaders of entertainment and sports and business and labor and every sector of society: Why aren't you also adding your voice to that of the Deputy President? Minister Zuma has been leading the way. Our Surgeon General, David Satcher, engaged in a very interesting and illuminating discussion with her in our Commission meeting today. Secretary Shalala, from the United States, has been actively involved in the health committee's work as well. This is a problem that must be faced at a new level of urgency. And by the way, it is not only in South Africa. South Africa keeps good statistics. Neighboring countries may not in the same way. This is a regional epidemic and a worldwide pandemic that must be faced with the kind of urgency that Deputy President Mbeki has been bringing to it.

Carol Paton, Sunday Times: Deputy President Mbeki and Vice President Gore, could you please comment on the issue of peace and stability on the African continent and the likelihood of any peace keeping initiatives?

Mbeki: Well, you are dealing with at least eleven conflicts. Now, I don't know to which one you refer. We discussed this thing. I think what I should say about this is that essentially the United States and South Africa are of one mind about this, about the importance and urgency of finding negotiated solutions to these questions. And secondly, there is an expectation, a correct expectation, that as Africans we would lead, in terms of these initiatives, to insure that, indeed, peaceful solutions are found. Further, there is an agreement that we need to build capacity within the African continent for peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace enforcement, perhaps. In that regard the United States is supporting us with regard to the Blue Crane operation, which brings together all of these countries of southern Africa to build that capacity for peacekeeping. It has been a very important contribution in terms of building the capacity to do this.

So, none of us have said we want an intervention from the United States, by way of contribution of troops or anything like this. And, I think the approach to these questions, and the willingness to give that physical, logistic support to such African initiatives, is maybe necessary.

I think it's a correct approach to this question. Lastly, we are also of the same view that the United Nations has a continuing responsibility with regard to the conflict in Angola. So, that's a broad framework. We can come into detail about Ethiopia and Eritrea and Sierra Leone and Angola and the Congo and so, but perhaps we wouldn't have time for that.

Gore: For our part, we are exploring the ways we can be of most practical help in promoting stability, in responding to crisis and preventing crises before they occur. We are actively helping in the Blue Crane exercise coming up, with equipment and resources and some personnel. We have been in dialogue with South Africa and other nations about our proposed Africa Crisis Response Initiative. We want to refine it in ways that make it useful to the continent. We have also engaged in a dialogue with SADC countries, Southern African Development Council countries, and we have an upcoming meeting with them. And then in the month of April, in Washington, we are hosting a Sub-Saharan Africa policy forum with virtually all of the Sub-Saharan nations coming, with representatives coming to Washington at the same time to talk about ways that we might improve our partnership with nations of the continent. And, I've been talking with the Deputy President about how we can integrate South African ideas for success in that conference.

In talking about the need for stability and crisis response, let's also remember that the world is vulnerable to what some have called Afro-pessimism. Indeed, there are a lot of conflicts and there is some pessimism, but there's cause for optimism as well and we should always remember that for every one of these crises, there is a success story: Democracies emerging, markets growing, people's lives improving. Let's try to promote that process with African trade and growth. We have legislation pending in our Congress on that. And in bilateral relations the so-called TIFA trade and investment framework agreement that was signed by Alec Irwin and Bill Daley will constitute a real breakthrough in the bilateral economic relationship between the United States and South Africa.

Lynn Duke, from the Washington Post: This question is for both of you. The Binational Commission has been meeting now for three and a half years and now, in 1999, its focused on job creation has emerged. Which raises the question of why this hasn't emerged sooner, number one and; number two, your response, Vice President Gore, to what many analysts say is a surprisingly low level of U.S. investment in South Africa, compared to the rhetoric that greeted the end of apartheid and the dawn of democracy in 1994?

Gore: Well, the United States is the largest investor of any nation in the world in South Africa. The figures just came out for 1998 and once again we are the largest investor by far of any nation in the world. I believe that we will see those investment levels grow even more rapidly with this trade and investment framework agreement that was signed today. We are slowly, methodically, but surely, removing the obstacles to two-way trade and investment. After the miracle of democracy happened in South Africa, there was a natural tendency to expect that an economic miracle would instantly follow. But the transition in the real world from an

apartheid regime in which the majority of the population were suffering bitter discrimination and deprivation of opportunity into the world economy of the information age, in reality that is a transition that takes time and patience and leadership of the kind that Thabo Mbeki and Nelson Mandela are providing. We believe that friendship and partnership of the kind we want to add to that mix can also help to accelerate that process. One other thing before turning to Thabo for his part of this answer: Even though this session was the first time we had a roundtable discussion, focusing explicitly on job creation, we have focused on job creation from the very beginning in the work of all of our committees. And, one of the outcomes of this roundtable was to compile the cross-cutting work of the various committees that has long since been focused on job creation to see how we might magnify the success of their efforts.

Mbeki: I would say in addition to that, that of course this is a living institution. It grows, it evolves, and I'm quite certain that as it grows it will do new things. Certainly, as the Vice President is saying, the matter of job creation has been an element in all of the work that's been done, whether it's in the energy area or in water, or whatever. But, we thought that we should concentrate on this matter now, instead of leaving it. We dealt with it in all of the committees, but also dealt with it in this focused way. When we had the last meeting in Washington we called it an executive session, the smaller session. In that particular session we concentrated on these broader economic issues, issues of globalization, matters like this. So, it is not the first time that you get a kind of focus of this nature. But I'm saying you are dealing with an evolving institution and I'm quite sure that as it evolves it will think of new ways of doing some things better and of doing some things it has not done in the past. I must also say that we are quite pleased with the continuing interest of U.S. corporations in South Africa and with the activities that have happened. I think if you go beyond the correct global picture that the Vice President has just explained, if you look at the detail of it, that some of the major corporations that have come in here, and the plans they have and so on, I think the picture that is quite clear is one that I think is very, very encouraging.

Karen Tumulty, Time Magazine: Mr. Mbeki, the Vice President has said many times that the United States has as much to learn from South Africa as South Africa does from the United States. What do you think is the single, most important thing that the United States has to learn from South Africa?

Mbeki: Let me say not what the United States would learn from South Africa, but a challenge which I'm quite convinced we need to work together to confront. It's the challenge of racism, the challenge of the creation of a non-racial society. It is a difficult, complex question, a challenge to both countries. I think that we can teach one another things about this and I think we can draw from experiences in terms of progress that is made with regard to this matter to see how applicable those lessons are in the other country. But, I'm quite sure that it's a big area and needs to address many things: Questions of education, of economics, housing, social questions, and attitudes of mind. There is a feeling, certainly among certain sections of the black population in the United States, of being particular victims with regard to crime prevention and crime combating. There are many issues like this. So, I think this is an area where we should, can, must and are working together and I think we would teach each other important lessons. Perhaps because of that we can make a contribution to a problem that is worldwide, a problem that is not receding in terms of relations among the people, and so in the end we can learn from each other.

Gore: I couldn't add to that.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 21:34:34.00

SUBJECT: Baltimore Sun piece

TO: michael.elazier@mail.house.gov (michael.elazier@mail.house.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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Activists want change in S. Africa policy

By Jonathan Weisman

Sun National Staff

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New Jersey At the industry's behest, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, a Republican, slipped language into last year's budget law requiring the State Department to report to Congress on its efforts to suspend or repeal the South African law. In the meantime, no U.S. foreign aid could be released to South Africa's government.

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adviser, who attended Fuerth, the vice president's national security president, said Gore both meetings with the future South African offered to discuss an import agreement to let South Africa shop for the best price for AIDS drugs worldwide and then import them in bulk. The offer "would likely be controversial with the drug companies," Fuerth said, but Gore favored "a mutually acceptable solution."

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review of South Africa policies" on April 30.

In fact, the April 30 report was the U.S. trade representative's annual report on intellectual property rights that looked at more than 70 countries. Gore had nothing to do with it. South Africa was one of 37 countries placed on the trade representative's "watch list," the lowest-priority category.

Trewhitt acknowledged that the pharmaceutical industry pushed the administration to label South Africa a "priority foreign country," which would set a deadline for it to change its disputed policy before trade sanctions would take effect. But under pressure from Gore's office, the trade representative refused to do so.

"The vice president took the position that the health crisis in South Africa really needed to be taken into account," Rice said.

But AIDS activists remain unconvinced.

Gore's deputies "want it both ways," said James Love, director of the Consumer Project on Technology and a leading Gore critic on the issue. "They want to sit around with Pharma, negotiate for campaign contributions, then blame everything on Rodney [Frelinghuysen]."

The activists concede that their actions may be shortsighted. Gore has been generally friendly to AIDS groups, pushing for more spending on AIDS research and patient care. Sawyer noted that ACT UP's 1994 campaign against incumbent New York Gov. Mario M. Cuomo might have turned off gay and minority voters, helping elect George E. Pataki, a Republican who, Sawyer says, has been far less attentive.

"But this is a crisis of huge proportions," Sawyer said. "This is a genocide of 30 million to 40 million people of color. It cannot be seen as anything else."

Originally published on Jun 22 1999

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 21:38:24.00

SUBJECT: Baltimore Sun again

TO: michael.elazier@mail.house.gov (michael.elazier@mail.house.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Michael: Here is the Baltimore Sun article again -- this time, I bolded the part that talks about the Vice President stopping sanctions; that would be a key point to highlight in talking to any reporter. In fact, it would be best if the Congressman were to give the reporter the Baltimore Sun piece (it was Tuesday morning) along with the letter -- with the favorable parts underlined.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 09:18:12.00

SUBJECT: Op-ed

TO: tnh%pretoria@mhs.cstat.co.za (tnh%pretoria@mhs.cstat.co.za @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Ambassador James Joseph
Draft Op-ed

As the United States Ambassador to South Africa, I have watched from a ringside seat as Vice President Al Gore has worked with South African leaders to build the health and strength of this young democracy. As founding co-chair of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, he has taken a special interest in bringing South Africa the world's best knowledge, ideas, and efforts in fighting the scourge of AIDS.

Naturally, then, I have been astonished to hear claims from groups that purport to know and care about this issue -- that the Vice President, at the bidding of drug companies, has personally threatened Deputy President (now President) Mbeki with trade sanctions if South Africa proceeds with efforts to provide lower-cost AIDS drugs.

Their story is not just wrong; it makes no sense. Vice President Gore has made an immense personal investment over the past four years working with South Africans to improve health, expand trade, and build stronger bilateral ties. Why would he undercut his own efforts?

Here are the facts: In 1997, the South Africa National Assembly passed legislation that granted the Government unspecified new powers to provide lower-cost pharmaceuticals. Concerned that the law would infringe on their patent rights, more than 40 pharmaceutical firms -- about a third from South Africa, a third from Europe, and a third from the U.S. -- challenged the law in South African courts, claiming it violates the South African Constitution. After more than a year, that case is still pending.

The Clinton Administration has shared its own concerns with South Africa over the more vague provisions of the Medicines Act. We have asked the Government of South Africa to clarify the actions it would take under the Act, and assure us the actions would comply with international agreements.

Indeed, there is a global consensus on the need for patents to protect medical research. That is why the 134 nations of the WTO came to an agreement -- known in shorthand as TRIPS -- to establish international standards for intellectual property protection.

Groups now claim that the Vice President has been "bullying" the Deputy President to force South Africa to abandon its rights under TRIPS. (Again, it makes no sense. Anyone who knows the Vice President knows his affection for Mr. Mbeki and for South Africa; anyone who knows President Mbeki knows this warrior against Apartheid cannot be bullied).

If you ask these groups for their most compelling evidence, they point to a State Department Report from February of this year. The report mentions

an August, 1998 meeting between the Vice President and Deputy President where, the report said, the two ¶ agreed on a basis for a mutually satisfactory, Government-to-Government negotiated solution to the impasse.¶8 On that evidence, they claim the Vice President threatened the Deputy President with trade sanctions.

Nonsense. I was there. The Vice President suggested a balanced approach for solving the problem. He was seeking assurances that if South Africa were to engage in compulsory licensing and parallel importing, that it would do so consistent with international agreements. He knew the drug companies were likely to object to such an approach, but he believed it was the right thing to do -- the best way to protect the search for new and better drugs, and also protect the lives of people suffering with AIDS right now.

The charge that the Vice President is ¶ doing the drug companies dirty work¶8 is especially ignorant. Earlier this year the Vice President urged USTR to reject drug company pressure to threaten sanctions against South Africa, and USTR did so.

The AIDS crisis in Africa is unlike any epidemic we've seen in our lifetime. It is understandable that people would protest to bring attention to the issue, but some of what they say undercuts their own cause.

History is littered with the lost battles of advocates who turned against their allies. This group needs to know its allies. They should consider the Vice President¶,s friendship with President Mbeki; his record of support for South Africa; his efforts to help fight AIDS in South Africa; his record of resisting drug company pressure, and the testimony of those of us who were at Gore-Mbeki meetings and can attest to the Vice President¶, s compassionate and statesmanlike approach.

If they consider these facts -- and if they are honest -- they will show up at the next event of the Vice President¶,s, wait for a strategic moment in his speech, and then unfurl a large banner that says: "Oops."

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 06:40:00.00

SUBJECT: baltimore sun

TO: 100335.1767 (100335.1767 @ compuserve.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 17:46:11.00

SUBJECT: baltimore sun piece on AIDS/Drugs/Africa

TO: bill_dowell@timemagazine.com (bill_dowell@timemagazine.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Thanks for your efforts on this piece, Bill. Here is the Baltimore Sun piece:

AIDS protesters track Gore on campaign

trail

Activists want change in S. Africa policy

By Jonathan Weisman
Sun National Staff

2000

Africa, and

production

southern Africa.

week have

consciousness,

stakes when

czar.

events until

they say favors

life-and-death needs

House drive to

bypass U.S. patent

dying of

pharmaceuticals

group ACT

WASHINGTON -- It is an unlikely first issue of the

presidential campaign: the AIDS epidemic in South

whether Vice President Al Gore has helped block the

and importation of cheap, generic AIDS drugs to

But three jarring protests at Gore appearances last

pushed the issue to the front of the vice president's

infuriating Gore's White House staff and raising the

AIDS activists meet today with the White House AIDS

The activists have pledged to disrupt Gore's campaign

they win a shift in administration trade policy, which

the powerful pharmaceutical industry over the

of Africa's poor. Protesters say Gore has led a White

force South Africa to scuttle an effort that would

laws to provide life-saving medicine to many Africans

AIDS.

"Gore has been carrying out the dirty work of the

companies," said Eric Sawyer, co-founder of the AIDS

UP New York. "He's putting a higher priority on trade

than public

health."

the

But Gore aides -- and even some AIDS activists -- say protesters have distorted the vice president's efforts

to forge a

compromise between protecting U.S. patent law and

addressing an

AIDS crisis in southern Africa. Susan Rice, the

assistant secretary of

state for Africa, asserted that Gore has "led the way"

in opposing trade sanctions and other drastic actions pushed by the

pharmaceutical industry.

"The root of what is wrong in AIDS care is drug pricing, but the vice

president is not the culprit -- the drug companies

are," said Daniel Zingale, executive director of the AIDS Action Council, the nation's

largest lobby on AIDS issues. "Of all the people

running for

president, Gore seems like an unlikely one to target."

Africa wants to

To many AIDS activists, the issue is simple: South

to block

lower the price of AIDS treatments, and Gore is trying

disrupted his rallies

those efforts. Three times last week, protesters

Kills." A rally is

with taunts and signs proclaiming, "Gore's Greed

Gore will be

planned Monday in Philadelphia outside a hotel where

raising campaign cash.

changes its

"We're not going to go away until this administration

policy," Sawyer said.

Drug companies cry foul

minister

In 1997, South Africa passed a law granting its health

produce generic

authority to let local pharmaceutical companies

drugs. With

versions of AIDS drugs, despite U.S. patents on those

price of AIDS

3.2 million South Africans infected with HIV, and the

called its actions

drugs out of reach for most of them, the government

necessary and legal.

rushed to

But U.S. and European drug companies cried foul. They

and to court in

Congress and the U.S. trade representative for help,

executives won an

South Africa to try to block the law. Industry

injunction.

\$500 million for
to companies'

With the cost of drug development soaring to up to
one new medication, patent rights have become critical
survival, industry officials say.

industry," said Jeff
lobbying arm.

"Patent protection is vitally important to this
Trehwitt, a spokesman for Pharmaceutical Research and
Manufacturers of America, or Pharma, the industry's

New Jersey
law requiring the
to suspend or
foreign aid

At the industry's behest, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, a
Republican, slipped language into last year's budget
State Department to report to Congress on its efforts
repeal the South African law. In the meantime, no U.S.
could be released to South Africa's government.

February that is
"making use of
including the vice
the issue "a
Deputy
Gore met with
the AIDS

The State Department came back with a report in
now haunting Gore. The report said the nation was
the full panoply of leverage in our arsenal,"
president, to gut the South African law. Gore had made
central focus" of his meeting with then-South African
President Thabo Mbeki in August, the report stated.
Mbeki in February and again brought up the issue. To
activists, this document was the smoking gun.

we plan to
Philadelphia.

"Since Gore is the orchestrator of this whole policy,
continue," said Asia Russell, a member of ACT UP
"We're going to escalate until these policies change."

Wrong about role, aides say

role. Leon S.
adviser, who attended
president, said Gore
Africa shop for
import them in
the drug

But Gore aides say the activists are wrong about his
Fuerth, the vice president's national security
both meetings with the future South African
offered to discuss an import agreement to let South
the best price for AIDS drugs worldwide and then
bulk. The offer "would likely be controversial with

acceptable
please don't use

companies," Fuerth said, but Gore favored "a mutually solution." (Bill: above wasn't quoted correctly; it)

facts. In an
that he had

And Gore aides said AIDS activists are bending other open letter to Gore, for instance, activists asserted authorized the U.S. trade representative to conduct "a sweeping new review of South Africa policies" on April 30. In fact, the April 30 report was the U.S. trade representative's annual report on intellectual property rights that looked at more than 70 countries. Gore had nothing to do with it. South Africa was one of 37 countries placed on the trade representative's "watch list," the lowest-priority category.

pushed the
foreign country,"
disputed policy before
from Gore's

Trewhitt acknowledged that the pharmaceutical industry administration to label South Africa a "priority which would set a deadline for it to change its trade sanctions would take effect. But under pressure office, the trade representative refused to do so.

"The vice president took the position that the health crisis in South Africa really needed to be taken into account," Rice said.

But AIDS activists remain unconvinced.

director of the
critic on the
for campaign
[Frelinghuysen]."

Gore's deputies "want it both ways," said James Love, Consumer Project on Technology and a leading Gore issue. "They want to sit around with Pharma, negotiate contributions, then blame everything on Rodney

shortsighted. Gore
for more
noted that

The activists concede that their actions may be has been generally friendly to AIDS groups, pushing spending on AIDS research and patient care. Sawyer ACT UP's 1994 campaign against incumbent New York Gov. Mario M. Cuomo might have turned off gay and minority voters, helping elect George E. Pataki, a Republican who, Sawyer says, has been far less attentive.

said. "This is a
It cannot be

"But this is a crisis of huge proportions," Sawyer genocide of 30 million to 40 million people of color. seen as anything else."

Originally published on Jun 22 1999

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sandra Thurman (CN=Sandra Thurman/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-JUN-1999 18:14:56.00

SUBJECT: Fwd: URGENT ALERT: Protest Gore in Philly this Monday 6/28

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP on 06/24/99
06:14 PM -----

helenmm@itsa.ucsf.edu

06/24/99 02:21:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Daniel C. Montoya@eop, Sandra Thurman@eop, Todd A. Summers@eop
cc:
Subject: Fwd: URGENT ALERT: Protest Gore in Philly this Monday 6/28

Dear All,

I received this notice from one of my "beloved adopted sons" - frankly, I think this is getting out of hand - do they really think that Geo. Bush is going to do what we want when it comes to HIV/AIDS issues? Gore is having enough trouble without us contributing to the problem

helen

>From: BillMNYC@aol.com
>Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1999 01:58:26 EDT
>Subject: Fwd: URGENT ALERT: Protest Gore in Philly this Monday 6/28
>To: helenmm@itsa.ucsf.edu
>X-Mailer: AOL 3.0 16-bit for Windows sub 58
>
>
>Return-Path: <owner-aids@wubios.wustl.edu>
>Received: from rly-yd01.mx.aol.com (rly-yd01.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.1]) by
> air-yd01.mail.aol.com (v59.51) with SMTP; Thu, 24 Jun 1999 01:50:52
> -0400
>Received: from wubios.wustl.edu (wubios.wustl.edu [128.252.117.1]) by
> rly-yd01.mx.aol.com (vx) with SMTP; Thu, 24 Jun 1999 01:50:40 -0400
>Received: from localhost by wubios.wustl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id
> AAA04065;
> Thu, 24 Jun 1999 00:50:15 -0500 (CDT)
>Received: by wubios.wustl.edu (bulk_mailer v1.5); Thu, 24 Jun 1999
00:49:46
> -0500
>Received: by wubios.wustl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) id AAA04041
> Thu, 24 Jun 1999 00:49:43 -0500 (CDT)
>Received: by wubios.wustl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) id AAA04031

> Thu, 24 Jun 1999 00:49:40 -0500 (CDT)
>Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1999 00:49:40 -0500 (CDT)
>Message-Id: <199906240549.AAA04031@wubios.wustl.edu>
>From: sma@wubios.wustl.edu
>Subject: URGENT ALERT: Protest Gore in Philly this Monday 6/28
>To: AIDS Mailing List <aids@wubios.wustl.edu>
>Sender: owner-aids@wubios.wustl.edu
>Reply-To: aids@wubios.wustl.edu
>Precedence: bulk
>
>From: Julie Davids <jdavids@critpath.org>
>Newsgroups: sci.med.aids
>Approved: Yes: Jeff Rizzo <biomech@bellatlantic.net>, davec@serv.net
>Subject: URGENT ALERT: Protest Gore in Philly this Monday 6/28
>Message-ID: <55559@sci.med.aids>
>Date: Tue, 22 Jun 1999 16:39:17 CDT
>Organization: unspecified
>
>Demand AIDS drugs for Africa!
>Demonstrate: THIS Monday, June 28 6pm
>15th and Cherry Streets, between Arch and Race
>Philadelphia PA
> buses available from New York and other locations / SEPTA tokens
available
> call 215-731-1844 or jdavids@critpath.org
>
>Vice President Al Gore is threatening trade sanctions against South Africa
>for its efforts to manufacture affordable generic versions of expensive
>AIDS drugs.
>
>Millions of people with HIV in South Africa have no access to life saving
>medications.
>
>Gore wishes to "protect the interests of American industry." Al Gore's
>Medical Apartheid trades millions of lives for drug company profits.
>
>* * * * * = = = = = * * * * *
>
>Gore is running for President. AIDS Activists confronted Gore at three of
his
>four campaign announcements in Tennessee, New Hampshire, and Wall Street.
>
>Now he's coming to Philadelphia for a \$1000 a plate fundraiser at the
>Wyndham Franklin Plaza hotel....
>
> Transportation, housing and background materials
available.
>
>Candidate Gore is working against the efforts of South Africa and other
>developing nations to save lives. His top advisors are current and former
>drug company lobbyists.
>
>Gore and the drug companies he is counting on for support would rather let
>millions die from AIDS than give away the big secret: many AIDS drugs cost
>pennies to manufacture.
>
>ACT UP Philadelphia * FIGHT AIDS WORLDWIDE * ACT UP Philadelphia * FIGHT
AIDS
>

```

>++++++      ++++++      ++++++      ++++++
>+++++      ++++++      ++++++
>Press release from last week's action:
>
>PRESS RELEASE --- PRESS RELEASE --- PRESS
RELEASE
>For immediate release
>Contacts: Eric Sawyer: (212) 864-5672
>Julie Davids * (215) 985-4448 x 14 or page (215) 212-9050
>
>GORE STUMPING DISRUPTED FOR SECOND TIME
>AIDS Activists confront VP on African drug policy
>
>June 17, 1999 , Manchester NH
>
>AIDS activists took over Vice President Al Gore's second campaign stop
this
> morning in Manchester, New Hampshire. The activists were protesting
Gore's
>instrumental role in preventing AIDS medications from reaching people in
>developing countries, including South Africa and Thailand.
>
>Five protesters, organized by the local chapter of AIDS Drugs for Africa,
>disrupted Gore's campaign speech with noisemakers, chants and banners
>reading "GORE'S GREED KILLS: AFRICA NEEDS AIDS DRUGS." They were seated
>directly behind Gore in the audience of 300 in the Hesser College Gym.
>
> "After our protest, Gore said AIDS drugs for Africa are very important.
>Yet, he is personally standing in the way of cheap, life-saving treatment
>for Africans with HIV", said Moshe Mizrahi, a protester. "I guess Gore
does
>have strong family values after all; he has family ties to the
>pharmaceutical lobby and he's killing people on their behalf."
>
>Gore's domestic policy advisor, David Beier, is the former head lobbyist
>for Genetech, a major U.S. pharmaceutical company. Tony Podesta, top Gore
>advisor and brother of Clinton's chief of staff, is currently the
>contracted lobbyist for PhARMA (Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's
Association)
>and most other U.S. drug interests. Tom Downey, close Gore associate and
>former congressman, lobbies for Merck pharmaceuticals. Gore fundraiser
>Peter Knight is a former Schering-Plough lobbyist.
>
>Gore has vehemently opposed the practice of "compulsory licensing", which
>allows local companies to produce cheap, generic AIDS drugs. He has
>threatened sanctions against the South African government unless
President
>Thabo Mbeki calls a halt to generic drug production. Compulsory licensing
>is legal under current international trade agreements, and provides
>royalties to patent owners. AIDS medications would be available at 10% of
>their American price.
>
>Currently, 22.5 million Africans are HIV-positive, including up to 26% of
>young adults, and totaling 67% of the world's HIV+ population. Virtually
>all are poor and unable to afford treatment at American prices. Most AIDS
>deaths in developing countries result from lack of access to drugs for
>treatable infections. Average income in South Africa is $2,600/year, and
>name-brand AIDS drugs cost around $12,000/year.
>
>Pharmaceutical companies based in the U.S., long under attack for

```

>price-gouging at the expense of human lives, have claimed that the high
>cost of treatment reflects their production expenses. These companies
stand
>to lose credibility as generic drug licensing exposes the true low cost of
>AIDS drug production; which may prevent them from continuing to
drastically
>overcharge in first-world markets.
>
>"Gore's abuse of power is a campaign issue," said Anna Janssen, a local
>AIDS activist. "He's taken a position, for the sake of earning points with
>lobbyists, that absolutely guarantees millions of deaths. Now he wants us
>to place our fate in his hands as President. Personally, I don't dare."
>
>END ----- END
>-----
>##### Julie Davids #####
>##### ACT UP Philadelphia #####
>##### jdavids@critpath.org #####

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 19:03:13.00

SUBJECT: guidance on AIDS/Drugs/Africa

TO: Eric R. Anderson (CN=Eric R. Anderson/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

AIDS Drugs

for Africa

June 25, 1999

Context: In 1997 South Africa's National Assembly passed legislation granting the Health Minister unspecified powers related to pharmaceutical patents. In response to this legislation, more than 40 companies -- roughly one third from America, one third from Europe, one third from South Africa) challenged the law in South African Court, contending that this law violates the constitution of South Africa. The litigation is still ongoing.

At the same time, the U.S. Trade Representative was concerned that the ambiguity in the law could allow for actions in violation of the WTO-TRIPS agreement (the agreement reached by the 134-member WTO on protection of intellectual property). As a result, USTR named South Africa to the 301 Special Watch List. The watch list (which is not attached to sanctions) is the lowest level of three designations included in the report USTR produces every April. The report's purpose is to signal U.S. concern on intellectual property rights protection offered to U.S. goods by U.S. trading partners.

The Vice President) in his meeting with Deputy President Mbeki in August 1998 -- proposed that the two work toward a solution within a framework that would include parallel importing and compulsory licensing, so long as they were done consistent with international agreements (TRIPS). But progress of negotiations has been slow because of worries on both sides about prejudicing the outcome of the ongoing litigation.

AIDS activists have charged that the Vice President) in order to curry favor with drug companies -- has threatened severe trade sanctions against South Africa. These activists have been given credible airing in the media in spite of underlying facts that disprove their points.

Namely: Early in 1999, drug company representatives pushed to raise South Africa's status on the 301 Special Watch List from the lowest level to the highest level. The highest designation) if imposed) would require South Africa to resolve the issue to U.S. satisfaction within a set period of time or face trade sanctions. As reported in a Tuesday, June 22 story in the Baltimore Sun, the Office of the Vice President strongly opposed the drug industry recommendation, and the April 30 report) rather than raising the designation -- kept South Africa on the watch list.

AIDS activists have said the Vice President has threatened trade sanctions against South Africa if they go forward with plans to produce lower-cost AIDS drugs. Is that fair?

ú As co-chair of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, the Vice President has made an immense personal investment of time and effort in building better U.S. ties with South Africa ¶) working to improve health, expand trade, build the economy.

ú Why would he be trying to undercut his own efforts?

ú The Vice President has taken a special interest in South Africa¶,s efforts to fight AIDS, and has kept the crisis clearly in mind as we have worked to resolve our trade differences.

ú As Susan Rice, our Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, said in the press this week (Baltimore Sun, Tuesday June 22): the Vice President took the position that the health crisis in South Africa needed to be taken into account, and he led the way led the way in opposing trade sanctions pushed by the pharmaceutical industry.

ú These activists ¶) as the Washington Post said in their Thursday editorial ¶) are ¶manipulating the facts.¶8 They should understand that the Vice President is one of the strongest advocates in this administration for the issues they care about.

ú They should be working with him instead of against him.

The Vice President cares nothing for millions who are dying.

It would be hard to find someone in the U.S. Government with a more active record of support for the fight against AIDS in South Africa.

Since 1995, the Vice President has co-chaired with Deputy President Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. In that context, he has had a central role in bringing to South Africa the best of American knowledge, effort and ideas in the fight against AIDS.

Under the auspices of the Commission, the U.S. has funded a South African effort to track the disease ¶)you can¶,t fight it if you can¶,t track it. The Commission has also worked to expand awareness and improve prevention.

The Vice President has brought high-level U.S. health officials on his trips to South Africa ¶)Secretary Shalala and Surgeon General Satcher -- where they have spoken with President Mandela¶,s cabinet on the issue of AIDS.

Just a few months ago, Vice President Gore took Surgeon General David Satcher with him to South Africa for another meeting of the Commission.

When Vice President Gore appeared with Deputy President Mbeki last February on national TV in South Africa, he was wearing an AIDS ribbon, done in African beadwork, given to him by Mbeki after the two had spent hours the previous day in a one-on-one discussion on AIDS.

It is hard to believe that the Deputy President would present the Vice President such a gift unless they were united in partnership in the fight against AIDS.

The Vice President and Deputy President Mbeki spent a substantial part of their time at the press conference talking about the importance of raising awareness of AIDS, and the Vice President urged leaders in every sector of South African society to add their voices to Mr. Mbeki¶,s in the call for

greater awareness and action against AIDS.

During those meetings, did the Vice President threaten trade sanctions against South Africa?

No, he did not. The Vice President proposed working toward a resolution within a framework that would include compulsory licensing and parallel importing, as long as they were done in line with international agreements.

What's the basis for the dispute?

The issue arose in 1997, when South Africa's National Assembly passed legislation granting the Health Minister unspecified powers related to pharmaceutical patents. The ambiguity raised concern that actions taken under that law might not be compliant with the WTO-TRIPS agreement.

In response to this legislation, more than 40 companies -- roughly one third from America, one third from Europe, one third from South Africa -- have challenged the law in South African Court, contending that this law violates the constitution of South Africa. This case is now being heard by the South Africa Constitutional Court. The ongoing litigation has slowed efforts to resolve it on a government to government level.

But didn't the Vice President order a sweeping new review of South African trade laws on April 30, 1999?

No, he did not. The Baltimore Sun's June 22 story pointed out this fallacy. This charge grows out of a misunderstanding of the United States Trade Representative's Annual 301 report issued April 30, 1999.

The USTR is mandated by Congress to publish a report every year at the end of April, detailing which of America's trading partners may not be affording full protection to U.S. intellectual property rights. As a result of the passage of amendments to South Africa's Medicines Act, and the provisions that could lead to the loss of U.S. intellectual property rights, the U.S.T.R named South Africa to the "Special 301 watch list." This designation means what it says: "The U.S. is seeing some things that give it concern, signaling that concern to the South African government, and indicating that it will be watching further developments. It is the mildest designation in the report, and is not attached to sanctions.

There are two higher designations on the report -- the priority watch list, and the highest, the priority foreign country list. If a country is named a priority foreign country, it means that the country must -- within a set period of time -- resolve the trade dispute to the satisfaction of the United States or face stiff trade sanctions. South Africa is not close to that status.

But clearly, the Vice President is in the pocket of the pharmaceutical industry

No, he is not. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers argued this spring that the USTR annual report -- due to come out again at the end of April -- should designate South Africa (because of the Medicines Act) as a priority foreign country, the most severe designation. This would have required South Africa to resolve the issue to U.S. satisfaction within a

short period of time, or face sanctions and a loss of foreign aid. As reported in the June 22 Baltimore Sun, the Vice President's office strongly opposed the recommendation. The U.S.T.R. agreed, and its April 30, 1999 report renewed South Africa's status on the watch list.

But the Vice President is trying to stop South Africa from doing things that are legal under WTO/TRIPS.

No, he is not. The U.S. is seeking clarification of the law ¶) about how it will be implemented. The point of discussions has been to work with South Africa to seek assurances that actions taken under the law will be in line with international agreements.

So where does the Vice President stand?

The Vice President believes we need to use all available means to deliver high-quality, affordable medicines to those who need them. And we should do it within the legal limits established by TRIPS. Specifically, the Vice President has no objection to parallel exporting or compulsory licensing of pharmaceuticals in South Africa, so long as it is consistent with TRIPS.

But all the South Africans want to do is what is already their legal right under TRIPS.

Section 15c of the Medicines Act gives the Health Minister unspecified powers that could go beyond what has been agreed to under TRIPS.

But the State Department Report says that the Vice President was part of an effort to put pressure on the South Africans.

First, the State Department report ¶) dated February 5 -- was written in response to members of Congress who had expressed concern that the U.S. wasn't being tough enough with South Africa. They had already suspended U.S. foreign assistance to the central Government of South Africa, and said they would not restore the aid until they received a State Department report detailing what the U.S. was doing to resolve the issue. They had already rejected an earlier report ¶) apparently for not being tough enough.

Second, the only language in the report that names Vice President Gore comes on pages 6 and 7 ¶) under the heading ¶&The Vice President's Plan for a Negotiated Solution.¶8 It reads as follows:

¶&During the August 1998 U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission meetings in Washington, Vice President Gore made the issue of intellectual property rights protection, and pharmaceutical patents in particular, a central focus of his discussions with Deputy President Mbeki. They agreed on a basis for a mutually satisfactory, Government-to-Government negotiated solution to the impasse.¶8

That is the only mention of Vice President Gore's actions in the entire report.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Paul A. Tuchmann (CN=Paul A. Tuchmann/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 16:49:55.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Michael B. Feldman (CN=Michael B. Feldman/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Matthew L. Bennett (CN=Matthew L. Bennett/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Paul A. Tuchmann/OVP on 06/25/99 04:49 PM -----

Melissa B. Ratcliff

06/25/99 04:33:44 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject:AIDS in African Story

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99 04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders

06/25/99 03:35:09 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.

Ray/OVP@OVP, Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP@OVP

cc:

Subject: AIDS in African Story

Friday June 25, 9:01 am Eastern Time

Company Press Release

SOURCE: ACT UP Philadelphia

ACT UP to Protest Gore in Phila.

Monday

PHILADELPHIA, June 25 /PRNewswire/ -- Hundreds of demonstrators from the AIDS, African American and gay and lesbian communities are expected to participate in a demonstration next Monday, June 28th, outside a \$1,000 per person fundraiser for the Gore for President campaign, according to ACT UP Philadelphia.

The general theme of the demonstration, which is supported by We The People, One Day At A Time, and a variety of church and community organizations, is ``AIDS Drugs for Africa.''
Gore is blamed for resurrecting the ``AIDS Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA),' ' legislation that, among other things, will attempt to prohibit African nations from developing less-expensive generic forms of AIDS medications and force them to pay high prices for US-patented versions of the drugs.

Four other recent Gore campaign appearances in other cities have been disrupted by activists concerned about the issue in recent days.

The Philadelphia demonstration will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a gathering at 15th and Cherry Streets, followed by a march to the Wyndham Franklin Plaza hotel, the site of the fundraiser, which is expected to draw about 500 people.

ACT UP, which calls Gore's presidential bid his ``Apartheid 2000 Campaign,' ' said it will bring a ``life sized puppet of Al Gore as a life-sized marionette, with 'Big Pharma' drug company executives controlling the strings.' '

Last week, AIDS activists, infuriated by Gore's pivotal role in threatening trade sanctions against South Africa and his active support for the AGOA, confronted Gore at three early presidential campaign announcements across the country.

Philadelphians who disrupted a Gore speech in New Hampshire will be available during Monday's demonstration.

``We don't wish for a President G. W. Bush. We are looking forward to supporting a candidate who will end Medical Apartheid, rather than one who is complicit in this racist application of trade policy,' ' said Joe West of ACT UP Philadelphia. ``As an African American, I will support a candidate who will take strong stands against big drug companies so that millions of lives in Africa can be saved.' '

Currently, 22.5 million Africans are HIV-positive, including up to 26% of young adults, totaling 67% of the world's HIV infected population. Average income in South Africa is \$2,600 per year, while the AIDS therapies that have extended the lives of many in wealthier nations cost over \$12,000 per year.

``As an American, I am ashamed that anyone in my country, much less the vice president, would do anything to interfere with access to lifesaving drugs,' ' said

Chris Bartlett, grand marshal of the 1999 Philadelphia Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride march. ``As a member of the gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender community courted by Gore for votes, I am appalled that a potential president would see the worldwide AIDS crisis through the lens of big business & profit margins.''

Many of Gore's top advisors are current or former drug company lobbyists. Tony Podesta, top Gore advisor and brother of Clinton's chief of staff, is currently the contracted lobbyist for PhRMA (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturer's Association) and many other large U.S. drug interests. Tom Downey, close Gore associate and former congressman, lobbies for Merck pharmaceuticals. Gore fundraiser Peter Knight is a former Schering-Plough lobbyist.

``Candidate Gore finds time to pressure Congress to pass the so-called 'Africa Growth and Opportunity Act' which would fuel the AIDS epidemic by placing multinational profits over health care and education,' said John Bell, a African American Vietnam veteran and ACT UP Philadelphia member. ``But he has still not endorsed the 'Early Treatment for HIV Act,' which would extend Medicaid benefits to all Americans living with HIV. I don't want another President Bush, but I fear that many voters will sit on their hands come November if Gore seems to be a puppet of big business interests.''

The Vice President, in his role as the Co-Chair of the Bi-National Trade Commission on South Africa, has threatened trade sanctions and suspension of relief payments since 1997. The trigger was the South African passage of the Medicines Act, through which Pretoria would have used ``compulsory licensing'' to produce inexpensive versions of patented drugs for local use, and ``parallel importing'' to purchase drugs through a 3rd party to benefit from price differentials. The Medicines Act has been tied up in South African courts with sanctions and threats from the U.S. as well as lawsuits filed by drug companies.

``Al Gore pushes for sanctions against South Africa for attempting to make or import drugs that could save the lives of millions of residents, at no loss to U.S. drug companies,' said Paul Davis of ACT UP Philadelphia. The entire African continent represents 1.5% of pharmaceutical sales worldwide.

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Sarah A. Bianchi/OVP@OVP

Alejandro G. Cabrera/OVP@OVP

Anthony R. Bernal/OVP@OVP

Lisa A. Berg/OVP@OVP

Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Paul A. Tuchmann (CN=Paul A. Tuchmann/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 16:49:55.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Michael B. Feldman (CN=Michael B. Feldman/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Matthew L. Bennett (CN=Matthew L. Bennett/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Paul A. Tuchmann/OVP on 06/25/99 04:49
PM -----

Melissa B. Ratcliff
06/25/99 04:33:44 PM
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject:AIDS in African Story

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99
04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders
06/25/99 03:35:09 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.
Ray/OVP@OVP, Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject: AIDS in African Story

Friday June 25, 9:01 am Eastern Time

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SOURCE: ACT UP Philadelphia

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Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Melissa B. Ratcliff (CN=Melissa B. Ratcliff/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 16:33:51.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors (Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lisa A. Berg (CN=Lisa A. Berg/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Anthony R. Bernal (CN=Anthony R. Bernal/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah A. Bianchi (CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99
04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders
06/25/99 03:35:09 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.
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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Paul A. Tuchmann (CN=Paul A. Tuchmann/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 17:06:00.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Karen Tramontano (CN=Karen Tramontano/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

FYI

----- Forwarded by Paul A. Tuchmann/OVP on 06/25/99 05:05
PM -----

Melissa B. Ratcliff
06/25/99 04:33:44 PM
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject:AIDS in African Story

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99
04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders
06/25/99 03:35:09 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.
Ray/OVP@OVP, Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP@OVP
cc:
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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Melissa B. Ratcliff (CN=Melissa B. Ratcliff/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 16:33:51.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors (Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lisa A. Berg (CN=Lisa A. Berg/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TO: Anthony R. Bernal (CN=Anthony R. Bernal/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah A. Bianchi (CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99
04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders

06/25/99 03:35:09 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.
Ray/OVP@OVP, Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP@OVP
cc:
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``As an American, I am ashamed that anyone in my country, much less the vice president, would do anything to interfere with access to lifesaving drugs,' ' said Chris Bartlett, grand marshal of the 1999 Philadelphia Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride march. ``As a member of the gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender community courted by Gore for votes, I am appalled that a potential president would see the worldwide AIDS crisis through the lens of big business & profit margins.' '

Many of Gore's top advisors are current or former drug company lobbyists. Tony Podesta, top Gore advisor and brother of Clinton's chief of staff, is currently the contracted lobbyist for PhRMA (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturer's Association) and many other large U.S. drug interests. Tom Downey, close Gore associate and former congressman, lobbies for Merck pharmaceuticals. Gore fundraiser Peter Knight is a former Schering-Plough lobbyist.

``Candidate Gore finds time to pressure Congress to pass the so-called 'Africa Growth and

Opportunity Act' which would fuel the AIDS epidemic by placing multinational profits over health care and education,' said John Bell, a African American Vietnam veteran and ACT UP Philadelphia member. ``But he has still not endorsed the 'Early Treatment for HIV Act,' which would extend Medicaid benefits to all Americans living with HIV. I don't want another President Bush, but I fear that many voters will sit on their hands come November if Gore seems to be a puppet of big business interests.'

The Vice President, in his role as the Co-Chair of the Bi-National Trade Commission on South Africa, has threatened trade sanctions and suspension of relief payments since 1997. The trigger was the South African passage of the Medicines Act, through which Pretoria would have used ``compulsory licensing'' to produce inexpensive versions of patented drugs for local use, and ``parallel importing'' to purchase drugs through a 3rd party to benefit from price differentials. The Medicines Act has been tied up in South African courts with sanctions and threats from the U.S. as well as lawsuits filed by drug companies.

``Al Gore pushes for sanctions against South Africa for attempting to make or import drugs that could save the lives of millions of residents, at no loss to U.S. drug companies,' said Paul Davis of ACT UP Philadelphia. The entire African continent represents 1.5% of pharmaceutical sales worldwide.

Major pharmaceutical companies have long been under attack from AIDS activists for high prices. However, drug manufacturers have claimed that the high cost of treatment reflects research and production expenses. The U.S. Patent and Trade Office reports, however, that in cases where U.S. tax dollars were used substantially to research or invent new treatments, the federal government either hold the patents or retains the rights to the drugs.

``Big Pharma is using Al Gore to hide their big secret: Many of these drugs cost pennies to make,' reports economist Carl Priskell. ``In many cases, drugs such as ddI, d4T or 3TC were researched and developed primarily with U.S. tax dollars, and could be turned over to the World Health Organization legally right now, so that drugs could be made available at-cost in developing nations.'

``Drug companies stand to lose credibility as generic drug licensing exposes the true low cost of AIDS drug production. Drug companies fear any reductions in their capacity to continuing to drastically overcharge in first-world markets,' continued Priskell.

A leaked Department of State report (available at <http://www.cptech.org/ip/health/sa/stdept-feb51999.html>) specifically names the Office of the Vice President as an agency of the US government that ``[has] been engaging in an assiduous, concerted campaign to persuade the Government of South Africa to withdraw or modify the

provisions of Article 15(c)'' which would permit compulsory licensing.
``Since the passage of
the offending amendments...U.S. Government agencies have been engaged in a
full court
press with South African officials from the Departments of Trade and
Industry, Foreign
Affairs, and Health, to convince the South African Government to withdraw
or amend the
offending provisions of the law.''

``How can this be anything but blatant racism?'' asks Jerome Costa of We
the People. ``I don't
see Gore strong-arming the UK for importing medications, I see him
threatening a poor,
African country trying to deal with a virus that attacks one in eight
citizens.''

``Gore's 'family values' message is diluted by his policies on South
Africa. In a nation where
20% of pregnant women have HIV, Gore works to prevent access to even a few
weeks of
AZT,''' said Asia Russell, also of ACT UP Philadelphia. ``A short course of
AZT reduces new
infections in infants by over 50%, but even this limited treatment is
unavailable because Al
Gore values drug company contributions over the lives of people of color.
Even though Glaxo
Wellcome markets the drug, the federal government paid almost every penny
for the invention
and research on AZT.''

Compulsory licensing is a legal mechanism that can be deployed during
health emergencies,
according to the TRIPS agreement established by the World Trade
Organization. Compulsory
licensing provides royalties to patent owners, and is utilized by wealthy
nations such as the
United States or Great Britain for technologies ranging from gene
therapies to infrared
goggles. In South Africa, compulsory licensing of AIDS medications could
reduce prices by as
much as 90%.

The demonstration is being organized around the following demands:

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CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 19:02:25.00

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for Africa
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At the same time, the U.S. Trade Representative was concerned that the ambiguity in the law could allow for actions in violation of the WTO-TRIPS agreement (the agreement reached by the 134-member WTO on protection of intellectual property). As a result, USTR named South Africa to the 301 Special Watch List. The watch list (which is not attached to sanctions) is the lowest level of three designations included in the report USTR produces every April. The report's purpose is to signal U.S. concern on intellectual property rights protection offered to U.S. goods by U.S. trading partners.

The Vice President -- in his meeting with Deputy President Mbeki in August 1998 -- proposed that the two work toward a solution within a framework that would include parallel importing and compulsory licensing, so long as they were done consistent with international agreements (TRIPS). But progress of negotiations has been slow because of worries on both sides about prejudicing the outcome of the ongoing litigation.

AIDS activists have charged that the Vice President -- in order to curry favor with drug companies -- has threatened severe trade sanctions against South Africa. These activists have been given credible airing in the media in spite of underlying facts that disprove their points. Namely: Early in 1999, drug company representatives pushed to raise South Africa's status on the 301 Special Watch List from the lowest level

to the highest level. The highest designation if imposed would require South Africa to resolve the issue to U.S. satisfaction within a set period of time or face trade sanctions. As reported in a Tuesday, June 22 story in the Baltimore Sun, the Office of the Vice President strongly opposed the drug industry recommendation, and the April 30 report rather than raising the designation -- kept South Africa on the watch list.

AIDS activists have said the Vice President has threatened trade sanctions against South Africa if they go forward with plans to produce lower-cost AIDS drugs. Is that fair?

ú As co-chair of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, the Vice President has made an immense personal investment of time and effort in building better U.S. ties with South Africa working to improve health, expand trade, build the economy.

ú Why would he be trying to undercut his own efforts?

ú The Vice President has taken a special interest in South Africa, efforts to fight AIDS, and has kept the crisis clearly in mind as we have worked to resolve our trade differences.

ú As Susan Rice, our Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, said in the press this week (Baltimore Sun, Tuesday June 22): the Vice President took the position that the health crisis in South Africa needed to be taken into account, and he led the way in opposing trade sanctions pushed by the pharmaceutical industry.

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Under the auspices of the Commission, the U.S. has funded a South African effort to track the disease you can't fight it if you can't track it. The Commission has also worked to expand awareness and improve prevention.

The Vice President has brought high-level U.S. health officials on his trips to South Africa Secretary Shalala and Surgeon General Satcher -- where they have spoken with President Mandela's cabinet on the issue of AIDS.

Just a few months ago, Vice President Gore took Surgeon General David Satcher with him to South Africa for another meeting of the Commission.

When Vice President Gore appeared with Deputy President Mbeki last

February on national TV in South Africa, he was wearing an AIDS ribbon, done in African beadwork, given to him by Mbeki after the two had spent hours the previous day in a one-on-one discussion on AIDS.

It is hard to believe that the Deputy President would present the Vice President such a gift unless they were united in partnership in the fight against AIDS.

The Vice President and Deputy President Mbeki spent a substantial part of their time at the press conference talking about the importance of raising awareness of AIDS, and the Vice President urged leaders in every sector of South African society to add their voices to Mr. Mbeki's in the call for greater awareness and action against AIDS.

During those meetings, did the Vice President threaten trade sanctions against South Africa?

No, he did not. The Vice President proposed working toward a resolution within a framework that would include compulsory licensing and parallel importing, as long as they were done in line with international agreements.

What's the basis for the dispute?

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There are two higher designations on the report -- the priority watch list, and the highest, the priority foreign country list. If a country is named a priority foreign country, it means that the country must -- within a set period of time -- resolve the trade dispute to the

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But the Vice President is trying to stop South Africa from doing things that are legal under WTO/TRIPS.

No, he is not. The U.S. is seeking clarification of the law ¶) about how it will be implemented. The point of discussions has been to work with South Africa to seek assurances that actions taken under the law will be in line with international agreements.

So where does the Vice President stand?

The Vice President believes we need to use all available means to deliver high-quality, affordable medicines to those who need them. And we should do it within the legal limits established by TRIPS. Specifically, the Vice President has no objection to parallel exporting or compulsory licensing of pharmaceuticals in South Africa, so long as it is consistent with TRIPS.

But all the South Africans want to do is what is already their legal right under TRIPS.

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for Africa

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No, he did not. The Baltimore Sun's June 22 story pointed out this fallacy. This charge grows out of a misunderstanding of the United States Trade Representative's Annual 301 report issued April 30, 1999.

The USTR is mandated by Congress to publish a report every year at the end of April, detailing which of America's trading partners may not be affording full protection to U.S. intellectual property rights. As a result of the passage of amendments to South Africa's Medicines Act, and the provisions that could lead to the loss of U.S. intellectual property rights, the U.S.T.R named South Africa to the "Special 301 watch list." This designation means what it says: "The U.S. is seeing some things that give it concern, signaling that concern to the South African government, and indicating that it will be watching further developments. It is the mildest designation in the report, and is not attached to sanctions.

There are two higher designations on the report -- the priority watch list, and the highest, the priority foreign country list. If a country is named a priority foreign country, it means that the country must -- within a set period of time -- resolve the trade dispute to the satisfaction of the United States or face stiff trade sanctions. South Africa is not close to that status.

But clearly, the Vice President is in the pocket of the pharmaceutical industry

No, he is not. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers argued this spring that the USTR annual report -- due to come out again at the end of April -- should designate South Africa (because of the Medicines Act) as a priority foreign country, the most severe designation. This would have required South Africa to resolve the issue to U.S. satisfaction within a

short period of time, or face sanctions and a loss of foreign aid. As reported in the June 22 Baltimore Sun, the Vice President's office strongly opposed the recommendation. The U.S.T.R. agreed, and its April 30, 1999 report renewed South Africa's status on the watch list.

But the Vice President is trying to stop South Africa from doing things that are legal under WTO/TRIPS.

No, he is not. The U.S. is seeking clarification of the law ¶) about how it will be implemented. The point of discussions has been to work with South Africa to seek assurances that actions taken under the law will be in line with international agreements.

So where does the Vice President stand?

The Vice President believes we need to use all available means to deliver high-quality, affordable medicines to those who need them. And we should do it within the legal limits established by TRIPS. Specifically, the Vice President has no objection to parallel exporting or compulsory licensing of pharmaceuticals in South Africa, so long as it is consistent with TRIPS.

But all the South Africans want to do is what is already their legal right under TRIPS.

Section 15c of the Medicines Act gives the Health Minister unspecified powers that could go beyond what has been agreed to under TRIPS.

But the State Department Report says that the Vice President was part of an effort to put pressure on the South Africans.

First, the State Department report ¶) dated February 5 -- was written in response to members of Congress who had expressed concern that the U.S. wasn't being tough enough with South Africa. They had already suspended U.S. foreign assistance to the central Government of South Africa, and said they would not restore the aid until they received a State Department report detailing what the U.S. was doing to resolve the issue. They had already rejected an earlier report ¶) apparently for not being tough enough.

Second, the only language in the report that names Vice President Gore comes on pages 6 and 7 ¶) under the heading ¶&The Vice President's Plan for a Negotiated Solution.¶8 It reads as follows:

¶&During the August 1998 U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission meetings in Washington, Vice President Gore made the issue of intellectual property rights protection, and pharmaceutical patents in particular, a central focus of his discussions with Deputy President Mbeki. They agreed on a basis for a mutually satisfactory, Government-to-Government negotiated solution to the impasse.¶8

That is the only mention of Vice President Gore's actions in the entire report.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Paul A. Tuchmann (CN=Paul A. Tuchmann/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-JUN-1999 17:06:00.00

SUBJECT: AIDS in African Story

TO: Karen Tramontano (CN=Karen Tramontano/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

FYI

----- Forwarded by Paul A. Tuchmann/OVP on 06/25/99 05:05
PM -----

Melissa B. Ratcliff
06/25/99 04:33:44 PM
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject:AIDS in African Story

----- Forwarded by Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP on 06/25/99
04:32 PM -----

Trooper Sanders
06/25/99 03:35:09 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP, Clark E.
Ray/OVP@OVP, Melissa B. Ratcliff/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject: AIDS in African Story

Friday June 25, 9:01 am Eastern Time

Company Press Release

SOURCE: ACT UP Philadelphia

ACT UP to Protest Gore in Phila.
Monday

PHILADELPHIA, June 25 /PRNewswire/ -- Hundreds of
demonstrators from the AIDS, African American and gay
and lesbian communities are expected to participate in a
demonstration next Monday, June 28th, outside a \$1,000
per person fundraiser for the Gore for President campaign, according to
ACT UP

Philadelphia.

The general theme of the demonstration, which is supported by We The People, One Day At A Time, and a variety of church and community organizations, is ``AIDS Drugs for Africa.''
Gore is blamed for resurrecting the ``AIDS Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA),' ' legislation that, among other things, will attempt to prohibit African nations from developing less-expensive generic forms of AIDS medications and force them to pay high prices for US-patented versions of the drugs.

Four other recent Gore campaign appearances in other cities have been disrupted by activists concerned about the issue in recent days.

The Philadelphia demonstration will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a gathering at 15th and Cherry Streets, followed by a march to the Wyndham Franklin Plaza hotel, the site of the fundraiser, which is expected to draw about 500 people.

ACT UP, which calls Gore's presidential bid his ``Apartheid 2000 Campaign,' ' said it will bring a ``life sized puppet of Al Gore as a life-sized marionette, with 'Big Pharma' drug company executives controlling the strings.' '

Last week, AIDS activists, infuriated by Gore's pivotal role in threatening trade sanctions against South Africa and his active support for the AGOA, confronted Gore at three early presidential campaign announcements across the country.

Philadelphians who disrupted a Gore speech in New Hampshire will be available during Monday's demonstration.

``We don't wish for a President G. W. Bush. We are looking forward to supporting a candidate who will end Medical Apartheid, rather than one who is complicit in this racist application of trade policy,' ' said Joe West of ACT UP Philadelphia. ``As an African American, I will support a candidate who will take strong stands against big drug companies so that millions of lives in Africa can be saved.' '

Currently, 22.5 million Africans are HIV-positive, including up to 26% of young adults, totaling 67% of the world's HIV infected population. Average income in South Africa is \$2,600 per year, while the AIDS therapies that have extended the lives of many in wealthier nations cost over \$12,000 per year.

``As an American, I am ashamed that anyone in my country, much less the vice president,

would do anything to interfere with access to lifesaving drugs," said Chris Bartlett, grand marshal of the 1999 Philadelphia Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride march. "As a member of the gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender community courted by Gore for votes, I am appalled that a potential president would see the worldwide AIDS crisis through the lens of big business & profit margins."

Many of Gore's top advisors are current or former drug company lobbyists. Tony Podesta, top Gore advisor and brother of Clinton's chief of staff, is currently the contracted lobbyist for PhRMA (Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturer's Association) and many other large U.S. drug interests. Tom Downey, close Gore associate and former congressman, lobbies for Merck pharmaceuticals. Gore fundraiser Peter Knight is a former Schering-Plough lobbyist.

"Candidate Gore finds time to pressure Congress to pass the so-called 'Africa Growth and Opportunity Act' which would fuel the AIDS epidemic by placing multinational profits over health care and education," said John Bell, a African American Vietnam veteran and ACT UP Philadelphia member. "But he has still not endorsed the 'Early Treatment for HIV Act,' which would extend Medicaid benefits to all Americans living with HIV. I don't want another President Bush, but I fear that many voters will sit on their hands come November if Gore seems to be a puppet of big business interests."

The Vice President, in his role as the Co-Chair of the Bi-National Trade Commission on South Africa, has threatened trade sanctions and suspension of relief payments since 1997. The trigger was the South African passage of the Medicines Act, through which Pretoria would have used "compulsory licensing" to produce inexpensive versions of patented drugs for local use, and "parallel importing" to purchase drugs through a 3rd party to benefit from price differentials. The Medicines Act has been tied up in South African courts with sanctions and threats from the U.S. as well as lawsuits filed by drug companies.

"Al Gore pushes for sanctions against South Africa for attempting to make or import drugs that could save the lives of millions of residents, at no loss to U.S. drug companies," said Paul Davis of ACT UP Philadelphia. The entire African continent represents 1.5% of pharmaceutical sales worldwide.

Major pharmaceutical companies have long been under attack from AIDS activists for high prices. However, drug manufacturers have claimed that the high cost of

treatment reflects research and production expenses. The U.S. Patent and Trade Office reports, however, that in cases where U.S. tax dollars were used substantially to research or invent new treatments, the federal government either hold the patents or retains the rights to the drugs.

``Big Pharma is using Al Gore to hide their big secret: Many of these drugs cost pennies to make,'' reports economist Carl Priskell. ``In many cases, drugs such as ddI, d4T or 3TC were researched and developed primarily with U.S. tax dollars, and could be turned over to the World Health Organization legally right now, so that drugs could be made available at-cost in developing nations.''

``Drug companies stand to lose credibility as generic drug licensing exposes the true low cost of AIDS drug production. Drug companies fear any reductions in their capacity to continuing to drastically overcharge in first-world markets,'' continued Priskell.

A leaked Department of State report (available at <http://www.cptech.org/ip/health/sa/stdept-feb51999.html>) specifically names the Office of the Vice President as an agency of the US government that ``[has] been engaging in an assiduous, concerted campaign to persuade the Government of South Africa to withdraw or modify the provisions of Article 15(c)'' which would permit compulsory licensing. ``Since the passage of the offending amendments...U.S. Government agencies have been engaged in a full court press with South African officials from the Departments of Trade and Industry, Foreign Affairs, and Health, to convince the South African Government to withdraw or amend the offending provisions of the law.''

``How can this be anything but blatant racism?'' asks Jerome Costa of We the People. ``I don't see Gore strong-arming the UK for importing medications, I see him threatening a poor, African country trying to deal with a virus that attacks one in eight citizens.''

``Gore's 'family values' message is diluted by his policies on South Africa. In a nation where 20% of pregnant women have HIV, Gore works to prevent access to even a few weeks of AZT,'' said Asia Russell, also of ACT UP Philadelphia. ``A short course of AZT reduces new infections in infants by over 50%, but even this limited treatment is unavailable because Al Gore values drug company contributions over the lives of people of color. Even though Glaxo Wellcome markets the drug, the federal government paid almost every penny for the invention

and research on AZT.''

Compulsory licensing is a legal mechanism that can be deployed during health emergencies, according to the TRIPS agreement established by the World Trade Organization. Compulsory licensing provides royalties to patent owners, and is utilized by wealthy nations such as the United States or Great Britain for technologies ranging from gene therapies to infrared goggles. In South Africa, compulsory licensing of AIDS medications could reduce prices by as much as 90%.

The demonstration is being organized around the following demands:

Message Sent

To: _____

Sarah A. Bianchi/OVP@OVP

Alejandro G. Cabrera/OVP@OVP

Anthony R. Bernal/OVP@OVP

Lisa A. Berg/OVP@OVP

Monica Dixon's Incoming Calls editors

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JUN-1999 11:30:10.00

SUBJECT: Re: Op-ed

TO: "Hull, Thomas N." <tnh@pretoria ("Hull, Thomas N." <tnh@pretoria @ mhs.cstat.co.za> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

thanks so much for your help on this. I look forward to hearing back from you, and I will push it over to State and USTR (and NSC, etc) on Monday. thanks!

Ambassador James Joseph
Draft Op-ed

As the United States Ambassador to South Africa, I have seen first hand Vice President Al Gore's work with South African leaders to build the health and strength of this young democracy. As founding co-chair of the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission, he has taken a special interest in bringing to South Africa the world's best knowledge, ideas, and efforts in fighting the scourge of AIDS.

Naturally, then, I have been astonished to hear claims - from groups that purport to know and care about this issue - that the Vice President, at the bidding of drug companies, has personally threatened Deputy President (now President) Mbeki with trade sanctions if South Africa proceeds with efforts to provide lower-cost AIDS drugs.

Their story is not just wrong; it makes no sense. Vice President Gore has made an immense personal investment over the past four years working with South Africans to improve health, expand trade, and build stronger bilateral ties. Why would he undercut his own efforts?

Here are the facts: In 1997, the South Africa National Assembly passed legislation that granted the Government unspecified new powers which appear to infringe on pharmaceutical patent rights. Concerned about the new law, more than 40 pharmaceutical firms -- FROM EUROPE, THE U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA -- challenged the law in South African courts, claiming it violates the South African Constitution. After more than a year, that case is still pending.

[NEW PARAGRAPH] The United States Government has shared its own concerns with South Africa over the more vague provisions of the Medicines Act. We have asked the Government of South Africa for assurances that the actions it would take under the law would be consistent with international agreements.

Groups now claim that the Vice President has been "bullying" the Deputy President to force South Africa to abandon its rights under those same international agreements. (Again, it makes no sense. Anyone who knows the Vice President knows his respect for Mr. Mbeki and for South Africa; anyone who knows President Mbeki knows that he cannot

be bullied).

The groups point to a State Department report from February of this year as evidence supporting their charge. The report mentions an August, 1998 meeting between the Vice President and Deputy President where, the report said, the two "agreed on a basis for a mutually satisfactory, Government-to-Government negotiated solution to the impasse." On that evidence, they claim the Vice President threatened the Deputy President.

Nonsense. I was there. The Vice President MADE IT CLEAR HE SUPPORTS SOUTH AFRICA'S EFFORTS TO MAKE LOWER COST AIDS DRUGS AVAILABLE TO ITS PEOPLE, AND HE PROPOSED RESOLVING THE ISSUE IN A CONTEXT THAT WOULD INCLUDE PARALLEL IMPORTING AND COMPULSORY LICENSING -- CONSISTENT WITH INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. HE KNEW THE DRUG COMPANIES WERE LIKELY TO OBJECT TO SUCH AN APPROACH, BUT HE KNEW it was the right thing to do -- the best way to protect the search for new and better drugs, and also protect the lives of people suffering with AIDS right now.

[NEW PARAGRAPH] As it turned out, some months later the pharmaceutical industry recommended that the United States Trade Representative escalate trade pressure on South Africa over the Medicines Act. And, as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Susan Rice has pointed out, Vice President Gore led the way in urging USTR to reject that recommendation.

The AIDS crisis in Africa is unlike any epidemic we've seen in our lifetime. It is good that these activists protest to bring attention to the issue. BUT WHEN ADVOCATES BEGIN TO TURN ON THEIR ALLIES, THEY UNDERCUT THEIR OWN CAUSE.

They should consider the Vice President's friendship with President Mbeki; his record of support for South Africa; his efforts to help fight AIDS in South Africa; and the testimony of those of us who were at Gore-Mbeki meetings and can attest to the Vice President's compassionate and statesmanlike approach.

[NEW PARAGRAPH] If they consider these facts, they will recognize that Vice President Gore is a great friend of Africa and a bitter foe of AIDS, and they would serve their cause best by working with the Vice President, not protesting against him.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Matthew L. Bennett (CN=Matthew L. Bennett/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:27-JUN-1999 19:03:27.00

SUBJECT: AIDS protesters in Phily on 6/28

TO: William H. Pickle (CN=William H. Pickle/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

FYI

----- Forwarded by Matthew L. Bennett/OVP on 06/27/99
07:02 PM -----

06/27/99 03:20 PM

Michael B. Feldman

Michael B. Feldman

Michael B. Feldman

06/27/99 03:20 PM

06/27/99 03:20:10 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Matthew L. Bennett/OVP@OVP

cc:

Subject:AIDS protesters in Phily on 6/28

----- Forwarded by Michael B. Feldman/OVP on 06/27/99

03:18 PM -----

Richard Socarides @ EOP 06/22/99 02:20 PM

To: Ron Klain/OVP@OVP, Monica M. Dixon/OVP@OVP, Eli G.

Attie/OVP@OVP, Michael B. Feldman/OVP@OVP, Ansley Jones/OVP@OVP, Philip G

Dufour/OVP@OVP, Elizabeth J. Potter/OVP@OVP, Laura M. Quinn/OVP@OVP,

Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP, Alejandro G. Cabrera/OVP@OVP,

jtrammel@hillandknowlton.com

cc:

Subject:AIDS protesters in Phily on 6/28

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/22/99

02:16 PM -----

winnie stachelberg <winnie.stachelberg@mail.hrc.org>

06/22/99 03:11:28 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Fwd[3]:Al Gore in Philly

Subject: Fwd:Al Gore in Philly
Author: Rachel Reid <rr231@barnard.edu> at HRC-INTERNET
Date: 6/22/99 11:30 AM

GORE'S GREED KILLS!

GET GORE AT RICH GAY DINNER [bomb logo]

Monday, June 28, 7pm wyndham frnaklin plaza hotel @ 17th and Arch Streets,
Philadelphia

Last week, activists confronted Gore at his first three campaign stops in
Tennessee, New Hampshire, and New York. MEDIA IS BEGINNING TO COVER THIS
ISSUE BECUASE OF THE PROTESTS-- We need to keep the pressure on!

GORE is threatening trade sanctions against South Africa and other
countries legally manufacturing generic AIDS drugs. GORE IS COMING TO
PHILLY FOR A \$1,000 A PLATE GAY & LESBIAN FUNDRAISER on Monday, June 28.
ACT UP Philadelphia invites you to join us in a loud street demonstration
demanding access to medication in the developing countries, where 90% of
people with AIDS live.

More info email jdavids@critpath.org
call 215 731 1844.

----- Forwarded by Michael B. Feldman/OVP on 06/27/99

03:18 PM -----

Richard Socarides @ EOP 06/22/99 03:34 PM

To: Ron Klain/OVP@OVP, Monica M. Dixon/OVP@OVP, Eli G. Attie/OVP@OVP,
Michael B. Feldman/OVP@OVP, Ansley Jones/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP,
Elizabeth J. Potter/OVP@OVP, Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP@EOP, Thomas M.
Rosshirt/OVP@OVP

cc:

Subject: NC10432: Wanna zap Al?

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/22/99

03:33 PM -----

rwockner@netcom.com

06/22/99 02:59:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Richard Socarides@EOP

cc:

Subject: NC10432: Wanna zap Al?

Al Gore travel schedule

(for zapping him in re: the Africa AIDS-drugs scandal)

*****June 22 Denver, CO
*****June 23 San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles, CA
*****June 24 Los Angeles, CA
*****June 25 Des Moines, IA; Detroit, MI

----- Forwarded by Michael B. Feldman/OVP on 06/27/99

03:18 PM -----

Richard Socarides @ EOP 06/23/99 03:39 PM

To: Ron Klain/OVP@OVP, Monica M. Dixon/OVP@OVP, Eli G. Attie/OVP@OVP,
Michael B. Feldman/OVP@OVP, Ansley Jones/OVP@OVP, Philip G Dufour/OVP@OVP,
Elizabeth J. Potter/OVP@OVP

cc:

Subject: Fwd:Negative e-mail on Gore/HRC

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/23/99

03:39 PM -----

winnie stachelberg <winnie.stachelberg@mail.hrc.org>

06/23/99 02:50:56 PM

Record Type: Record

To: dbrazile@gorennet.com, Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP,
kyamaguchi@gorennet.com, jtrammel@hillandknowlton.com

cc:

Subject: Fwd:Negative e-mail on Gore/HRC

Folks --

I just wanted to share with you some (there's more) of the email traffic
that is
being directed at HRC -- and the Vice President -- on this issue.

>From: Charles_Hamilton@fws.gov

>To: hamilton_c@hotmail.com

>Subject: I assume you know....

>Date: Tue, 22 Jun 1999 08:26:35 -0400

>

>

>

>Apperently our HRC is at it again, when will you learn

>

>

>To the Editor,

>

>On June 16 and 17, AIDS activists disrupted presidential hopeful Al Gore's
>campaign stops in Carthage, Tennessee, and in Manchester, New Hampshire,
in

>protest of his threat of trade sanctions against South Africa for allowing

>local companies to produce low-cost generic AIDS drugs. Gore defends
>American pharmaceutical firms' patent rights, even though name-brand
prices
>place AIDS drugs out of reach for many of South Africa's 22.5 million
>people
>with HIV. The average South African income is \$2,600 per year; name-brand
>AIDS drugs cost \$12,000 per year.
>
>A Friday, June 18 Washington Post article quoted a Human Rights Campaign
>(HRC) representative who wondered why Gore has been singled out for this
>outrage. The same Post article confirmed Gore's personal involvement in
>negotiations in which the US bullied South African President Thabo Mbeki,
>even though production of generic drugs is entirely legal under current
>trade agreements.
>
>Will HRC excuse or ignore Gore's decision to side with corporate profits
>over human lives? The AIDS crisis teaches us that we face another kind of
>radical rightwing in addition to the theocratic bigotry of the Jesse
>Helmses
>and Pat Robertsons. Fanatical devotion to a corporate power and profit
>rules
>both Democratic and Republican parties. We see this allegiance in
>everything
>from the defeat of universal health care to the award to corporations of
>patents on medicines developed through taxpayer-funded research. We saw it
>locally in a recent tax cut chiefly benefiting DC's corporate elite,
while
>much of the social safety net for DC's neediest goes unrestored.
>
>Because of their cherished access to the corridors of power, organizations
>like HRC refuse to recognize this other radical rightwing. It's why they
>fawn on politicians who voted for the Defense of Marriage Act, it's why
HRC
>last year endorsed the appalling Al D'Amato for reelection to the Senate,
>it's why Democrats take queer votes for granted. And it's why HRC's
>Millennium March in 2000 promises to be a pep rally for pet politicians
>with
>feeble records of support for our rights and our well-being.
>
>If Vice President Gore tried to block low-cost AIDS drugs in the US, we'd
>denounce him as a genocidal monster. I urge every Blade reader to call the
>White House (202-456-1111) and demand that Clinton and Gore abandon their
>atrocious, indefensible threat of international sanctions, lest their
hands
>be steeped in the blood of millions of South Africans with AIDS.
>
>Scott McLarty
>(Adams Morgan)
>
>
>
>
>
>
>
>Get Free Email and Do More On The Web. Visit <http://www.msn.com>
>
>----- RFC822 Header Follows -----
>Received: by mailserver.peacecorps.gov with ADMIN;21 Jun 1999 19:45:17
>-0500
>Received: from law-f225.hotmail.com ([209.185.130.163]) by
>pcf firewall.peacecorps.gov

> via smtpd (for mailserver.peacecorps.gov [199.100.193.25]) with
>SMTP;
>21 Jun 1999 23:41:07 UT
>Received: (qmail 31775 invoked by uid 0); 21 Jun 1999 23:46:22 -0000
>Message-ID: <19990621234622.31774.qmail@hotmail.com>
>Received: from 206.124.71.200 by www.hotmail.com with HTTP;
> Mon, 21 Jun 1999 16:46:21 PDT
>X-Originating-IP: [206.124.71.200]
>From: Scott McLarty <scottmclarty@hotmail.com>
>To: scottmclarty@yahoo.com
>Subject: Letter to the Blade: Gore, South Africa, and AIDS drugs
>Date: Mon, 21 Jun 1999 16:46:21 PDT
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
>
>
>

Get Free Email and Do More On The Web. Visit <http://www.msn.com>

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jeff Trammell <JTrammel@HillandKnowlton.com> (Jeff Trammell <JTrammel@HillandKnowlton.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 17:39:06.00

SUBJECT: FW: Free tix to Gore \$1000 fundraiser!

TO: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: 'Stacey Spector' <sspector@gorennet.com> ('Stacey Spector' <sspector@gorennet.com> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: 'Julian Potter' <Elizabeth_J._Potter@ingate.eop.gov> ('Julian Potter' <Elizabeth_J._Potter@ingate.eop.gov> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: 'Philip Dufour' <Dufour_P@a1.eop.gov> ('Philip Dufour' <Dufour_P@a1.eop.gov> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: 'Karen Hancox' <Khancox@gorennet.com> ('Karen Hancox' <Khancox@gorennet.com> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

-----Original Message-----

From: We The People [mailto:wtp@CritPath.Org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 1999 8:05 PM

To: fastfax

Subject: Free tix to Gore \$1000 fundraiser!

YOU ARE INVITED

to Vice President Al Gore's \$1,000/head fundraiser in Philadelphia
on Monday, June 28, 1999!

JOIN We The People and ACT UP in our effort to remind Al Gore of
the human cost of his big-money deals to gain the White House!

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1999
6:00 p.m. sharp
15th and Cherry Street

On this date, Al Gore is coming to Philadelphia to talk about how much
he cares for everyday people and their everyday problems. He'll say he's
full of compassion and will work hard for everyone if we'd only elect him
President \
in 2000.

But Al Gore is flunking big-time one of the most important morality tests
he faces
right now as Vice President.

Al Gore supports the "Africa Growth and Opportunities Act" (AGOA), which
among
other things will prevent poor and developing countries in Africa from
producing generic
forms of US-patented AIDS drugs -- the same drugs that have finally
produced real
hope for people living with HIV here in the US.

By supporting the AGOA, which would probably die without the strenuous
efforts of the
Clinton Administration to keep it alive, Al Gore is siding with those who
want to bring
about a new kind of apartheid, the Apartheid of the New Millenium, an
apartheid which says
that people with HIV who have the money for expensive drugs marketed by
profit-hungry
US corporations are the ones who can stay alive -- and all those millions
of HIV+ people
in Africa will just have to be left out.

We say no.

Join We The People Living with AIDS/HIV of the Delaware Valley and ACT UP
Philadelphia
in greeting the Vice President on his short visit to Philadelphia. Help
make it memorable.
Help make Philadelphia the place where Al Gore finally understands that
real leadership
means standing for life and liberty ... even for Africans.

MONDAY, JUNE 28th, 6pm, 15th and Cherry Streets. Be there.
Call 215-731-1844 for more info or email wtp@critpath.org

- gore2.htm===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

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<meta name="Generator" content="Microsoft Publisher 98">

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</head>

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<p align=center><center><font face="Comic Sans MS" color=#000000 size=3><B>For
more information call: 215-731-1844<br></B></font>

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<p align=center><center><font face="Comic Sans MS" color=#000000 size=3><B>Spon
sored by ACT UP and We The People Living with AIDS/HIV<br></B></font>

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===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sandra Thurman (CN=Sandra Thurman/OU=OPD/O=EOP [OPD])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 19:09:21.00

SUBJECT: FW: Arianna Huffington, "Pharmacologic Al

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Thought you ought to see this.

----- Forwarded by Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP on 06/28/99
07:07 PM -----

Ron MacInnis <RMACINNIS@globalhealth.org>

06/28/99 05:30:03 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Daniel C. Montoya/OPD/EOP, Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: FW: Arianna Huffington, "Pharmacologic Al

Well, its happened. The conservatives have taken the bait and are dabbling into making this an issue...

<http://www.ariannaonline.com/columns/files/062899.html>

June 28, 1998,

Arianna Huffington, "Pharmacologic Al"

Presidential race 2000 has already spawned its first protests, with demonstrators following Vice President Al Gore from Tennessee to New Hampshire to New York to Philadelphia. There is no catchy character -- like 1992's ``Chicken George'' or 1996's ``Buttman'' - but their issue provides an excellent object lesson about the rotten core of American politics: how our campaign finance system allows powerful special interests to secretly dictate policy -- even when the life or death of millions is at stake.

The protesters are outraged that Gore, in his role as co-chair of the U.S.-South African Binational Commission, has, according to a recent State Department report to Congress, spearheaded ``an assiduous, concerted campaign'' to stop South Africa from making low-cost AIDS drugs available to its 3.2 million infected citizens.

Allowing South Africa to license domestic production of the lifesaving drugs, known as ``compulsory licensing,'' is one of those rare issues -- such as child abuse and drunk driving -- on which there cannot possibly be two sides. After all, the country is suffering from an AIDS epidemic that our own surgeon general

has compared ``to the plague that decimated the population of Europe in the 14th century.''

Although sub-Saharan African nations account for 70 percent of the world's new HIV cases and 90 percent of all AIDS deaths, less than 1 percent of AIDS drugs are sold there. Who would defend leaving hundreds of thousands to die because lifesaving medicines are priced out of their reach? Certainly not the same people who have spared no expense in the last few months waging a humanitarian war.

Or so one would think. But Gore, wedded to a trade policy that is anything but humanitarian, thinks otherwise and has aligned himself with the pharmaceutical companies that are suing the government of South Africa. They claim that its 1997 Medicines Act violates World Trade Organization (WTO) regulations by allowing for the compulsory licensing and parallel importing -- i.e., shopping for the best price -- of AIDS drugs. But it does not. In fact, WTO rules are particularly liberal when it comes to national emergencies such as epidemics.

In explanation, the vice president's office served up a bureaucratic cocktail of words -- to be taken only with an empty head. ``In August 1998,' ' his spokesman told me, ``the vice president met with Thabo Mbeki (now South Africa's president) and proposed trying to clarify Section 15(c) of South Africa's Medicines Act by working toward a resolution within a framework that included parallel importing and compulsory licensing in line with international agreements.' ' I don't know how many South Africans died of AIDS while you were reading that sentence, but many have perished while the vice president has been figuring out the controlling legal authority over AIDS drugs. It looks like Gore's ``livability agenda' ' stops at the suburbs' edge.

The reasons why Gore tried to get Mbeki to acquiesce to the drug companies are chillingly laid out in next month's American Prospect magazine. John B. Judis exposes ``K Street Gore's interlocking directorate' ' of aides, friends, advisors and lobbyists moving seamlessly between the pharmaceutical industry and his inner circle. Among them are Anthony Podesta, a top advisor and close friend of Gore and one of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America's chief lobbyists; Gore's chief domestic policy advisor David Beier, who was previously the top in-house lobbyist for Genentech; and Peter Knight, Gore's main fund-raiser, who made \$120,000 lobbying for Schering-Plough. (According to Public Campaign, Gore has helped raise at least \$1.4 million from drug companies over the course of his career.) With all of this crossover, a drug to loosen Al up on the campaign trail can't be far off.

It is no wonder that the African Growth and Opportunity Act, sponsored by Rep. Phil Crane (R-Ill.) with the full backing of the president and the vice president, does not even mention the AIDS crisis. Fortunately, Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.) has introduced a competing bill that would prevent the United States from applying sanctions on South Africa and other sub-Saharan nations that are attempting to make AIDS drugs widely available. ``American drug companies want some of the poorest people in the world to pay U.S. market prices for drugs,' ' Jackson told me. ``But AIDS drugs can cost \$500 per week -- which happens to be

the annual per capita income of sub-Saharan Africa.'

One indication that the Jackson bill is gaining steam is the fact that Rep. Tony Hall (D-Ohio), who originally co-sponsored both bills, has now decided to support Jackson's. ``It is the better bill,' he told me. ``The White House called me and asked me to support Crane's, but it puts trade above all other humanitarian concerns.'

The vice president's office says it is trying ``to help AIDS patients by making sure drug companies maintain profit levels to develop new AIDS medications.' But what good are AIDS medications if they can't get to the people with AIDS?

And someone should remind the vice president that last year alone the three major AIDS-drug manufacturers -- Glaxo Wellcome, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Pfizer -- made respectively \$4.43 billion, \$3.64 billion and \$3.35 billion.

Up to now money has talked louder than the muffled cries of millions of African AIDS victims. But the chants of the protesters on the campaign trail are amplifying their cries. Will they also lead to a change in policy from pharmacologic AI?

8

8

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 17:13:24.00

SUBJECT: Another piece on Calif trip and gays, AIDS drugs

TO: Christopher S. Lehane (CN=Christopher S. Lehane/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Laura M. Quinn (CN=Laura M. Quinn/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Philip G Dufour (CN=Philip G Dufour/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael B. Feldman (CN=Michael B. Feldman/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

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TO: Clark E. Ray (CN=Clark E. Ray/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TO: Elizabeth J. Potter (CN=Elizabeth J. Potter/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ansley Jones (CN=Ansley Jones/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ron Klain (CN=Ron Klain/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

On the Gore Campaign
Trail

NewsPlanet Staff

Friday, June 25, 1999 / 10:28 PM

SUMMARY: In his bid to become No. 1, the
U.S. Vice President speaks against hate
crimes and makes "family values"
(except marriage) more inclusive, but
says "don't ask" could work and faces
AIDS drug protests.

As the reintroduction of the Employment

Non-Discrimination Act was announced in Washington, DC on June 24, Vice President Al Gore (D) stated his support for ENDA while visiting the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center's youth shelter. When a skeptical young gay man asked him why he was there, Gore said, "I'm here to learn and to pay honor to this place," and praised the Center for "helping to change attitudes and abolish some irrational discrimination that is all too common." Gore also restated his support for hate crimes legislation, saying those crimes are "based on a fear of differences." He allowed only one private interview, to the venerable gay and lesbian national magazine "The Advocate," believed to be the first time any major Presidential candidate ever met with a national gay publication.

Democratic Presidential hopeful Bill Bradley had already visited the Center's youth shelter on June 17. While there, he expressed his support for tougher laws against hate crimes. One young lesbian who had been present for both the Bradley and Gore visits told the Associated Press that she found them equally unimpressive.

All Kinds of Family Values
Nonetheless, Gore taking the step of visiting the Center -- something his Republican opponents for the Presidency in 2000 are not too likely to do -- was of some importance to demonstrate the inclusion of gays and lesbians in his recent rhetoric about families and family values (long understood as a euphemism for anti-gay), particularly given his recent suggestions for government funding for church-run services. For example, among the sentiments he's repeated while criss-crossing the country are, "I want to take my own values of faith and family to the Presidency," and "I believe that in contrast to the deficit crisis we had six or seven years ago, we now have a family crisis in America." So it was notable that at the Center, Gore carefully referred to "families of all kinds." His visit there was the only one of five scheduled appearances that day which was not a fund-raising event.

Before coming to Los Angeles, Gore was in San Francisco, where reporters asked him about California's upcoming ballot initiative to deny legal recognition to same-gender marriages another state may someday perform. He said that he supported some legal status for domestic partners, but opposes "a change in the institution of

marriage as we now know it between men and women."

Hug for a Lesbian Teen

In Los Angeles on June 18, Gore visited with several hundred students at Fairfax High School (where the pioneering Project 10 program for lesbigay and questioning youth began). One lesbian senior described the homophobic verbal abuse she'd experienced at another school and how those taunts were seen as acceptable behavior there. When she began to cry at recalling her pain, Gore crossed the gym to hug her, to the applause of the other students. "How can anyone not be moved by such a sincere opening of her heart?" he asked rhetorically. He affirmed that, "I believe very strongly that we should have laws to protect young people like her from hate crimes," although most of his discussions of school safety have been more in reference to the massacre at Columbine and gun control. He went on to say, "I believe that in the history of our nation, we have grown in our understanding of what it is to be human. Now we have to expand the human circle of dignity to include lesbians and gays."

AIDS Drug Controversy

For what a couple of pundits have identified as the first actual issue of the campaign, Gore's tour has been dogged by protesters from the coalition group AIDS Drugs for Africa, which includes members of the direct action group ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power). A handful of those demonstrators have used whistles and chanting to disrupt his appearances in Carthage, Tennessee, where he formally announced his candidacy on June 16, and on June 17 in Manchester, New Hampshire and in New York City. The first group were physically attacked by others attending the speech until law enforcement intervened; two of the Manchester group were able to come within two feet of Gore for about a minute until bodyguards intervened.

The protesters contend that Gore (in his capacity as Co-Chair of the Bi-National Trade Commission on South Africa) has personally threatened trade sanctions against South Africa should it legally manufacture its own AIDS drugs at prices that would make them accessible to its impoverished population; they also say he resurrected AGOA, the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, another means to the same end.

Pointing to a number of current and past drug industry lobbyists with important positions in the Gore campaign, they charge that Gore has acted out of greed for drug industry contributions, at the expense of Africans' lives.

Astonished at the first protest, Gore was barely able to come up with a statement that he supports free speech, but later he offered to meet with demonstrators afterwards. That hasn't happened, but on June 24, Gore issued a statement promising to work with South Africa's new President Thabo Mbeki to develop ways to prevent and combat AIDS, and saying that he is encouraging the U.S. Trade Representative, the South African government and the pharmaceutical industry to explore solutions to settle disputes over getting patented drugs to people with AIDS and HIV. None of the protesters particularly want to see leading Republican Presidential hopeful George W. Bush elected, but they do want a reversal of US drug policy, and they've promised to demonstrate at every Gore campaign stop. A large demonstration is planned for Gore's Philadelphia appearance on June 28.

"Don't Ask," But Differently
Gore was asked about his position on the so-called "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays and lesbians serving in the military by Diane Sawyer of ABC's "20/20" for an edition which aired the day Gore announced his candidacy, June 16. Gore said, "I don't think there's been enough compassion in that policy" and that he'd "like to see the policy implemented differently." While he did appear to be indicating support for making it easier for gays and lesbians to serve, he gave no indication as to whether or not he's aware of the dramatic increase in military discharges for homosexuality in the years since the so-called compromise policy was adopted.

"Worth Fighting Gore"
Republican Presidential hopeful Dan Quayle's new book "Worth Fighting For" charges that Gore and President Bill Clinton have "embraced those who, since the 1960's, have ceaselessly pounded away at honor, duty, country and the rule of law" and describes "deep, if not irreconcilable differences between left and right on the issue of the country's core values." Quayle denounces a "new aristocracy" of "elite news media, the Hollywood crowd, the tenured faculty of elite institutions of higher

education, the federal judiciary and the radical feminist movement," claiming that, "Their numbers are small, but their influence is staggering."

As an example of the influence of this "opinion elite" Quayle cites Gore's praise for the 1997 coming out episode of the now-defunct ABC sitcom "Ellen," which Gore described as "forcing" Americans to view a positive portrayal of lesbian life. Quayle also slams the 1960's for "the rejection of traditional sexual morality ... [that] robbed an army of children of the chance to live in two-parent households ... even as it unleashed a plague of sexually transmitted diseases from herpes to AIDS to hepatitis B." The former Vice President proposes to counter that "elite" by putting "cultural critics of ability and intellect" in charge of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts, a somewhat different approach from that of the Republican Party, which has been promising for several years now to eliminate both.

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originating media operation. Do not post this item in a public online forum. Items on this mailing list that are not copyrighted will not contain this message. This free mailing list is open only to people with whom I am acquainted. It has 242 recipients.

PHILADELPHIA, June 25 (UPI) -- AIDS activists are protesting at campaign stops made by Vice President Al Gore trying to drum up publicity about U.S. efforts to overturn a controversial South Africa law that could impact the sale of expensive drugs that treat the fatal disease.

ACT UP Philadelphia said today hundreds of demonstrators from the African American and gay communities are expected to show up Monday at a \$1,000 per-person fund-raiser for the Gore for President campaign. AIDS protesters heckled four other Gore campaign stops this week and three last week.

At issue is the Clinton administration's efforts to stop the South African government from implementing provisions of a 1997 law that would allow South African companies to manufacture drugs patented by pharmaceutical companies in the U.S. and elsewhere and potentially sell them at a lower cost.

Pharmaceutical companies have filed suit in South Africa trying to stop the law on the grounds that they must charge higher prices for drugs to recoup money spent in research and development. With widespread poverty and millions of people infected with HIV, South Africa could use the law to force pharmaceutical companies to allow local firms to produce and sell expensive AIDS medications more cheaply.

Currently, more than 29 million Africans are HIV-positive, including up to 26 percent of young adults, totaling 67 percent of the world's HIV infected population. Average income in South Africa is \$2,600 per year, while the AIDS therapies that have extended the lives of many in wealthier nations cost more than \$12,000 per year.

Julie Davids, ACT UP spokeswoman, said there has been a ``full court press'' by the State Department and Gore's office to pressure the South African government to change the law.

Gore's staffers have said he has tried to get the South Africans to agree to a compromise on the issue. Formally, however, the U.S. remains firm in its commitment to the pharmaceutical companies.

In a letter last winter to members of Congress, Barbara Larkin, assistant secretary for legislative affairs at the State Department wrote, ``The U.S. Government has nonetheless made clear that it will defend the legitimate interests and rights of U.S. pharmaceutical firms.
''

``As an African American, I will support a candidate who will take strong stands against big drug companies so that millions of lives in Africa can be saved,'' said Joe West, of ACT UP Philadelphia.

The demonstration will begin at 6 p.m. with a gathering at 15th and Cherry Streets, followed by a march to the Wyndham Franklin Plaza hotel, the site of the fund-raiser, which is expected to draw about 500 people.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sarah A. Bianchi (CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 23:02:20.00

SUBJECT:

TO: Laura M. Quinn (CN=Laura M. Quinn/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ron Klain (CN=Ron Klain/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Gore Proposes More Cancer Trials

By JENNIFER BROWN
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Vice President Al Gore proposed increasing fivefold the number of patients participating in clinical trials of cancer treatments, one of a handful of medical initiatives offered Monday on a campaign visit to Pennsylvania.

Gore also set ambitious goals of reducing the number of cancer deaths by 200,000 by 2010 and identifying every gene that predisposes people to cancer by 2002.

"I want to swing open the doors to the latest cancer clinical trials for Americans of all ages who don't have the luxury of time," Gore told about 200 researchers, doctors and members of cancer victim advocacy groups at Thomas Jefferson Medical College.

Gore also used the Pennsylvania trip — his second in nine days — to raise an expected \$900,000 at fund-raisers in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

The vice president called for combating cancer with more funding at every level. He said he would double funding for cancer research at the National Institutes of Health over the next five years, allot more money for school-based prevention programs and offer a new advertising campaign to fight youth smoking.

Gore proposed expanding public health prevention programs for minority groups and the elderly and making available low-cost mammograms and other screening methods. He also called for efforts to develop blood tests for every kind of cancer within five years.

Research is popular on Capitol Hill, even among conservative Republicans who generally oppose big government spending. Others in Congress also have expressed support for doubling the \$15.6 billion NIH budget over five years.

"We can reach the day when cancer is not the dreaded scourge it has been but a manageable, even curable,

condition," Gore said.

As a cornerstone of his plan, Gore proposed broadening clinical trial enrollment by letting Medicare patients participate and requiring health insurance coverage for patients in trials.

Only 3 percent of the 1.2 million cancer patients diagnosed each year participate in clinical trials, medical experts say. About 564,000 people die annually from cancer.

Children's participation in clinical trials is much higher than among adults, and the survival rate reflects that, Gore said. About 70 percent to 80 percent of children cancer victims survive for at least five years, while the five-year survival rate for adults is about 60 percent.

Christine Meyer, whose 3-year-old son successfully battled cancer after participating in a clinical trial, said she found Gore's speech encouraging.

"We support more funding and getting the adults to participate in clinical trials," said Mrs. Meyer of Middletown, Del. "The more people who participate, the more they learn."

Increasing participation in trials is critical to advancing cancer research, said Dr. Ronald Haberman, director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

"It's a central bottleneck in progress in cancer research," he said. "Right now, only between 2 and 3 percent of cancer patients go into clinical trials, so to be able to increase that in a major way would be to increase the progress in finding acceptable treatments."

Republican National Committee spokesman Mike Collins welcomed Gore's support for doubling cancer research funding, but said, "We just wonder where he's been the last six years." He said the GOP-led Congress has supported more funding in spite of the Clinton administration.

About 100 protesters from ACT UP Philadelphia showed up at Gore's evening fund-raiser, contending trade policies he supports are making it difficult to get affordable AIDS drugs to people who need them in South Africa.

Earlier in Pittsburgh, about 150 people attended a \$1,000-a-plate lunch organized by Mayor Tom Murphy and U.S. Rep. Frank Mascara, D-Pa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 10:08:26.00

SUBJECT: Protesters hit Gore on pharmaceutical ties

TO: Christopher S. Lehane (CN=Christopher S. Lehane/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Laura M. Quinn (CN=Laura M. Quinn/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Philip G Dufour (CN=Philip G Dufour/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael B. Feldman (CN=Michael B. Feldman/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TO: Monica M. Dixon (CN=Monica M. Dixon/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
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TO: Clark E. Ray (CN=Clark E. Ray/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth J. Potter (CN=Elizabeth J. Potter/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ansley Jones (CN=Ansley Jones/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ron Klain (CN=Ron Klain/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/28/99
10:08 AM -----

Doug.Case@sdsu.edu

06/25/99 07:29:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Richard Socarides@EOP

cc:

Subject: Protesters hit Gore on pharmaceutical ties

BAY AREA REPORTER

June 24, 1999

<http://www.ebar.com>

Protesters hit Gore on pharmaceutical ties

by Bob Roehr

A growing controversy is dogging Vice President Al Gore on the presidential campaign trail, and threatens to undermine his candidacy from the left. It concerns his active support of the pharmaceutical industry in denying drugs to people with AIDS in the poorer nations of the world.

The protest began at Gore's campaign kick-off last Wednesday, June 16 in Carthage, Tennessee and continued the following day at appearances in Manchester, New Hampshire and on Wall Street. AIDS Drugs for Africa, an affinity group of ACT UP, is coordinating the demonstrations.

"We will continue to draw attention to Gore's actions around South Africa and his unconscionable greed until we see signs that policies are changing," said Asia Russell of ACT UP/Philadelphia.

The controversy is over efforts by the government of South Africa to require "compulsory licensing" of AIDS drugs for manufacture in that country. Under the procedure, generic versions of the drugs would be manufactured at much lower cost and the companies would receive royalty payments for use of their patents.

Compulsory licensing is allowed under existing international trade agreements and South African law. The drug companies oppose it, even though they currently sell few of the expensive AIDS drugs in that nation, and likely would make a greater profit from the royalty than they do now on a small volume of sales.

Gore chairs the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. He used that position to promote the drug industry perspective, reportedly threatening South Africa with trade reprisals if it pushes for compulsory licensing.

Gore's inner circle of political advisers reads like a "Who's Who" of pharmaceutical lobbyists. It includes men who work or have worked for the trade association PhRMA, and drug powerhouses Merck, Pfizer, Genentech, and Schering-Plough. The industry has been a major contributor to the Gore campaign.

Public Campaign, a non-partisan advocacy group for campaign reform, illuminated industry motivation when it wrote: AZT "can be purchased on the world market for 42 cents for 300 milligrams, it retails in the U.S. for nearly \$6 a pill."

"It's a matter of conscience," said Boston activist David Scondras. He laments Gore's opposition to getting therapy to more people. "Can we support and vote for anyone who is not helping to solve the problem?"

Other failures

Gore's record on AIDS is already suspect because of his failure to deliver on an earlier promise. In April 1997 the vice president pledged his support for expansion of Medicaid so that HIV-positive people could get access to therapy before they sicken to an AIDS diagnosis.

The idea was to eliminate the procedural Catch-22 that prevents Medicaid from keeping people healthy, but requires them to first become sick. Only

then do they qualify for anti-HIV therapy.

The administration studied the proposal and six months later declared it would not be "revenue neutral." In non-bureaucratese, it would cost money. White House support vanished.

Then in April of this year, some of the best friends of PWAs in Congress introduced the "Early Treatment for HIV Act." It would legislatively expand access to drugs, something that AIDS advocates argued the Clinton administration could have done on its own. The White House has yet to endorse the bill.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sarah A. Bianchi (CN=Sarah A. Bianchi/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 22:59:40.00

SUBJECT:

TO: Jonathan H. Schnur (CN=Jonathan H. Schnur/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [OPD])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Gore Proposes More Cancer Trials

By JENNIFER BROWN
Associated Press Writer

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"It's a central bottleneck in progress in cancer research," he said. "Right now, only between 2 and 3 percent of cancer patients go into clinical trials, so to be able to increase that in a major way would be to increase the progress in finding acceptable treatments."

Republican National Committee spokesman Mike Collins welcomed Gore's support for doubling cancer research funding, but said, "We just wonder where he's been the last six years." He said the GOP-led Congress has supported more funding in spite of the Clinton administration.

About 100 protesters from ACT UP Philadelphia showed up at Gore's evening fund-raiser, contending trade policies he supports are making it difficult to get affordable AIDS drugs to people who need them in South Africa.

Earlier in Pittsburgh, about 150 people attended a \$1,000-a-plate lunch organized by Mayor Tom Murphy and U.S. Rep. Frank Mascara, D-Pa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-JUN-1999 17:39:48.00

SUBJECT: FW: Free tix to Gore \$1000 fundraiser!

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP on 06/28/99
05:39 PM -----

Jeff Trammell <JTrammel@HillandKnowlton.com>
06/28/99 05:35:20 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject: FW: Free tix to Gore \$1000 fundraiser!

-----Original Message-----

From: We The People [mailto:wtp@CritPath.Org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 1999 8:05 PM
To: fastfax
Subject: Free tix to Gore \$1000 fundraiser!

YOU ARE INVITED
to Vice President Al Gore's \$1,000/head fundraiser in Philadelphia
on Monday, June 28, 1999!

JOIN We The People and ACT UP in our effort to remind Al Gore of
the human cost of his big-money deals to gain the White House!

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 1999
6:00 p.m. sharp
15th and Cherry Street

On this date, Al Gore is coming to Philadelphia to talk about how much
he cares for everyday people and their everyday problems. He'll say he's
full of compassion and will work hard for everyone if we'd only elect him
President \
in 2000.

But Al Gore is flunking big-time one of the most important morality tests
he faces
right now as Vice President.

Al Gore supports the "Africa Growth and Opportunities Act" (AGOA), which
among
other things will prevent poor and developing countries in Africa from

producing generic
forms of US-patented AIDS drugs -- the same drugs that have finally
produced real
hope for people living with HIV here in the US.

By supporting the AGOA, which would probably die without the strenuous
efforts of the
Clinton Administration to keep it alive, Al Gore is siding with those who
want to bring
about a new kind of apartheid, the Apartheid of the New Millenium, an
apartheid which says
that people with HIV who have the money for expensive drugs marketed by
profit-hungry
US corporations are the ones who can stay alive -- and all those millions
of HIV+ people
in Africa will just have to be left out.

We say no.

Join We The People Living with AIDS/HIV of the Delaware Valley and ACT UP
Philadelphia
in greeting the Vice President on his short visit to Philadelphia. Help
make it memorable.
Help make Philadelphia the place where Al Gore finally understands that
real leadership
means standing for life and liberty ... even for Africans.

MONDAY, JUNE 28th, 6pm, 15th and Cherry Streets. Be there.
Call 215-731-1844 for more info or email wtp@critpath.org

- gore2.htm

Message Sent

To:

'Karen Hancox' <Khancox@gorennet.com>
'Stacey Spector' <sspector@gorennet.com>
'Philip Dufour' <Dufour_P@al.eop.gov>
Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP
'Julian Potter' <Elizabeth_J._Potter@lncgate.eop.gov>

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

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more information call: 215-731-1844

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<p align=center><center>Sponsored by ACT UP and We The People Living with AIDS/HIV

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===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:29-JUN-1999 09:01:17.00

SUBJECT: Fwd: When should we hold a DC press conference?

TO: Richard Socarides (CN=Richard Socarides/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP on 06/29/99
09:00 AM -----

Sandra Thurman @ EOP 06/29/99 08:33:07 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject:Fwd: When should we hold a DC press conference?

----- Forwarded by Sandra Thurman/OPD/EOP on 06/29/99
08:32 AM -----

ECHNDC@aol.com
06/28/99 09:45:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Sandra Thurman@eop
cc:
Subject: Fwd: When should we hold a DC press conference?

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

From: aidsact@CritPath.Org@INET@EOPMRX@LN GTWY
*To: aidsact@CritPath.Org@INET@EOPMRX@LN GTWY
Date: 6/27/99 12:59pm

Subject: Re: When should we hold a DC press conference?

I would support and work ion this press conference, especially if it was delayed by one week, and, B) was used as a place to announce a massive national action on the gore 2000 headquarters in two months.

I would work on a press conference that spought to do the following:

1. release the sign on letters
2. restate the threee demands we have been bringing to the gore folks in recent weeks.
3. announce a deadline for gore to respond or else face a shut down of his campaign headquarters in 12 weeks.

ACT UP Phila hasn't yet considered this prop[osal (for a big DC action), and it is perhaps 50/50 that the groups will accept it. but that is the proposal I will be working on. we do have several other campaigns that are time bound and have been delayed during the gore fests.

Separately, due to the intense work of getting together our action this Monday, i have not done much to contact HRC or AIDS Action and either win thgem over or at least contain or reduce obnoxious press statements.

Frankly, it seems like HRC has rolled over quite nicely, where they might even help a little bit. At least they seem more likely to stay out of the way, and less likely to say damaging things to the press.

Also, I have so far failed to pursue setting up meetings with Bradley, Dole, and Bush. We should.

If there is anyone who would like to handle one of these tasks, please let me know. I can do a little work on thislater in the week.

Paul Davis
ACT UP Phila.
215.731.1844 or 215.474.6886

>
>With the growing attacks on us and distortions of our position -- while
>there's continued media interest -- I think we could have success with a
>press conference at the National Press Club. My idea is to hold it some
>time after the deadline Jamie set of Wed. June 30 to collect sign-ons to
>the letter to Gore. (There are already 200, mostly academics not in the AIDS
>world; several are South African; I hope everyone will make a big push in
>the next few days to get more well-known names in the AIDS world). Jamie is
>available on Wed., July 7 or Fri., July 9. Media professionals have always
>told me that Fridays are bad to get coverage, so how about that July 7
>date?

>
>Here a suggested format:

>
>THE NEWS: 300 AIDS and health care leaders announce open letter denouncing
>VP Gore's threats against South Africa, plus a separate letter from Health
>GAP Coalition to all announced Presidential candidates of both parties
>requesting that they declare their support for changing US policy in this
>area

>
>THE SPEAKERS: Try for biggest names who signed on, including Ralph Nader.
>Is there a courageous Congressperson who will get on board, perhaps a
>member of the Black Caucus? What about Jesse Jackson Jr.? PLUS diverse

>activists involved in the campaign and knowledgeable about the issues,
>including women, people of color, PWAs (overlapping categories) and -- if
>we can persuade them to speak out -- someone from the South African embassy
>or a South African AIDS advocate who lives in the Northeastern US (to
>minimize travel costs); perhaps Randall Robinson of TransAfrica - who could
>call him? Of course the grand total of all speakers should not exceed
>around 6.

>
>THE PACKET: Besides our usual literature, we should prepare a
>point-by-point rebuttal of the lies and distortions streaming out of the
>White House, the Gore campaign and the compromised AIDS and gay
>establishment.

>
>Meanwhile, can we divide up the labor of following up to get more
>well-known signees on the list (I'm not talking about broaching the
>subject of speaking at any press conference, just the signature itself).
>Asia and I already divided some names from the sign-on letter supporting
>HOPE, plus some new ones:

>
>If I recall, Asia said she'd email and then call:

>
>HERO/Baltimore
>NAPWA
>Nat. Minority AIDS Council
>APLA
>who else?

>
>
>I said I'd email and then call:

>
>GMHC (Pablo Colon or Colin Robinson)
>Body Positive
>Latino Commission on AIDS
>Leading for Life (Mario Cooper)
>Phill Wilson
>Women Alive/LA (Mary Lucey)
>Ferd Eggan, AIDS Coordinator of LA
>I'll ask Ed Shaw to call Councilperson Phil Reed

>
>Plus I've further committed to:
>
>Kerry Lobel of NGLTF (who gave a supportive quote to Doug Ireland for POZ)
>Tom Duane (ditto; I'll see if he'd call Christine Quinn and Margarita Lopez)

>
>Since agreeing to this, I've come to realize that this is too many phone
>calls for me to handle by Wednesday (especially since POZ is going into a
>production week). Can anyone help by naming specific ones on this list that
>you can call? And are there other key players who are LIKELY TO SIGN that
>are not on this list? Any sympathetic politicians in San Fran?

>
>We especially need to start doing outreach to African American non-AIDS
>leaders. I'll talk to Mario about that. Perhaps we can go to Randall
>Robinson of TransAfrica and he can give us entree elsewhere. Locally, is it
>time to go to Sharpton? Who else?

>
>
>
>Bob Lederer
>Senior Editor, POZ Magazine
>349 W. 12th Street, 2d fl.

>New York, NY 10014

>

>phone: (212) 242-2163 x216 (24-hour voicemail)

>fax: (212) 675-8505

>email: bob1@poz.com

>

>

>

>

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====