

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-NOV-1998 13:33:00.00

SUBJECT: Statement By The President: Sweatshop Labor

TO: 1=US ( 1=US@2=WESTERN UNION@5=ATT.COM@\*ELN\62955 )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: BARBUSCHAK\_K ( BARBUSCHAK\_K@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: INFOMGT ( INFOMGT@A1@CD ) (SYS)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: JOHNSON\_WC ( JOHNSON\_WC@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: SULLIVAN\_M ( SULLIVAN\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: SUNTUM\_M ( SUNTUM\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ: 3-NOV-1998 14:12:09.39

TO: WOZNIAK\_N ( WOZNIAK\_N@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: GRAY\_W ( GRAY\_W@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ: 3-NOV-1998 14:00:42.19

TO: NAPLAN\_S ( NAPLAN\_S@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: WEINER\_R ( WEINER\_R@A1@CD ) (DON)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: GRIBBEN\_J ( GRIBBEN\_J@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: RILEY\_R ( RILEY\_R@A1@CD ) (OA)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: tnewell ( tnewell@ostp.eop.gov@INET )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: HEMMIG\_M ( HEMMIG\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: RUNDLET\_P ( RUNDLET\_P@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: BUDIG\_N ( BUDIG\_N@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: meglynn ( meglynn@usia.gov@INET )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Christine A. Stanek ( Christine A. Stanek@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Lori E. Abrams ( Lori E. Abrams@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Anne M. Edwards ( Anne M. Edwards@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: David E. Kalbaugh ( David E. Kalbaugh@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie E. Mason ( Julie E. Mason@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Doris O. Matsui ( Doris O. Matsui@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elisa Millsap ( Elisa Millsap@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Cheryl D. Mills ( Cheryl D. Mills@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: G. Timothy Saunders ( G. Timothy Saunders@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Laura D. Schwartz ( Laura D. Schwartz@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Douglas B. Sosnik ( Douglas B. Sosnik@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Todd Stern ( Todd Stern@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Barry J. Toiv ( Barry J. Toiv@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Michael Waldman ( Michael Waldman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Dorian V. Weaver ( Dorian V. Weaver@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Catherine T. Kitchen ( Catherine T. Kitchen@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Lori L. Anderson ( Lori L. Anderson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Brenda M. Anders ( Brenda M. Anders@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Richard Socarides ( Richard Socarides@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Dag Vega ( Dag Vega@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Barbara D. Woolley ( Barbara D. Woolley@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Jake Siewert  
READ:NOT READ

( Jake Siewert@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Cynthia M. Jasso-Rotunno  
READ:NOT READ

( Cynthia M. Jasso-Rotunno@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMR )

TO: Sara M. Latham  
READ:NOT READ

( Sara M. Latham@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Carole A. Parmelee  
READ:NOT READ

( Carole A. Parmelee@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Andrew J. Mayock  
READ:NOT READ

( Andrew J. Mayock@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Beverly J. Barnes  
READ:NOT READ

( Beverly J. Barnes@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Megan C. Moloney  
READ:NOT READ

( Megan C. Moloney@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Laura S. Marcus  
READ:NOT READ

( Laura S. Marcus@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Virginia N. Rustique  
READ:NOT READ

( Virginia N. Rustique@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Thomas D. Janenda  
READ:NOT READ

( Thomas D. Janenda@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Brian D. Smith  
READ:NOT READ

( Brian D. Smith@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Leanne A. Shimabukuro  
READ:NOT READ

( Leanne A. Shimabukuro@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Tracy S. Olmstead  
READ:NOT READ

( Tracy S. Olmstead@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Kim B. Widdess  
READ:NOT READ

( Kim B. Widdess@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: 62955104  
READ:NOT READ

( 62955104@eln.attmail.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPM )

TO: backup  
READ:NOT READ

( backup@wilson.ai.mit.edu@inet@LNGTWY@EOPM )

TO: newsdesk  
READ:NOT READ

( newsdesk@usnewswire.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMR )

TO: usia01  
READ:NOT READ

( usia01@access.digex.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMR )

TO: usnwire  
READ:NOT READ

( usnwire@access.digex.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPM )

TO: Joseph P. Lockhart

( Joseph P. Lockhart@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman ( Elizabeth R. Newman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jordan Tamagni ( Jordan Tamagni@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Kevin S. Moran ( Kevin S. Moran@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Ashley L. Raines ( Ashley L. Raines@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Peter A. Weissman ( Peter A. Weissman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Douglas J. Band ( Douglas J. Band@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Edwin R. Thomas III ( Edwin R. Thomas III@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sherman A. Williams ( Sherman A. Williams@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: William W. McCathran ( William W. McCathran@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julia M. Payne ( Julia M. Payne@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Robin J. Bachman ( Robin J. Bachman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Ruby Shamir ( Ruby Shamir@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Nicole R. Rabner ( Nicole R. Rabner@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: June Shih ( June Shih@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elisabeth Steele ( Elisabeth Steele@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Brooks E. Scoville ( Brooks E. Scoville@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Neera Tanden ( Neera Tanden@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Reuben L. Musgrave Jr. ( Reuben L. Musgrave Jr.@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Kyle M. Baker ( Kyle M. Baker@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Diane Ikemiyashiro ( Diane Ikemiyashiro@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Sarah S. Knight ( Sarah S. Knight@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Tracy F. Sisser ( Tracy F. Sisser@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Woyneab M. Wondwossen ( Woyneab M. Wondwossen@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jeannetta P. Allen ( Jeannetta P. Allen@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Judithanne V. Scourfield ( Judithanne V. Scourfield@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMR )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Patrick E. Briggs ( Patrick E. Briggs@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Debra S. Wood ( Debra S. Wood@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Daniel W. Burkhardt ( Daniel W. Burkhardt@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Maureen A. Hudson ( Maureen A. Hudson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Lana Dickey ( Lana Dickey@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Carmen B. Fowler ( Carmen B. Fowler@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX ).  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jonathan Orszag ( Jonathan Orszag@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Lynn G. Cutler ( Lynn G. Cutler@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julianne B. Corbett ( Julianne B. Corbett@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Walker F. Bass ( Walker F. Bass@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Virginia Apuzzo ( Virginia Apuzzo@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Glen M. Weiner ( Glen M. Weiner@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Michael V. Terrell ( Michael V. Terrell@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elliot J. Diringer ( Elliot J. Diringer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Nanda Chitre ( Nanda Chitre@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie\_green ( Julie\_green@ed.gov@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Amy Weiss ( Amy Weiss@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Melissa M. Murray ( Melissa M. Murray@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: David S. Beaubaire ( David S. Beaubaire@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: bonney ( bonney@dnc.democrats.org@inet@LNGTWY@EOPM  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Lisa J. Levin ( Lisa J. Levin@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Phillip Caplan ( Phillip Caplan@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Katharine Button ( Katharine Button@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Douglas R. Matties ( Douglas R. Matties@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Eli G. Attie ( Eli G. Attie@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: wh-outbox-distr ( wh-outbox-distr@pub.pub.whitehouse.gov@in  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sean P. Maloney ( Sean P. Maloney@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Marsha Scott ( Marsha Scott@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Gino J. Del Sesto ( Gino J. Del Sesto@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jessica L. Gibson ( Jessica L. Gibson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jodi R. Sakol ( Jodi R. Sakol@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Linda Ricci ( Linda Ricci@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Mark D. Neschis ( Mark D. Neschis@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jeffrey A. Shesol ( Jeffrey A. Shesol@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Heather M. Riley ( Heather M. Riley@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Christa Robinson ( Christa Robinson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jonathan E. Smith ( Jonathan E. Smith@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sarah A. Bianchi ( Sarah A. Bianchi@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: McGavock D. Reed ( McGavock D. Reed@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Chandler G. Spaulding ( Chandler G. Spaulding@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Janelle E. Erickson ( Janelle E. Erickson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Delia A. Cohen ( Delia A. Cohen@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Emory L. Mayfield ( Emory L. Mayfield@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Maureen T. Shea ( Maureen T. Shea@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Fred DuVal ( Fred DuVal@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Pubs\_Backup ( Pubs\_Backup@VAXGTWY@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: William C. Haymes ( William C. Haymes@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jason H. Schechter ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: cmbeach ( cmbeach@email.msn.com@inet@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sheyda Jahanbani ( Sheyda Jahanbani@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Marty J. Hoffmann ( Marty J. Hoffmann@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Dorinda A. Salcido ( Dorinda A. Salcido@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: dmilbank ( dmilbank@tnr.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie B. Goldberg ( Julie B. Goldberg@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer ( Sarah E. Gegenheimer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Roger V. Salazar  
READ:NOT READ

( Roger V. Salazar@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: kyle.mckinnon  
READ:NOT READ

( kyle.mckinnon@kcrw.org@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt  
READ:NOT READ

( Thomas M. Rosshirt@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Minyon Moore  
READ:NOT READ

( Minyon Moore@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Charles M. Brain  
READ:NOT READ

( Charles M. Brain@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Dario J. Gomez  
READ:NOT READ

( Dario J. Gomez@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Carolyn T. Wu  
READ:NOT READ

( Carolyn T. Wu@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Gregory B. Craig  
READ:NOT READ

( Gregory B. Craig@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Edward F. Hughes  
READ:NOT READ

( Edward F. Hughes@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Sarah Salton  
READ:NOT READ

( Sarah Salton@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Christopher Ferris  
READ:NOT READ

( Christopher Ferris@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Rajiv Y. Mody  
READ:NOT READ

( Rajiv Y. Mody@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Robin Leeds  
READ:NOT READ

( Robin Leeds@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Deborah B. Mohile  
READ:NOT READ

( Deborah B. Mohile@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Sondra L. Seba  
READ:NOT READ

( Sondra L. Seba@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Tania I. Lopez  
READ:NOT READ

( Tania I. Lopez@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Maritza Rivera  
READ:NOT READ

( Maritza Rivera@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Ilia V. Velez  
READ:NOT READ

( Ilia V. Velez@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Victoria A. Lynch  
READ:NOT READ

( Victoria A. Lynch@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jena V. Roscoe

( Jena V. Roscoe@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: Cheryl M. Carter  
READ:NOT READ

( Cheryl M. Carter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jocelyn A. Bucaro  
READ:NOT READ

( Jocelyn A. Bucaro@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Kelley L. O'Dell  
READ:NOT READ

( Kelley L. O'Dell@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jonathan M. Young  
READ:NOT READ

( Jonathan M. Young@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jackson T. Dunn  
READ:NOT READ

( Jackson T. Dunn@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Robert B. Johnson  
READ:NOT READ

( Robert B. Johnson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jon P. Jennings  
READ:NOT READ

( Jon P. Jennings@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Charles H. Cole  
READ:NOT READ

( Charles H. Cole@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: drosen  
READ:NOT READ

( drosen@newsweek.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Jennifer Ferguson  
READ:NOT READ

( Jennifer Ferguson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Maya Seiden  
READ:NOT READ

( Maya Seiden@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Joshua S. Gottheimer  
READ:NOT READ

( Joshua S. Gottheimer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Carrie A. Street  
READ:NOT READ

( Carrie A. Street@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: mhall  
READ:NOT READ

( mhall@usatoday.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: spage  
READ:NOT READ

( spage@usatoday.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: bnichols  
READ:NOT READ

( bnichols@usatoday.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Paul D. Glastris  
READ:NOT READ

( Paul D. Glastris@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Maria E. Soto  
READ:NOT READ

( Maria E. Soto@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera  
READ:NOT READ

( Alejandro G. Cabrera@OVP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

TO: Christopher K. Scully

( Christopher K. Scully@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: JOHN.LONGBRAKE ( JOHN.LONGBRAKE@MS01.DO.treas.sprint.com@L  
READ:NOT READ

TO: kara.gerhardt ( kara.gerhardt@ost.dot.gov@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Mindy E. Myers ( Mindy E. Myers@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Larry.mcquillan ( Larry.mcquillan@reuters.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Deborin ( Deborin@aol.com@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jonathan A. Kaplan ( Jonathan A. Kaplan@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Karen Tramontano ( Karen Tramontano@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Skye S. Philbrick ( Skye S. Philbrick@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Toby C. Graff ( Toby C. Graff@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Samuel O. Spencer ( Samuel O. Spencer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Caroline R. Fredrickson ( Caroline R. Fredrickson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Matthew J. Bianco ( Matthew J. Bianco@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 3-NOV-1998 13:28:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release November 3, 1998

#### STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today's agreement on fighting sweatshop practices is an historic step toward reducing sweatshop labor around the world and will give American consumers confidence that the clothes they buy are made under decent and humane working conditions. I applaud the apparel industry, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, and consumer groups who answered the challenge I laid out two years ago to find cooperative ways to reduce sweatshop labor.

This agreement is only the beginning. We know that sweatshop labor will not vanish overnight. While this agreement is an historic step, we must measure our progress by how we change and improve the lives and livelihoods of apparel

workers here in the United States and around the world. That is why I urge more companies to join this effort and follow these strict rules of conduct.

I want to thank all the parties who worked so hard to bring this agreement to a close, and especially Senator Tom Harkin, who first brought this issue to my attention a long time ago.

30-30-30

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: SUNTUM\_M@a1.eop.gov ( SUNTUM\_M@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (WHO)

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-NOV-1998 15:34:59.00

SUBJECT: 1998-11-03 Lockhart briefing

TO: Neera@Whitehouse.GOV ( Neera@Whitehouse.GOV [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman ( CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark D. Neschis ( CN=Mark D. Neschis/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael V. Terrell ( CN=Michael V. Terrell/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [ CEQ ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sean P. Maloney ( CN=Sean P. Maloney/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mindy E. Myers ( CN=Mindy E. Myers/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Reuben L. Musgrave Jr. ( CN=Reuben L. Musgrave Jr./OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Melissa M. Murray ( CN=Melissa M. Murray/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kevin S. Moran ( CN=Kevin S. Moran/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Megan C. Moloney ( CN=Megan C. Moloney/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rajiv Y. Mody ( CN=Rajiv Y. Mody/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Cheryl D. Mills ( CN=Cheryl D. Mills/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elisa Millsap ( CN=Elisa Millsap/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: R. Scott Michaud ( CN=R. Scott Michaud/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Noa A. Meyer ( CN=Noa A. Meyer/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Susanna B. McGuire ( CN=Susanna B. McGuire/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Anne E. McGuire ( CN=Anne E. McGuire/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Andrew J. Mayock ( CN=Andrew J. Mayock/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Emory L. Mayfield ( CN=Emory L. Mayfield/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Douglas R. Matties ( CN=Douglas R. Matties/OU=OA/O=EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Doris O. Matsui ( CN=Doris O. Matsui/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lori E. Abrams ( CN=Lori E. Abrams/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: wh-outbox-distr@[198.137.240.100] ( wh-outbox-distr@[198.137.240.100] [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: meglynn@usia.gov ( meglynn@usia.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Nathan\_B.\_Naylor@ovp.eop.gov ( Nathan\_B.\_Naylor@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: MOFFETT\_J@a1.eop.gov ( MOFFETT\_J@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (WHO)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Christopher\_S.\_Lehane@ovp.eop.gov ( Christopher\_S.\_Lehane@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jim\_Kohlenberger@ovp.eop.gov ( Jim\_Kohlenberger@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lawrence\_J.\_Haas@ovp.eop.gov ( Lawrence\_J.\_Haas@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: GRAY\_W@a1.eop.gov ( GRAY\_W@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (NSC)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: FORDE\_R@a1.eop.gov ( FORDE\_R@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) ( )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Patricia\_M.\_Ewing@ovp.eop.gov ( Patricia\_M.\_Ewing@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: DICKEY\_L@a1.eop.gov ( DICKEY\_L@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (WHO)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: CUTLER\_L@a1.eop.gov ( CUTLER\_L@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (WHO)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Andrei\_H.\_Cherny@ovp.eop.gov ( Andrei\_H.\_Cherny@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph\_W.\_Cerrell@ovp.eop.gov ( Joseph\_W.\_Cerrell@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Alejandro\_G.\_Cabrera@ovp.eop.gov ( Alejandro\_G.\_Cabrera@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: BUDIG\_N@a1.eop.gov ( BUDIG\_N@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (NSC)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: BARTHOLOW\_T@a1.eop.gov ( BARTHOLOW\_T@a1.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] ) (OA)  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Eli\_G.\_Attie@ovp.eop.gov ( Eli\_G.\_Attie@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )  
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TO: backup@wilson.ai.mit.edu ( backup@wilson.ai.mit.edu [ UNKNOWN ] )  
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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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For Immediate Release

November 3, 1998

PRESS BRIEFING BY  
JOE LOCKHART

The Briefing Room

1:02 P.M. EST

MR. LOCKHART: Good afternoon, Mr. Knoller. Would you like to ask the first question? I see you, April.

Q Are these good days?

MR. LOCKHART: Even my bad days are good days when you work here at the White House.

Q Joe, are you getting positive reports back from any of the election officials that the voter turnout is pretty good right now?

MR. LOCKHART: I saw the head of the Election Board for I think it was Chicago or Illinois, on television, who reported that the turnout was heavy. We've gotten some anecdotal reports from people around the country of good turnout, but I don't know that it's anything more than anecdotal. I think the President reiterated this morning the importance of everybody exercising their democratic right, and in order to make a difference and have your voice heard, everyone should get out and vote.

Q Any evidence of intimidation that you're seeing

today?

MR. LOCKHART: I haven't heard from the DNC. I think they are monitoring this through the state parties around the country, and you'd be better asking them for their assessment.

Q What does a heavy turnout mean?

MR. LOCKHART: It means a lot of people are voting.

Q In your terms.

MR. LOCKHART: I think you've seen the conventional wisdom that I'm not in a position to dispute that a light turnout could favor Republicans, a heavy turnout could favor Democrats. I think it's hard to determine at this point, particularly as this is an unfolding, ongoing event. And I think within the next six or seven hours we'll have some real assessment of what's going to happen.

Q Considering, as you said this morning, traditional losses by the party in the White House, what would the President consider a good high water mark for the Democrats in both the Senate and the House races?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm not going to get into numbers. I think the President spoke this morning to what he hopes will happen today, which is as many Americans as possible getting out and voting. And I'm just not going to get into a numbers game of what constitutes -- I mean, I have studiously avoided trying to do that. There's lots of predictions out there from both sides of the aisle, from a wash, to the Speaker of the House saying up to 40 seats in the House side. I'm going to try to not fall into that trap today.

Q Do you have any more information on what the President -- how the President will monitor the outcome of the elections?

THE PRESIDENT: I think he will be -- the President and the First Lady will stay in tonight. I suspect they will watch some of the election results. He'll have some friends over.

Q Who?

MR. LOCKHART: I'll try to let you know this evening as I know. I do expect that he will be on the phone and will probably talk to some Democrats around the country as the election results become known.

Q Do you expect that we will see him at some point today?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't expect you will, no.

Q How about written paperwork of any kind of statement?

MR. LOCKHART: I expect that -- particularly with races going late into the West -- that we'll reserve judgment on what it

all means. You'll see the President tomorrow.

Q Joe, if the Democrats lose many seats, are you prepared for the finger-pointing, especially you tried to get this minority vote out?

MR. LOCKHART: I can't speculate. The President, I think, has made a strong case based on the Democratic issues of education, Social Security, protecting the environment, providing a health care bill of rights. I'm not sure it's particularly useful to discuss what the tenor of the discussion will be tomorrow and the coming days.

I have one thing, let me just read. We will release a statement at the end of this briefing on an agreement in the apparel industry on sweatshop practices. Let me just read you a little bit of this.

Today's agreement -- from the President -- today's agreement on fighting sweatshop practices is a historic step toward reducing sweatshop labor around the world and will give American consumers confidence that the clothes they buy are made under decent and humane working conditions. I applaud the apparel industry, labor unions, non-governmental organizations and consumer groups who answered the challenge I laid out two years ago to find cooperative ways to reduce sweatshop labor.

It goes on -- in particular it thanks Senator Harkin for the important work he's done on this. We'll make this available at the end of the briefing.

Q Who is the agreement with?

MR. LOCKHART: With the unions and the businesses that make up the apparel industry. This is something that the President and the Department of Labor now, under the direction of Secretary Herman, have been working very hard on for the last two years. It was, as you remember, an initiative that Secretary Reich started in early 1996 and they have now reached an agreement.

Q Was there any agreements in the NEC meeting earlier today?

MR. LOCKHART: Any agreements?

Q Yes, any decisions made about Brazil or other --

MR. LOCKHART: No. I think there was some general discussion -- I haven't gotten a complete readout of that meeting, but I'm not aware that there were any decisions on the table, nor decisions taken.

Q When the President spoke he praised Japan today in his readout to the pool. And yet, yesterday a Japanese Cabinet minister came and said that there would be no tariff reductions at the APEC meeting this year.

MR. LOCKHART: Well, we're certainly concerned. I think one of the things that we're trying to do under the auspices of APEC

is a global trade liberalization. We've done some work on that. We hope to do some more at APEC, and it is our hope that Japan will play a constructive role in that. I think the Deputy Trade Representative, Mr. Fisher, made some comments yesterday similar to mine, and again, we hope they will play a constructive role and put these trade issues on the table to be discussed at APEC.

Q Would a high voter turnout express dissatisfaction with the current leadership of the government?

MR. LOCKHART: No, I think a high voter turnout would represent that the Democrats and the Republicans offered voters a clear choice between two different philosophies of how we should move this country forward. I don't think that people going to the polls should be interpreted as a repudiation of anything. I think what the Democrats have tried to do in the last three or four weeks is really provide a clear choice to voters, and I think if there is a high turnout, I think in some respects that will indicate that voters saw a clear choice and saw that it matters -- it matters to their lives to get out and vote and express your opinion.

Q And so a low turnout wouldn't express satisfaction with the way -- the current leadership?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't think so. I think it's always difficult to interpret precisely what all these things can mean, but I think there are certainly some sentiment that things are going well in the country now -- the economy has grown now for six years running. I think people feel good about our position here at home and in the world. But the President has been very clear that there are important choices, there are important pieces of unfinished business on the agenda and it's important for people to get out and make a choice between the way the Democrats have framed the issues and the positions the Democrats have taken, and the positions the Republicans have taken.

Q You've got a President who faces an impeachment inquiry. How is it possible to maintain that this is not at least in some respect a referendum on him?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think that you need to go out, rather than listening to the people that inhabit this city who spend a lot of time talking and telling the world what they think in an almost non-stop way, go out and talk to the voters. And I think if you go out and talk to the voters you'll find that that's not how they look at things. And as the President has said, it's the issues that they care about that they're looking at in this race.

Q Isn't that just another way of answering the referendum, though? I mean, maybe the voters are saying our view of this referendum is that it's not as important as you guys think it is. But, still, isn't that --

MR. LOCKHART: That could be. And there are lots of people who are well-qualified and some who are less than well-qualified to make their judgments, and I'm sure they'll all be making them in the next 24 years.

Q Joe, yesterday about 1,000 representatives of the narco-terrorist group, the FARC, overran a soldiers base in eastern

Colombia, killing many of the officers and soldiers there. This is the same narco-terrorist group that President Pastrano wants to start a dialogue with, a policy which President Clinton gave his support to. Don't these recent actions -- aren't they leading to a reevaluation of the policy with regard to Colombia? And doesn't it really contradict the U.S. position with regard to not negotiating with terrorists and the war on drugs that is the official line?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I'm not familiar with the facts that you've cited. I think both Presidents last week made strong statements about the need to cooperate and to fight the drug trade cooperatively, both at home and in the region. I'm not familiar enough -- or I am not aware that there's anything that has happened that has made us reassess that policy.

Q The President is going to be away during probably the start of the impeachment process.

MR. LOCKHART: So we think.

Q Who will be in charge here, keeping -- involved in the administration's role and so forth?

MR. LOCKHART: As you well know, the President has asked Gregory Craig to come in and help coordinate the efforts here in the White House to deal and to work, hopefully constructively, with the committee. And Mr. Ruff, the White House Counsel, will also be involved in that. So, again, we're not certain when that work begins or how it will unfold, because we don't know. But we believe that the right people will be here in order to work with the committee in any way that is appropriate.

Q In the President's opening statement today he mentioned that the U.S. has been pursuing this comprehensive strategy to fight the financial crisis. And he outlined several steps. One of them that he mentioned was interest rate cuts by the U.S., Japan, Canada and several European nations. Is it fair to say the President welcomes those decisions?

THE PRESIDENT: I think the President talked of one of the parts of the program that he articulated in both the Council of Foreign Relations speech, the IMF speech and at various points in between and after, is a need to return to a policy of growth around the world. And I think one of the recognized ways that we see growth in the economy is at times when there are lower interest rates.

Q Joe, also regarding the NEC meeting this morning, do you know if Japan's position on trade liberalization that you were talking about before was actually brought up in the meeting?

MR. LOCKHART: I expect since it will be a part of the APEC Summit that my expectation is it did come up, but I don't know to what extent. And again, it was not my understanding that there were decisions on the table today, so I don't think there were any decisions.

Q Has Secretary Cohen checked in with the President from overseas?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't think he has. I think the

President and his national security team have been staying in touch with allies, most notably, the Secretary of Defense, who is now in the region. He's in Saudi Arabia today, and my understanding is he'll be in Kuwait tomorrow.

The Vice President earlier this morning spoke to the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. I expect the President will probably, over the coming days, have calls that we will let you know about after they've happened.

Q What did he have to say to the Crown Prince?

Q Does he plan to meet with his national security team today, or has he met with them today?

MR. LOCKHART: He met with his National Security Advisor and the Deputy National Security Advisor this morning -- was briefed on ongoing events both in Iraq and some other places in the world.

Q Why did he call the Crown Prince?

MR. LOCKHART: I think the Vice President wanted the chance to talk to him before the Secretary of Defense was there to discuss the situation on the ground in Iraq and to pursue the conversation that we're having with our allies around the world on the situation and the options for next steps that are available to us.

Q Has there been any change that you could discern in the Iraqi position?

MR. LOCKHART: I have not been able to discern any change in their position, no -- nor have I had any reported to me.

Q What do you say to those critics like Scott Ritter who says that the U.S. and the U.N., in refusing to be more firm with the Iraqis, set the stage for this latest crisis?

MR. LOCKHART: I would disagree with the criticism and restate our position that Saddam Hussein has worked in a counterproductive way, if what his stated goal -- getting relief from sanctions, sanctions that have cost him \$120 billion since the end of the Gulf War and trying to split the international community -- if that is his goal, because he's done quite the opposite.

Q Joe, in several of his recent interviews the President bemoaned what he's called his failure to change the atmosphere in Washington, to decrease the partisanship and so forth. Why has he been so unsuccessful at that?

MR. LOCKHART: Read The Washing

yesterday and you'll get a clue.

Q But that tells us that the problem exists, but doesn't tell us why he hasn't been able --

MR. LOCKHART: I don't know. That's really a question that as a non-member of the Washington establishment I'm not qualified to answer. I'm sure there's a salon in Georgetown where there's a good debate going on.

Q Are you going to be watching McCurry tonight?

MR. LOCKHART: Absolutely. I had the great honor of talking to him this morning because, as a newly minted pundit, I thought I could take the opportunity to maybe spin him a little.

Q Another Stephanopoulos in our midst?

MR. LOCKHART: I have to report that he was having none of it. (Laughter.)

Q Didn't he tell us he wasn't going to end up as a talking head at that lectern where you're standing right now?

MR. LOCKHART: I can't believe that he would have said something up here that wasn't absolutely, 100 percent accurate.

Q Was he calling you for inside advice or inside information?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I really can't reveal that.

Q Well, what were you trying to spin -- that same stuff you give us? (Laughter.)

MR. LOCKHART: He actually said he had just seen someone reporting on the historical trends that somehow made it out of the gaggle and into the mainstream press. (Laughter.) And he wanted to know more on that. He wanted more.

Q Why not call the reporter involved?

Q Joe, 10 months ago there was realistic talk among Democrats of retaking control of the House. Now the only question seems to be how many seats the Democrats might lose. How much responsibility does the President take for diminishing his own party's election prospects with the Monica Lewinsky scandal and the impeachment proceedings?

MR. LOCKHART: I think you could just as easily turn that question around to the Speaker of the House within the last three or four weeks, talking about taking 40 seats and now revising that. I think you haven't heard predictions from here at the podium, so I'm not going to be roped into having to respond to any prediction that may or may not have been made.

Q Does he accept any responsibility for hurting in general terms the prospects --

MR. LOCKHART: The President is the leader of the Democratic Party. I think he has done a fine job of articulating the agenda and the issues, especially where we differ from the Republican Party, and now it's up to the voters.

Q Can I follow up just quickly? This morning you seemed to be lowering expectations by citing historical examples of large losses in the House --

MR. LOCKHART: I was seeking to educate.

Q Okay, good, for fun facts, whatever they were --

large losses in the House and Senate. Yet isn't it true that any net loss of seats is a setback for whichever party that loses?

MR. LOCKHART: I think all parties want to win seats, rather than lose seats. But I think part of the culture that we all live in here in Washington is we analyze anything that moves. So I assume that others will analyze and come to the conclusions they think are right and responsible.

Q Why hasn't the President's leadership of the Democratic Party -- if as you say he's done a fine job -- translated into more seats in Congress, more Democratic governorships?

MR. LOCKHART: I think that's a fair question, and I think that's where history does play some role. If you look at the history of Democratic Presidents, Republican Presidents, six years into their term you find that they have a history of poor results. I think you couple that with an election cycle where Republicans are significantly outspending Democrats around the country -- from the party committees alone, something like \$110 million -- and that makes the context a difficult one.

I think it's a credit to Democrats around the country that they are as competitive as they are. We don't know what the results are going to be standing here right now, but it's a credit to the way they've articulated their agenda in the face of an overwhelming spending majority and the historical context that we are where we are.

Q Joe, you said the President is going to spend the night here watching the results. Has he invited some friends and pundits maybe?

MR. LOCKHART: Some friends. (Laughter.) Some of them also may be pundits, but --

Q Do you have any more fun facts you want to share with us?

Q Is he sending in for pizza?

MR. LOCKHART: More fun facts? No, I think I've done quite enough damage already.

Q Can you elaborate on U.S. disaster aid to Central America and tell us what more may be in the offing?

MR. LOCKHART: Yes, I can. Let me just pull that sheet up in front of me. As I reported yesterday, the Ambassadors in Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala have declared disasters in each of those countries, which makes them eligible for the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance of U.S. AID's help. I believe that already authorized is \$3.4 million to fund DOD helicopters and cargo aircraft to ferry relief supplies and to conduct search and rescue, and assessments.

I believe the first airlift carrying relief supplies arrived in Honduras October 31st, the second in Honduras November 1st. Three additional airlifts were scheduled to depart by today, so you've had, I think, a total of five airlifts.

As the President has said, we are now looking and working very closely with the governments there, with our embassies there, to see what kind of help we can provide. Again, as he said, I think, right now we have an immediate problem of trying to assist these countries in getting through the immediate crisis. And then we'll have a broader and potentially massive problem of rebuilding.

Q Joe, is the White House satisfied with the House Judiciary Subcommittee hearings scheduled for next week on the history of impeachment? Does that meet the concerns that the White House has raised that the issue of impeachment itself be examined by the Judiciary Committee?

MR. LOCKHART: Well, I think, as I understand it, they are going to be looking more at the history rather than what standards they'll use. I think it's, to the extent -- I mean, it's useful as far as it goes to look at historical precedent. I don't think it replaces a real attempt to set some standard by which you'll judge these allegations. So I think it's useful as far it goes, but I don't think it replaces the idea that we've been pushing for, which is some serious, non-partisan look at the standards by which you judge impeachment.

Q Joe, given the degree of concern that the President expressed about voter intimidation, is there any special effort to monitor that today? And have you guys heard any reports of that occurring?

MR. LOCKHART: I haven't. As I said earlier, the DNC is doing some work on that as far as monitoring with the state party's around the country. The Department of Justice has poll monitors around the country -- I think something like 140 around the country. So I think, certainly as expressed yesterday, it's our hope that this won't happen. But I think the organizations like the DNC have to remain vigilant in the extent that voters -- that there are efforts for whatever reasons or whatever motivations to suppress turnout or to intimidate voters from voting.

Q Is the President satisfied with his own fundraising abilities for the party this season, and will there be fundraisers in the future, either for the party or to retire any debt or individual candidates?

MR. LOCKHART: I expect the President to continue to help Democrats raise the resources they need to compete. I think the President worked very hard this year and I think he's satisfied with the help that he was able to provide to Democrats. I think it's difficult. We're in a difficult environment when -- for the principles that we articulate for a comprehensive tobacco legislation, or for a HMO bill of rights, or for supporting passage of an increase in the minimum wage -- there are strong and well-resourced opponents to that. And the Republicans have been able to take advantage, given their position and opposition to these three initiatives in particular. But I think the President did work very hard, as well as the First Lady and the Vice President. And we do the best we can to help Democrats.

Q How soon does he start up again?

MR. LOCKHART: I don't have a schedule, but I think you can expect that you will have to endure a few more fundraisers before the year is out.

Q Are there some already scheduled?

MR. LOCKHART: I think there are, but I don't know when the dates are.

Q What is he doing this afternoon?

MR. LOCKHART: This afternoon? I expect he has phone and office time. If he makes any calls that are of interest to you, I will report on them faithfully. Otherwise, I think he's just catching up on some work and will probably knock off early and go back over to the residence, where they will prepare to entertain some friends.

Q How concerned are you about the implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement? There seems to be some problems developing.

MR. LOCKHART: We believe that the Palestinians have done everything they're supposed to do for the agreement to enter into force. Prime Minister Netanyahu has raised some concerns, and we are working to try to work them out.

Q What are those concerns?

MR. LOCKHART: I think he's best to articulate what his concerns are. We are working with them. I will say, though, that he has indicated publicly that he intends to implement the accord, and he has expressed that view directly in conversations with Chairman Arafat.

Q But if you say that the Palestinians -- if you believe the Palestinians have done everything they're supposed to do, you're suggesting that you don't agree with Netanyahu's concerns.

MR. LOCKHART: No, I'm suggesting that the Palestinians have done what they need to do for the agreement to enter into force. The Prime Minister has raised other concerns and we are working with the parties to work through these issues.

Q Concerns outside the framework of the agreement?

MR. LOCKHART: I'm going to stick where I am on this.

Q Going back to impeachment real quick, when and why did the administration change their whole idea on the history of impeachment, because recently from that podium you said we didn't need a history lesson on impeachment?

MR. LOCKHART: I think what we need is some real examination of the standards. To the extent that the committee wants to look at the history, I don't think there is any harm in that. I think they're missing a more important issue, but I don't think we've changed our view on that.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

1:34 P.M. EST

#013-11/03

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (EXTERNAL MAIL)

CREATOR: Elizabeth R. Newman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX

CREATION DATE/TIME: 5-NOV-1998 15:51:00.00

SUBJECT: Guidance

TO: WOZNIAK\_N ( WOZNIAK\_N@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:15-DEC-1998 18:25:50.17

TO: CROWLEY\_P ( CROWLEY\_P@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: MENDOZA\_E ( MENDOZA\_E@A1@CD )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: SUNTUM\_M ( SUNTUM\_M@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: OLCOTT\_E ( OLCOTT\_E@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: SEE\_J ( SEE\_J@A1@CD ) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: LEAVY\_D ( LEAVY\_D@A1@CD ) (NSC)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Lori L. Anderson ( Lori L. Anderson@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Barry J. Toiv ( Barry J. Toiv@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Dag Vega ( Dag Vega@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Anne M. Edwards ( Anne M. Edwards@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Brenda M. Anders ( Brenda M. Anders@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Megan C. Moloney ( Megan C. Moloney@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman ( Elizabeth R. Newman@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julia M. Payne ( Julia M. Payne@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julianne B. Corbett ( Julianne B. Corbett@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Mark D. Neschis ( Mark D. Neschis@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Nanda Chitre ( Nanda Chitre@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )

READ:NOT READ

TO: James M. Teague ( James M. Teague@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Beverly J. Barnes ( Beverly J. Barnes@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Mark A. Kitchens ( Mark A. Kitchens@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jason H. Schechter ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie E. Mason ( Julie E. Mason@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Dorinda A. Salcido ( Dorinda A. Salcido@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sheyda Jahanbani ( Sheyda Jahanbani@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jennifer M. Palmieri ( Jennifer M. Palmieri@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie B. Goldberg ( Julie B. Goldberg@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer ( Sarah E. Gegenheimer@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Roger V. Salazar ( Roger V. Salazar@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: David C. Leavy ( David C. Leavy@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Heather M. Riley ( Heather M. Riley@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Amy Weiss ( Amy Weiss@EOP@LNGTWY@EOPMRX )  
READ:NOT READ

TEXT:

Message Creation Date was at 5-NOV-1998 15:47:00

Daily Press Guidance

November 5, 1998

Domestic

1. ADAPT/Disabilty Protest
2. Affirmative Action
3. Arkansas Trip Preview
4. Arts and Humanities
5. Central High Event
6. Medical Marijuana
7. Same Sex Marriage
8. Steel
9. Sweatshops

10. Unemployment Numbers Leak
11. Y2k

Foreign

1. Bin Laden Indictment
2. CIA Report on Honduran Documents
3. Dalai Lama
4. Hurricane Mitch
5. Iraq
6. MEPP
7. Nuclear Materials Smuggling
8. Russian Debt Restructuring
9. Russian Food Aid
10. Trip to Africa by AS/S Susan Rice
11. Taiwan/Richardson visit

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Sarah Rosen ( CN=Sarah Rosen/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-NOV-1998 11:12:02.00

SUBJECT: Dec 10th -- Universal Declaration of Human Rights 50th Anniversary

TO: Melissa G. Green ( CN=Melissa G. Green/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lael Brainard ( CN=Lael Brainard/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gene B. Sperling ( CN=Gene B. Sperling/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Scott Busby ( CN=Scott Busby/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Any chance we can get a reference to codes of conduct and specifically AIP (Apparel Industry Partnership) in connection with the President's remarks on the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration?

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jake Siewert ( CN=Jake Siewert/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-NOV-1998 11:59:52.00

SUBJECT: From our Sweatshop Team

TO: Antony J. Blinken ( CN=Antony J. Blinken/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Any chance we can get a reference to our efforts to crack down on sweatshop labor through the Apparel Industry Partnership into the President's remarks on the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration? We can provide language if you think this fits.

Let me know. Thanks.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Antony J. Blinken ( CN=Antony J. Blinken/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:25-NOV-1998 12:41:46.00

SUBJECT: From our Sweatshop Team

TO: Ted Widmer ( CN=Ted Widmer/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wendy E. Gray ( CN=Wendy E. Gray/OU=NSC/O=EOP @ EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jake Siewert ( CN=Jake Siewert/OU=OPD/O=EOP @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

yeah, send us whatever you've got and we'll work it. Maybe something like "we hear the voices of the sweatshop reformasi -- right here, right now -- in Kathy Lee Gifford's house..."

By the way, are you guys doing any talking points for NAFTA 5th anniversary, coming up next month?

----- Forwarded by Antony J. Blinken/NSC/EOP on 11/26/98  
01:42 AM -----

Jake Siewert

11/25/98 11:57:15 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Antony J. Blinken/NSC/EOP

cc:

Subject: From our Sweatshop Team

Any chance we can get a reference to our efforts to crack down on sweatshop labor through the Apparel Industry Partnership into the President's remarks on the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration? We can provide language if you think this fits.

Let me know. Thanks.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-NOV-1998 13:38:09.00

SUBJECT: Statement By The President: Sweatshop Labor

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Renee C. Riley@eop ( Renee C. Riley@eop [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael J. Sullivan@EOP ( Michael J. Sullivan@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 3-NOV-1998 13:28:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release November 3, 1998

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today's agreement on fighting sweatshop practices is an historic step toward reducing sweatshop labor around the world and will give American consumers confidence that the clothes they buy are made under decent and humane working conditions. I applaud the apparel industry, labor unions, nongovernmental organizations, and consumer groups who answered the challenge I laid out two years ago to find cooperative ways to reduce sweatshop labor.

This agreement is only the beginning. We know that sweatshop labor will not vanish overnight. While this agreement is an historic step, we must measure our progress by how we change and improve the lives and livelihoods of apparel

workers here in the United States and around the world. That is why I urge more companies to join this effort and follow these strict rules of conduct.

I want to thank all the parties who worked so hard to bring this agreement to a close, and especially Senator Tom Harkin, who first brought this issue to my attention a long time ago.

30-30-30

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-DEC-1998 10:02:40.00

SUBJECT: Fact Sheet: Human Rights Day 1998

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Renee C. Riley@eop ( Renee C. Riley@eop [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael J. Sullivan@EOP ( Michael J. Sullivan@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Message Creation Date was at 10-DEC-1998 09:50:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 10, 1998

FACT SHEET

Human Rights Day 1998 and Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award

President Clinton today commemorates Human Rights Day and marks the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the U.N. General Assembly declaration affirming fundamental freedoms and human rights for all people. On the historic anniversary of the UDHR, President Clinton announces several policy initiatives to advance human rights at home and abroad. He also honors four distinguished American human rights leaders as the inaugural recipients of the newly-created Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights.

## Human Rights Policy Initiatives

- Signing of a Human Rights Executive Order, that strengthens our efforts to implement human rights treaties, and creates an Administration working group to coordinate these efforts.
- Establishment of a Genocide Early Warning Center, jointly run by the State Department and the Central Intelligence Agency, to train intelligence resources on situations that could potentially lead to genocide.
- Enhancing our response to human rights emergencies. The U.S. Agency for International Development will provide up to \$8 million over the next five years to non-governmental organizations to enhance their rapid response capacities. Organizations can use these funds for a variety of purposes, including the creation of assessment teams, monitoring units or other means of addressing situations where human rights may be imminently threatened.
- Providing increased assistance to victims of human rights abuse. The Department of State will significantly increase our annual contribution to the U.N. Voluntary Fund for Torture Victims (from \$1.8 million in FY 1998 to \$3 million in FY 1999). This Fund distributes money to organizations around the world that rehabilitate those who have suffered torture. In addition, the Department of State is initiating a program to address the needs of genocide survivors in Rwanda, Bosnia and Cambodia. This program will primarily target women, providing training and counseling.
- Combating child labor by contributing \$30 million this year to the International Labor Organization's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor, a ten-fold increase over last year's \$3 million contribution. This program works with governments, businesses and non-governmental organizations to discourage the use of child labor around the world.
- Issuing new guidelines for the adjudication of asylum claims by children in the U.S. The U.S. is the second country after Canada to adopt such guidelines. The guidelines will sensitize immigration officials to the special needs of our youngest and most vulnerable asylum seekers.
- Preventing youth hate crime through publication in January of a guide for schools entitled "Protecting Students from Harassment and Hate Crimes", developed jointly by the Department of Education and the National Association of Attorneys General. The guide provides suggestions to school systems for addressing the issue of school violence.

- Protecting victims of smugglers, traffickers and sweatshop owners. The Department of Justice will explore legislative options to address the immigration situation of illegal aliens in the U.S. who are the victims of serious abuses such as forced labor and forced prostitution. The aim is to encourage greater reporting to and cooperation with U.S. authorities in targeting abusers of human rights.

#### Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award

Eleanor Roosevelt was the driving force behind the adoption in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To honor her commitment to the principles of the Declaration the President established the Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights.

For the inaugural recipients of this new award, the Secretary of State recommended, and the President approved, four distinguished American human rights leaders.

Robert L. Bernstein, founder of the Fund for Free Expression as well as Human Rights Watch and retired chairman of Random House.

Representative John Lewis, life-long civil rights leader.

Bette Bao Lord, human rights activist, China scholar and novelist.

Dorothy Q. Thomas, women's rights activist responsible for groundbreaking research and advocacy on human rights violations against women around the world.

-more-

#### 1998 ELEANOR ROOSEVELT AWARD CITATIONS:

##### ROBERT L. BERNSTEIN

Robert Bernstein has dedicated his life to giving voice to the voiceless, from publishing banned books to founding the groups that led to the creation of Human Rights Watch. His ceaseless efforts have increased both our determination and ability to oppose human rights violations wherever they occur. We honor him today for a life devoted to the active defense of freedom and dignity throughout the world.

##### JOHN LEWIS

For 40 years John Lewis has been at the vanguard of the civil rights

struggle.

From Freedom Rides to the House of Representatives, he has educated and mobilized generations of Americans in the crusade against injustice. He often did so at great personal risk, yet he never deviated from his commitment to peaceful change through nonviolent means. We honor him today for his uncompromising heroism in the face of bigotry and his unswerving commitment to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

BETTE BAO LORD

Born in China, raised in the United States, Bette Bao Lord has dedicated her life to the defense of liberty, particularly through her inspired leadership of Freedom House. One of her books on China includes the story of a boy who flies a kite each day outside a prison so that his captive father will see the kite and not lose hope. Her work has similarly sustained hope in countless others. We honor her today for her own activism and for setting a high standard for human rights and democracy activists around the world.

DOROTHY Q. THOMAS

Dorothy Thomas has played a leading role in efforts to define and defend women's rights around the world. Through her work at Human Rights Watch, she has raised global awareness of state-sponsored violence and discrimination against women and helped reshape international law to fight these abuses. We honor her today for her courageous advocacy of women's rights as basic human rights.

###

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (ALL-IN-1 MAIL)

CREATOR: Margaret M. Suntum (SUNTUM\_M) (WHO)

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-DEC-1998 11:40:55.70

SUBJECT: President's remarks at human rights event

TO: Nanda Chitre (CHITRE\_N) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Julie B. Goldberg (GOLDBERG\_JB) Autoforward to: Remote Addr  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Megan C. Moloney (MOLONEY\_M) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman (NEWMAN\_E) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Ellen E. Olcott (OLCOTT\_E) (WHO)  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Roger V. Salazar (SALAZAR\_R) Autoforward to: Remote Address  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Jason H. Schechter (SCHECHTER\_J) Autoforward to: Remote Addr  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Richard Socarides (SOCARIDES\_R) Autoforward to: Remote Addr  
READ:NOT READ

TO: Natalie S. Wozniak (WOZNIAK\_N) (NSC)  
READ:10-DEC-1998 17:45:17.47

TO: Remote Addressee (sarah e. gegenheimer@eop@lngtwy@eopmrx )  
READ:NOT READ

TEXT:  
See attached.

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====

ATT CREATION TIME/DATE:10-DEC-1998 11:39:00.00

ATT BODYPART TYPE:p

ATT CREATOR: Margaret M. Suntum

TEXT:  
WPC  
2BVJZCourier&?xxx,}x6X@`7X@HP LaserJet 5LHPLAS5L.PRS5x  
@\\~%VX@3'3'StandardA'LegalA'LegalrJet 5L/E.>AuDX` hp x (##'0\*,.8135@8:<H?AX`  
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h#THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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For Immediate Release` (#5December 10, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT HUMAN RIGHTS DAY PRESENTATION

OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD>

Room 450

Old Executive Office Building

10:39 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. I want to welcome all of you here, the members of Congress, the members of our foreign policy team who have worked on this National Security Advisor Berger, Under Secretary Loy, Assistant Secretary Koh. I welcome Ambassador Nancy Rubin, the Ambassador of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights; Theresa Loar, the Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues; members of the Roosevelt family and other distinguished guests.

I would like to say also before getting into my prepared remarks that someday when I write the memoirs of these last several years, one of the proudest moments of our administration for me will be the work the First Lady has done to advance the cause of human rights. (Applause.) I remember the speech she gave in Beijing on a rainy day, when people were struggling through the mud to get into that remote facility; the talk she gave just a few days ago at Gaston Hall at Georgetown University about Eleanor Roosevelt, I think one of the finest speeches she ever gave. But more important, the concrete work, the Vital Voices work in Northern Ireland and Latin America, and all the little villages she visited in Latin America and Africa and Asia, on the Indian Subcontinent to try to advance the condition of women and children, experience young girls.

And I think that every person who has ever been the parent of a daughter could identify strongly with the remarks she just made and the brave women who we

re just introduced.

You know, most of us at least who have reached a certain age, we look forward to the holidays when our daughters come home from college and they have the human right to decide whether they want to come home or not. (Laughter.) When our daughters are married and they have our grandchildren, we hope they'll find a way to come home. Imagine I just wish there were some way for every American citizen to imagine how they would feel if the people Hillary just discussed were their daughters. I hope we can do more.

We are sponsoring these awards today and announcing them because, as all of you know so well, 50 years ago in Paris the U.N. General Assembly voted to approve the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was a watershed moment for what was then a very young United Nations; a new chapter, however, in a much, much older story the unending striving of humanity to realize its potential in the life of every person.

For its time, the Universal Declaration was quite bold. If you look at the way the world is going today, it's still quite a bold document. Like all great breakthroughs, it was an act of imagination and courage, an opening of the heart and the mind with spare elegance. It served notice that for all our differences we share a common birthright.

You know, it's easy for us to forget, but if you think back to 1948, it might not have been particularly easy to affirm faith in mankind's future. After all, it was just three years after a cataclysmic war and the Holocaust; the Cold War was beginning to blight the postwar landscape; millions and millions more would die just in the Soviet Union under the terror of Stalin.

But this document did reaffirm faith in human kind it is really the Magna Carta of our humanity. Article I states that: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should

act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

There are no commas or parenthesis in this sentence, no qualifications or exceptions just the power of affirmation.

Other articles assert the freedom to worship, to work, to assemble, to participate in a life of meaning and purpose. Those words have now been translated into every language of the United Nations. Though 50 years old, they still ring free, fresh and powerful, don't they? They resonate today because today human dignity is still under siege, not something that can be taken for granted anywhere.

We all know how much the Declaration owed to the remarkable leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt. She rose to every challenge; she defended American idealism she honestly admitted our own imperfections; she always called on the best from each delegate and she called on it again and again and again. Indeed, a delegate from Panama grew so exhausted by the pace that he had to remind Mrs. Roosevelt that the delegates had human rights, too. (Laughter).

Today we celebrate the life of this document and the lives it has saved and enhanced. Mrs. Roosevelt worried that it would be hard to translate ideas on paper into real places into kitchens and factories and ghettos and prisons. But words have power, ideas have power, and the march for human rights has steadily gained ground.

Since 1948, the United Nations has adopted legal instruments against torture, genocide, slavery, apartheid, and discrimination against women and children.

As nations grow more interdependent, the idea of a unified standard of human rights becomes easier to define and, more important than ever, to maintain.

Obviously, all nations have more work to do, and the United States is no exception. We must improve our own record, we must correct our own mistakes, even as we fulfill our responsibility to assist on improvement in other nations

n  
 totalitarian states, like North Korea; in military dictatorships,  
 like Burma;  
 in countries where leaders practice the politics of  
 ethnic hatred, like Serbia  
 and Iraq; in African nations where  
 tribal differences have led to unimaginable  
 slaughter; in nations  
 where tolerance and faith must struggle against intolerant  
 fundamentalism, like Afghanistan and Sudan; in Cuba, where  
 persons who strive  
 for peaceful democratic change still are  
 repressed and imprisoned; in China,  
 where change has come to  
 people's daily lives, but where basic political rights  
 are still denied to too many.

Some suggest today that it is sheer arrogance for the  
 President or for the  
 United States to discuss such matters in  
 other countries. Some say it is because  
 we are not perfect here  
 at home. If we had to wait for perfection, none of  
 us would ever  
 advance in any way. Some say it is because there are Asian  
 values  
 or African values or Western values dividing the human  
 race into various subc  
 ategories. Well, let's be honest there  
 are. There are genuine cultural differ  
 ences, which inevitably  
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 among people. It says what we have in  
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 mits beyond  
 which we dare not go without violating our common humanity.

This is a phony attack on those of you who fight every  
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 . None of us want everyone to be the same;  
 none of us want to have all the sam  
 e religious practices; none of  
 us want to have all the same social and politica  
 l structures;  
 none of us say we know exactly how life should be organized  
 every  
 where under all circumstances and how every problem should  
 be solved. We say w  
 e have a common humanity and whatever you  
 think should be done differently must

be done within the limits "J"Jthat respects our common humanity.

Now, that means a lot to us on the verge of a new century, where freedom and knowledge and flexibility will mean more to people than ever before. Where people in the poorest villages on every continent on this Earth will have a chance to leapfrog years and years and years of the development process simply because of the use of the communications revolution if we respect universal human rights.

The Vice President said so well recently, in Asia, that we believe the peaceful democratic process that we have strongly endorsed will be even more essential to the world on the threshold of this new millennium. Throughout 1998, old fears and hatreds crumbled before the healing power of honest communication, faith in the future, a strong will for a better future.

Today in Oslo I'm happy about this today in Oslo, two leaders from Northern Ireland, John Hume and David Trimble, are receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts on the Good Friday Accord. In the Middle East, where I will go in two days, Palestinian and Israelis are struggling to bridge mutual distrust to implement the Wye Accords. In Kosovo, a serious humanitarian crisis has been averted, and the process toward reconciliation continues in Bosnia. All these breakthroughs were triumphs for human rights.

Today we commit ourselves to the ideas of the Universal Declaration, to keep moving toward the promise outlined in Paris 50 years ago.

First, we're taking steps to respond quickly to genocidal conditions, through the International Coalition Against Genocide I announced during my visit to Africa, and a new genocide early warning center sponsored by the Department of State and the CIA. We will provide additional support to the U.N. Torture Victims Fund and genocide survivors in Bosnia, Rwanda and Cambodia. We will continue assistance to women suffering under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. And USAID will provide up to \$8 million to NGOs to enhance their ability to

res  
pond more rapidly to human rights emergencies.

Second, we must do more for children who have always been especially vulnerable to human rights violations. This year I sought, and Congress provided, dramatic new support for the fight against child labor with a tenfold increase in United States assistance to the International Labor Organization. Today, the Immigration and Naturalization Service is issuing new guidelines for the evaluation of asylum claims by children, making the process better serve our youngest and most vulnerable asylum seekers.

Third, we must practice at home what we preach abroad. Just this morning I signed an executive order that strengthens our ability to implement human rights treaties and creates an interagency group to hold us accountable for progress in honoring those commitments.

Fourth, I am concerned about aliens who suffer abuses at the hands of smugglers and sweatshop owners. These victims actually have a built-in disincentive their unlawful status here that discourages them from complaining to U.S. authorities. So I'm asking the Department of Justice to provide legislative options to address this problem. And I know the Deputy Attorney General, Eric Holder, and the Deputy Secretary of Labor, Kitty Higgins, are here, and I trust they will work on this because I know they care as much about it as I do.

Finally, I'd like to repeat my support for two top legislative priorities: an employment nondiscrimination act that would ban discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace, and a hate crimes prevention act. Last year, the entire nation was outraged by the brutal killings of Matthew Shepard, a young gay student in Wyoming; and James Byrd, and an African American in Texas. All Americans are entitled to the same respect and legal protection, no matter their race, their gender, their sexual orientation. I agree with something President

Truman once said, "When I say Americans, I mean all Americans."

We will never relinquish the fight to move forward in the continuing struggle for human rights. I am aware that much of the best work in human rights has been done by those outside government students and activists, NGOs, brave religious leaders people from all backgrounds who simply want a better, safer world for their children. Many have done so in the face of great adversity the imprisoned members of the Internal Dissidents Working Group in Cuba, the political prisoners of the National League for Democracy in Burma, the imprisoned dissidents in China. We make common cause with them all.

That is why, today, we are presenting the first Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights to four outstanding Americans not only for their own efforts, but because we know that, by working together, we can do more. From different backgrounds and generations they stand, all, in the great tradition of Eleanor Roosevelt, pioneers in the fight to expand the frontiers of freedom:

Robert Bernstein, a pathbreaker for freedom of expression and the protection of rights at home and abroad. Bette Bao Lord, the head of Freedom House, a prolific author and campaigner. Dorothy Thomas, a champion of women's rights, the voice of a new generation committed to human rights. And John Lewis, a veteran in the civil rights struggle, now serving his Congress with great distinction in the House of Representatives.

I would like to ask the military aide to read the citations

(The citations are read.)

I'd like to ask the members of the Roosevelt family who are here to stand.  
Thank you. (Applause.)

The day the U.N. delegates voted to approve the Declaration, Eleanor Roosevelt wrote, "Long job over."  
(Laughter.) One of the few mistakes she ever made.  
(Laughter.)  
She left us and all our successors a big job that will never be

over, for the Universal Declaration contains an eternal promise,  
one embraced  
by our founders in 1776, one that has to be  
reaffirmed every day in every way.

In our country, each generation of Americans has had to  
do it in the struggle  
against slavery led by President  
Lincoln, in FDR's Four Freedoms, in the unfinished work of Martin  
Luther King and Robert Kennedy, in the ongoing work here  
in this  
room.

I have learned in ways large and small in the last six  
years that there is  
within every person a scale of justice and  
that people can too easily be herded  
into hatred and extremism,  
often out of a belief that they have absolute truth  
and,  
therefore, are entitled to absolute power, that they can ignore  
any constitution,  
override any laws, override any facts. There will  
always be work to be done.

And again, I would say to you that this award we gave  
to these four richly  
deserving people is also for all of you who  
labor for human rights.

In the prologue of John Lewis's magnificent  
autobiography, "Walking With The  
Wind," he tells a stunning story  
that has become a metaphor for his life and  
is a metaphor for  
your work, about being a little boy with his brothers and sisters  
and cousins in the house of a relative that was a very fragile  
house, when  
an enormous wind came up. And he said he was told  
that all the children had to  
hold hands, and one corner of the  
house would blow up in the wind and all the  
children would walk,  
holding hands, to the corner and it would go down. And then  
another would come up, and all the children would hold hands  
again and go to  
the other corner until the house came down. And  
by walking with the wind, hand  
in hand, they saved the house and  
the family and the children.

John says that that walk is a struggle to find the  
beloved community. The  
Universal Declaration of Human Rights  
applies to individuals, but it can only be

e achieved by our common  
community.

Thank you, and God bless you all. (Applause.)

8)END`(#=11:03 A.M. EST===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Carolyn Rauch <CarolynR@idsa.com> ( Carolyn Rauch <CarolynR@idsa.com> [ UNK

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-DEC-1998 13:09:49.00

SUBJECT: Re: my Human Rights Event

TO: Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Thanks for sending this! You are so fabulous!

-----  
From: Steven\_J.\_Naplan@nsc.eop.gov  
To:  
Subject: my Human Rights Event  
Date: Thursday, December 10, 1998 10:51 AM

this was my big event, and if you'll permit me to boast, after it was over, the President took me aside and said, "Nice event Steve, you did a really good job."

(Full disclosure: he knew to call me "Steve" when my sainted boss told him, "don't thank me, thank my Director, Steve Naplan.")  
----- Forwarded by Steven J. Naplan/NSC/EOP on 12/10/98  
12:44 PM -----

(Embedded  
image moved SUNTUM\_M@A1  
to file: 12/10/98 11:35:00 AM  
PIC10590.PCX)

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message  
cc:  
Subject: 1998-12-10 Remarks of President at Human Rights Event

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 10, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

AT HUMAN RIGHTS DAY PRESENTATION  
OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Room 450  
Old Executive Office Building

10:39 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. I want to welcome all of you here, the members of Congress, the members of our foreign policy team who have worked on this -- National Security Advisor Berger, Under Secretary Loy, Assistant Secretary Koh. I welcome Ambassador Nancy Rubin, the Ambassador of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights; Theresa Loar, the Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues; members of the Roosevelt family and other distinguished guests.

I would like to say also before getting into my prepared remarks that someday when I write the memoirs of these last several years, one of the proudest moments of our administration for me will be the work the First Lady has done to advance the cause of human rights. (Applause.) I remember the speech she gave in Beijing on a rainy day, when people were struggling through the mud to get into that remote facility; the talk she gave just a few days ago at Gaston Hall at Georgetown University about Eleanor Roosevelt, I think one of the finest speeches she ever gave. But more important, the concrete work, the Vital Voices work in Northern Ireland and Latin America, and all the little villages she visited in Latin America and Africa and Asia, on the Indian Subcontinent to try to advance the condition of women and children, experience young girls.

And I think that every person who has ever been the parent of a daughter could identify strongly with the remarks she just made and the brave women who were just introduced.

You know, most of us at least who have reached a certain age, we look forward to the holidays when our daughters come home from college and they have the human right to decide whether they want to come home or not. (Laughter.) When our daughters are married and they have our grandchildren, we hope they'll find a way to come home. Imagine -- I just wish there were some way for every American citizen to imagine how they would feel if the people Hillary just discussed were their daughters. I hope we can do more.

We are sponsoring these awards today and announcing them because, as all of you know so well, 50 years ago in Paris the U.N. General Assembly voted to approve the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was a watershed moment for what was then a very young United Nations; a new chapter, however, in a much, much older story -- the unending striving of humanity to realize its potential in the life of every person.

For its time, the Universal Declaration was quite bold. If you look at the way the world is going today, it's still quite

a bold document. Like all great breakthroughs, it was an act of imagination and courage, an opening of the heart and the mind with spare elegance. It served notice that for all our differences we share a common birthright.

You know, it's easy for us to forget, but if you think back to 1948, it might not have been particularly easy to affirm faith in mankind's future. After all, it was just three years after a cataclysmic war and the Holocaust; the Cold War was beginning to blight the postwar landscape; millions and millions more would die just in the Soviet Union under the terror of Stalin.

But this document did reaffirm faith in human kind -- it is really the Magna Carter of our humanity. Article I states that: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

There are no commas or parenthesis in this sentence, no qualifications or exceptions -- just the power of affirmation.

Other articles assert the freedom to worship, to work, to assemble, to participate in a life of meaning and purpose. Those words have now been translated into every language of the United Nations. Though 50 years old, they still ring free, fresh and powerful, don't they? They resonate today because today human dignity is still under siege, not something that can be taken for granted anywhere.

We all know how much the Declaration owed to the remarkable leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt. She rose to every challenge; she defended American idealism she honestly admitted our own imperfections; she always called on the best from each delegate -- and she called on it again and again and again. Indeed, a delegate from Panama grew so exhausted by the pace that he had to remind Mrs. Roosevelt that the delegates had human rights, too. (Laughter).

Today we celebrate the life of this document and the lives it has saved and enhanced. Mrs. Roosevelt worried that it would be hard to translate ideas on paper into real places -- into kitchens and factories and ghettos and prisons. But words have power, ideas have power, and the march for human rights has steadily gained ground.

Since 1948, the United Nations has adopted legal instruments against torture, genocide, slavery, apartheid, and discrimination against women and children. As nations grow more interdependent, the idea of a unified standard of human rights becomes easier to define and, more important than ever, to maintain.

Obviously, all nations have more work to do, and the United States is no exception. We must improve our own record, we must correct our own mistakes, even as we fulfill our responsibility to assist on improvement in other nations -- in totalitarian states, like North Korea; in military dictatorships, like Burma; in countries where leaders practice the politics of ethnic hatred, like Serbia and Iraq; in African nations where

tribal differences have led to unimaginable slaughter; in nations where tolerance and faith must struggle against intolerant fundamentalism, like Afghanistan and Sudan; in Cuba, where persons who strive for peaceful democratic change still are repressed and imprisoned; in China, where change has come to people's daily lives, but where basic political rights are still denied to too many.

Some suggest today that it is sheer arrogance for the President or for the United States to discuss such matters in other countries. Some say it is because we are not perfect here at home. If we had to wait for perfection, none of us would ever advance in any way. Some say it is because there are Asian values or African values or Western values dividing the human race into various sub-categories. Well, let's be honest -- there are. There are genuine cultural differences, which inevitably lead to different political and social structures. And that can be all to the good, because no one has the corner on the truth. It makes life more interesting.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights does not say there are no differences among people -- it says what we have in common is more fundamental than our differences, and therefore, all the differences must be expressed in certain limits beyond which we dare not go without violating our common humanity.

This is a phony attack on those of you who fight every day for human rights. None of us want everyone to be the same; none of us want to have all the same religious practices; none of us want to have all the same social and political structures; none of us say we know exactly how life should be organized everywhere under all circumstances and how every problem should be solved. We say we have a common humanity and whatever you think should be done differently must be done within the limits that respects our common humanity.

Now, that means a lot to us on the verge of a new century, where freedom and knowledge and flexibility will mean more to people than ever before. Where people in the poorest villages on every continent on this Earth will have a chance to leapfrog years and years and years of the development process simply because of the communications revolution -- if we respect universal human rights.

The Vice President said so well recently, in Asia, that we believe the peaceful democratic process that we have strongly endorsed will be even more essential to the world on the threshold of this new millennium. Throughout 1998, old fears and hatreds crumbled before the healing power of honest communication, faith in the future, a strong will for a better future.

Today in Oslo -- I'm happy about this -- today in Oslo, two leaders from Northern Ireland, John Hume and David Trimble, are receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts on the Good Friday Accord. In the Middle East, where I will go in two days, Palestinian and Israelis are struggling to bridge mutual distrust to implement the Wye Accords. In Kosovo, a serious humanitarian crisis has been averted, and the process toward reconciliation continues in Bosnia. All these breakthroughs were triumphs for

human rights.

Today we commit ourselves to the ideas of the Universal Declaration, to keep moving toward the promise outlined in Paris 50 years ago.

First, we're taking steps to respond quickly to genocidal conditions, through the International Coalition Against Genocide I announced during my visit to Africa, and a new genocide early warning center sponsored by the Department of State and the CIA. We will provide additional support to the U.N. Torture Victims Fund and genocide survivors in Bosnia, Rwanda and Cambodia. We will continue assistance to women suffering under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. And USAID will provide up to \$8 million to NGOs to enhance their ability to respond more rapidly to human rights emergencies.

Second, we must do more for children who have always been especially vulnerable to human rights violations. This year I sought, and Congress provided, dramatic new support for the fight against child labor with a tenfold increase in United States assistance to the International Labor Organization. Today, the Immigration and Naturalization Service is issuing new guidelines for the evaluation of asylum claims by children, making the process better serve our youngest and most vulnerable asylum seekers.

Third, we must practice at home what we preach abroad. Just this morning I signed an executive order that strengthens our ability to implement human rights treaties and creates an interagency group to hold us accountable for progress in honoring those commitments.

Fourth, I am concerned about aliens who suffer abuses at the hands of smugglers and sweatshop owners. These victims actually have a built-in disincentive -- their unlawful status here -- that discourages them from complaining to U.S. authorities. So I'm asking the Department of Justice to provide legislative options to address this problem. And I know the Deputy Attorney General, Eric Holder, and the Deputy Secretary of Labor, Kitty Higgins, are here, and I trust they will work on this because I know they care as much about it as I do.

Finally, I'd like to repeat my support for two top legislative priorities -- an employment nondiscrimination act that would ban discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace, and a hate crimes prevention act. Last year, the entire nation was outraged by the brutal killings of Matthew Shepard, a young gay student in Wyoming; and James Byrd, and African American in Texas. All Americans are entitled to the same respect and legal protection, no matter their race, their gender, their sexual orientation. I agree with something President Truman once said, "When I say Americans, I mean all Americans."

We will never relinquish the fight to move forward in the continuing struggle for human rights. I am aware that much of the best work in human rights has been done by those outside government -- students and activists, NGOs, brave religious leaders -- people from all backgrounds who simply want a better,

safer world for their children. Many have done so in the face of great adversity -- the imprisoned members of the Internal Dissidents Working Group in Cuba, the political prisoners of the National League for Democracy in Burma, the imprisoned dissidents in China. We make common cause with them all.

That is why, today, we are presenting the first Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights to four outstanding Americans -- not only for their own efforts, but because we know that, by working together, we can do more. From different backgrounds and generations they stand, all, in the great tradition of Eleanor Roosevelt, pioneers in the fight to expand the frontiers of freedom:

Robert Bernstein, a pathbreaker for freedom of expression and the protection of rights at home and abroad. Bette Bao Lord, the head of Freedom House, a prolific author and campaigner. Dorothy Thomas, a champion of women's rights, the

voice of a new generation committed to human rights. And John Lewis, a veteran in the civil rights struggle, now serving his Congress with great distinction in the House of Representatives.

I would like to ask the military aide to read the citations

(The citations are read.)

I'd like to ask the members of the Roosevelt family who are here to stand. Thank you. (Applause.)

The day the U.N. delegates voted to approve the Declaration, Eleanor Roosevelt (Laughter.) One of the few mistakes she ever made. (Laughter.) She left us and all our successors a big job that will never be over, for the Universal Declaration contains an eternal promise, one embraced by our founders in 1776, one that has to be reaffirmed every day in every way.

In our country, each generation of Americans has had to do it -- in the struggle against slavery led by President Lincoln, in FDR's Four Freedoms, in the unfinished work of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, in the ongoing work here in this room.

I have learned in ways large and small in the last six years that there is within every person a scale of justice and that people can too easily be herded into hatred and extremism, often out of a belief that they have absolute truth and, therefore, are entitled to absolute power, that they can ignore any constitution, any laws, override any facts. There will always be work to be done.

And again, I would say to you that this award we gave to these four richly deserving people is also for all of you who labor for human rights.

In the prologue of John Lewis's magnificent autobiography, "Walking With The Wind," he tells a stunning story that has become a metaphor for his life and is a metaphor for

your work, about being a little boy with his brothers and sisters and cousins in the house of a relative that was a very fragile house, when an enormous wind came up. And he said he was told that all the children had to hold hands, and one corner of the house would blow up in the wind and all the children would walk, holding hands, to the corner and it would go down. And then another would come up, and all the children would hold hands again and go to the other corner until the house came down. And by walking with the wind, hand-in-hand, they saved the house and the family and the children.

John says that that walk is a struggle to find the beloved community. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights applies to individuals, but it can only be achieved by our common community.

Thank you, and God bless you all. (Applause.)

END

11:03 A.M. EST

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY ( Jason H. Schechter@EOP@LNGTWY@LNGTWY

CREATION DATE/TIME:10-DEC-1998 18:32:40.00

SUBJECT: Fact Sheet: U.S. Efforts to Promote Human Rights and Democracy

TO: Peter Rundlet@eop ( Peter Rundlet@eop [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: John A. Gribben@eop ( John A. Gribben@eop [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven J. Naplan@eop ( Steven J. Naplan@eop [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Wayne C. Johnson@EOP ( Wayne C. Johnson@EOP [ OA ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Renee C. Riley@eop ( Renee C. Riley@eop [ OA ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert S. Weiner@eop ( Robert S. Weiner@eop [ ONDCP ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael J. Sullivan@EOP ( Michael J. Sullivan@EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP ( Karen L. Barbuschak@EOP [ OA ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Message Creation Date was at 10-DEC-1998 18:16:00

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate  
Release

December 10, 1998

FACT SHEET

U.S. Efforts to Promote Human Rights and Democracy

The Clinton Administration works to promote human rights and democracy because they are integral to American values and because a world in which governments respect the rule of law will be freer, safer, and more prosperous. On the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, our challenge is to promote the universality of human rights and to ensure their implementation around the globe.

From Haiti to the Balkans, Northern Ireland to the Middle East, the U.S. has led international efforts to resolve conflicts which give rise to human rights abuses, and we continue to provide vital support to build democratic institutions to ensure human rights abuses are not repeated. In Africa we have supported the successful end to conflicts from Mozambique to Mali, provided assistance to South Africa's efforts to build an equitable, multi-cultural democracy, and are supporting the development and consolidation of democracy in Nigeria and across the continent. In China, we continue to press vigorously for progress on prisoner releases, political rights, religious freedom and the rule of law. And throughout central Europe and the former Soviet Union we are contributing substantial resources to build democratic institutions and strengthen political participation.

#### Bilateral U.S. Government Efforts

**Funding and Programs:** In addition to our diplomatic advocacy, we devote some \$400 million per year to democracy assistance and human rights programs implemented by the Agency for International Development (AID), as well as more than \$40 million for the National Endowment for Democracy and other publicly supported efforts to promote human rights and democracy activities overseas.

The United States Information Agency (USIA) also works to strengthen the culture of democracy worldwide, both as a contributor to the free flow of information and ideas and by activities designed to sustain the democratic dialogue across national boundaries. USIA spends more than \$300 million per year on democracy and human rights promotion programs.

**Increased reporting and advocacy:** We have expanded our annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, and have substantially increased our reporting and advocacy on religious freedom issues. On October 27, the President signed into law the International Religious Freedom Act and, prior to that, announced the appointment of the Special Representative of the Secretary of State for International Religious Freedom. In addition, the Administration, in 1996, created an Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad, which has helped to raise the prominence and the profile of this critical issue.

-more-

Support for Democratic Transitions: Through a wide range of programs, AID has promoted peaceful democratic transitions. For example, AID has supported democracy through development of independent judiciary systems, and support to elections and conflict prevention and mediation mechanisms in South Africa and Nigeria; information dissemination programs for the Cuban people; and a free media in Bosnia. Many of these projects are funded through the AID Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), established by the Clinton Administration in 199

3. To help the Cuban people prepare for democracy, AID administers grants to non-governmental organizations that undertake programs to broaden information dissemination and support the emergence of civil society in Cuba. Separately, President Clinton and President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea recently announced the creation of a joint Institute on Democracy and Free Markets in Asia, to be located in Seoul. The counterpart organizations are the Saejoong Institute in Seoul Korea and the National Endowment for Democracy in the United States.

Support for Local NGOs: From assistance to women's literacy and democracy groups in Senegal to the Kiev Press Club in Ukraine, the Administration has kept faith with those who share a commitment to human rights and are working to promote those values within their own societies.

Supporting Accountability: Through our support for truth commissions in Guatemala, El Salvador and South Africa, we promote the accountability and justice that is a key to political reconciliation in post-conflict societies.

Supporting the rights of the disenfranchised: Through our "No Sweat" initiative, the Administration, corporations and non-governmental organizations are developing voluntary ethical codes of conduct to prevent the importation of products made by child labor, to end sweatshop conditions both in the U.S. and abroad, and to ensure that women and children share equally the basic rights they have been denied in so many parts of the world.

Practicing domestically what we preach abroad: We recognize that human rights issues do not begin at the water's edge. For example, as we have urged other governments to provide assistance and protection to refugees, we have maintained our commitment as the world's leader in refugee resettlement.

Support for International Human Rights Institutions:

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR): We led the effort to create the Office of the UNHCHR, and have provided critical support, such as for human rights monitoring programs in Rwanda, Burundi and Cambodia, and for assistance to victims of torture around the world.

UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture: We continue to be the world's largest contributor to this fund and will be increasing our contribution from \$1.8 million in FY 1998 to \$3.0 million in FY 1999.

-more-

International Tribunals: We are the leading supporter of the International Criminal Tribunals relating to the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, providing approximately \$33.5 million in financial support during 1998.

30-30-30

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Miguel M. Bustos ( CN=Miguel M. Bustos/O=OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:11-DEC-1998 09:55:04.00

SUBJECT: Remarks of the President on Human Rights Day and at event

TO: mwilson ( mwilson @ sunamerica.com @ INET [ OA ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Carole\_Wacey ( Carole\_Wacey @ ed.gov @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ernie Veniegas <eveniegas ( Ernie Veniegas <eveniegas @ csi.com> @ INET [ UNKNOW  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: sitv ( sitv @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: yoda2 ( yoda2 @ compuserve.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: NDAVID ( NDAVID @ WMA.COM @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: KSheehan ( KSheehan @ dol.gov @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: cary\_prince ( cary\_prince @ studio.disney.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Hperez69 ( Hperez69 @ aol.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: global ( global @ jackotero.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: andorasf ( andorasf @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: BroGEM ( BroGEM @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Vince.N.Micone ( Vince.N.Micone @ intmail.usdoj.gov @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: jmeier ( jmeier @ acronet.net @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: maglynch ( maglynch @ junos.com @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: JMOMLOS ( JMOMLOS @ OSOPHS.DHHS.GOV @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Leslie\_Katz ( Leslie\_Katz @ CI.SF.CA.US @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: JJohn510 ( JJohn510 @ aol.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: vjwriter ( vjwriter @ teleport.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Roger V. Salazar ( CN=Roger V. Salazar/OU=WHO/O=EOP @ EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: jayhaddock ( jayhaddock @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gay L. Joshlyn ( CN=Gay L. Joshlyn/OU=OPD/O=EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: futterma ( futterma @ aecom.yu.edu @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Giselle1 ( Giselle1 @ msn.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: delprado ( delprado @ corp.sgi.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: tara20009 ( tara20009 @ erols.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: dcecil ( dcecil @ mosaicevents.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: vincenzo3 ( vincenzo3 @ yahoo.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: Agnieszka ( Agnieszka @ Winklerad.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: WESTON ( WESTON @ ADMIN.HNC.EDU @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: DIana\_villanueva ( DIana\_villanueva @ cp.disney.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: lvamaya ( lvamaya @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: tsoto ( tsoto @ psenterprises.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sitka ( Sitka @ American.edu @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: msilva ( msilva @ mail.pnm.com @ INET [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ruano ( Ruano @ student.law.ucla.edu @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: jprang ( jprang @ ci.west-hollywood.ca.us @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Patricia.Broderick ( Patricia.Broderick @ intmail.usdoj.gov @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EO  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: moq ( moq @ llego.org @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: geoff211 ( geoff211 @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: shortstuffm ( shortstuffm @ hotmail.com @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: HELENMM ( HELENMM @ ITSA.UCSF.EDU @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: tsmerson ( tsmerson @ pacbell.net @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: cgm8 ( cgm8 @ cdc.gov @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: dilopez ( dilopez @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: jainlee ( jainlee @ msn.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: mkdilg ( mkdilg @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: AKAAUWAI ( AKAAUWAI @ KPMG.COM @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jensenpr ( Jensenpr @ earthlink.net @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Steven Hernandez <solek ( Steven Hernandez <solek @ hotmail.com> @ INET [ UNKNOW  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Moe Vela ( CN=Moe Vela/O=OVP @ OVP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: SGomez ( SGomez @ aflcio.org @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rudaura ( Rudaura @ aol.com @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: flamant ( flamant @ dnc.democrate.org @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Peter ( Peter @ stjameslanpa.com @ INET @ LNGTWY @ EOP [ OPD ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Hector.del.castillo ( Hector.del.castillo @ shpe.org @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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

TO: j.balsiger ( j.balsiger @ usa.net @ INET [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Neil Austriaco <NAUSTRIACO ( Neil Austriaco <NAUSTRIACO @ IMF.ORG> @ inet [ UNKN  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: manderson ( manderson @ academ.hnc.edu @ inet [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
To all my friends:

Cheers to freedom!  
Happy Holidays!!  
Miguel

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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December 10, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
AT HUMAN RIGHTS DAY PRESENTATION  
OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Room 450  
Old Executive Office Building

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much. I want to welcome all of you here, the members of Congress, the members of our foreign policy team who have worked on this -- National Security Advisor Berger, Under Secretary Loy, Assistant Secretary Koh. I welcome Ambassador Nancy Rubin, the Ambassador of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights; Theresa Loar, the Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues; members of the Roosevelt family and other distinguished guests.

I would like to say also before getting into my prepared remarks that someday when I write the memoirs of these last several years, one of the proudest moments of our administration for me will be the work the First Lady has done to advance the cause of human rights. (Applause.) I remember the speech she gave in Beijing on a

rainy day, when people were struggling through the mud to get into that remote facility; the talk she gave just a few days ago at Gaston Hall at Georgetown University about Eleanor Roosevelt, I think one of the finest speeches she ever gave. But more important, the concrete work, the Vital Voices work in Northern Ireland and Latin America, and all the little villages she visited in Latin America and Africa and Asia, on the Indian Subcontinent to try to advance the condition of women and children, experience young girls.

And I think that every person who has ever been the parent of a daughter could identify strongly with the remarks she just made and the brave women who were just introduced.

You know, most of us at least who have reached a certain age, we look forward to the holidays when our daughters come home from college and they have the human right to decide whether they want to come home or not. (Laughter.) When our daughters are married and they have our grandchildren, we hope they'll find a way to come home. Imagine -- I just wish there were some way for every American citizen to imagine how they would feel if the people Hillary just discussed were their daughters. I hope we can do more.

We are sponsoring these awards today and announcing them because, as all of you know so well, 50 years ago in Paris the U.N. General Assembly voted to approve the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was a watershed moment for what was then a very young United Nations; a new chapter, however, in a much, much older story -- the unending striving of humanity to realize its potential in the life of every person.

For its time, the Universal Declaration was quite bold. If you look at the way the world is going today, it's still quite a bold document. Like all great breakthroughs, it was an act of imagination and courage, an opening of the heart and the mind with spare elegance. It served notice that for all our differences we share a common birthright.

You know, it's easy for us to forget, but if you think back to 1948, it might not have been particularly easy to affirm faith in mankind's future. After all, it was just three years after a cataclysmic war and the Holocaust; the Cold War was beginning to blight the postwar landscape; millions and millions more would die just in the Soviet Union under the terror of Stalin.

But this document did reaffirm faith in human kind -- it is really the Magna Carter of our humanity. Article I states that: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

There are no commas or parenthesis in this sentence, no qualifications or exceptions -- just the power of affirmation.

Other articles assert the freedom to worship, to work, to assemble, to participate in a life of meaning and purpose. Those words have now been translated into every language of the United Nations. Though 50 years old, they still ring free, fresh and powerful, don't they? They resonate today because today human dignity is still under siege, not something that can be

taken for granted anywhere.

We all know how much the Declaration owed to the remarkable leadership of Eleanor Roosevelt. She rose to every challenge; she defended American idealism she honestly admitted our own imperfections; she always called on the best from each delegate -- and she called on it again and again and again. Indeed, a delegate from Panama grew so exhausted by the pace that he had to remind Mrs. Roosevelt that the delegates had human rights, too. (Laughter).

Today we celebrate the life of this document and the lives it has saved and enhanced. Mrs. Roosevelt worried that it would be hard to translate ideas on paper into real places -- into kitchens and factories and ghettos and prisons. But words have power, ideas have power, and the march for human rights has steadily gained ground.

Since 1948, the United Nations has adopted legal instruments against torture, genocide, slavery, apartheid, and discrimination against women and children. As nations grow more interdependent, the idea of a unified standard of human rights becomes easier to define and, more important than ever, to maintain.

Obviously, all nations have more work to do, and the United States is no exception. We must improve our own record, we must correct our own mistakes, even as we fulfill our responsibility to assist on improvement in other nations -- in totalitarian states, like North Korea; in military dictatorships, like Burma; in countries where leaders practice the politics of ethnic hatred, like Serbia and Iraq; in African nations where tribal differences have led to unimaginable slaughter; in nations where tolerance and faith must struggle against intolerant fundamentalism, like Afghanistan and Sudan; in Cuba, where persons who strive for peaceful democratic change still are repressed and imprisoned; in China, where change has come to people's daily lives, but where basic political rights are still denied to too many.

Some suggest today that it is sheer arrogance for the President or for the United States to discuss such matters in other countries. Some say it is because we are not perfect here at home. If we had to wait for perfection, none of us would ever advance in any way. Some say it is because there are Asian values or African values or Western values dividing the human race into various sub-categories. Well, let's be honest -- there are. There are genuine cultural differences, which inevitably lead to different political and social structures. And that can be all to the good, because no one has the corner on the truth. It makes life more interesting.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights does not say there are no differences among people -- it says what we have in common is more fundamental than our differences, and therefore, all the differences must be expressed in certain limits beyond which we dare not go without violating our common humanity.

This is a phony attack on those of you who fight every day for human rights. None of us want everyone to be the same;

none of us want to have all the same religious practices; none of us want to have all the same social and political structures; none of us say we know exactly how life should be organized everywhere under all circumstances and how every problem should be solved. We say we have a common humanity and whatever you think should be done differently must be done within the limits that respects our common humanity.

Now, that means a lot to us on the verge of a new century, where freedom and knowledge and flexibility will mean more to people than ever before. Where people in the poorest villages on every continent on this Earth will have a chance to leapfrog years and years and years of the development process simply because of the communications revolution -- if we respect universal human rights.

The Vice President said so well recently, in Asia, that we believe the peaceful democratic process that we have strongly endorsed will be even more essential to the world on the threshold of this new millennium. Throughout 1998, old fears and hatreds crumbled before the healing power of honest communication, faith in the future, a strong will for a better future.

Today in Oslo -- I'm happy about this -- today in Oslo, two leaders from Northern Ireland, John Hume and David Trimble, are receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts on the Good Friday Accord. In the Middle East, where I will go in two days, Palestinian and Israelis are struggling to bridge mutual distrust to implement the Wye Accords. In Kosovo, a serious humanitarian crisis has been averted, and the process toward reconciliation continues in Bosnia. All these breakthroughs were triumphs for human rights.

Today we commit ourselves to the ideas of the Universal Declaration, to keep moving toward the promise outlined in Paris 50 years ago.

First, we're taking steps to respond quickly to genocidal conditions, through the International Coalition Against Genocide I announced during my visit to Africa, and a new genocide early warning center sponsored by the Department of State and the CIA. We will provide additional support to the U.N. Torture Victims Fund and genocide survivors in Bosnia, Rwanda and Cambodia. We will continue assistance to women suffering under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. And USAID will provide up to \$8 million to NGOs to enhance their ability to respond more rapidly to human rights emergencies.

Second, we must do more for children who have always been especially vulnerable to human rights violations. This year I sought, and Congress provided, dramatic new support for the fight against child labor with a tenfold increase in United States assistance to the International Labor Organization. Today, the Immigration and Naturalization Service is issuing new guidelines for the evaluation of asylum claims by children, making the process better serve our youngest and most vulnerable asylum seekers.

Third, we must practice at home what we preach abroad.

Just this morning I signed an executive order that strengthens our ability to implement human rights treaties and creates an interagency group to hold us accountable for progress in honoring those commitments.

Fourth, I am concerned about aliens who suffer abuses at the hands of smugglers and sweatshop owners. These victims actually have a built-in disincentive -- their unlawful status here -- that discourages them from complaining to U.S. authorities. So I'm asking the Department of Justice to provide legislative options to address this problem. And I know the Deputy Attorney General, Eric Holder, and the Deputy Secretary of Labor, Kitty Higgins, are here, and I trust they will work on this because I know they care as much about it as I do.

Finally, I'd like to repeat my support for two top legislative priorities -- an employment nondiscrimination act that would ban discrimination against gays and lesbians in the workplace, and a hate crimes prevention act. Last year, the entire nation was outraged by the brutal killings of Matthew Shepard, a young gay student in Wyoming; and James Byrd, and African American in Texas. All Americans are entitled to the same respect and legal protection, no matter their race, their gender, their sexual orientation. I agree with something President Truman once said, "When I say Americans, I mean all Americans."

We will never relinquish the fight to move forward in the continuing struggle for human rights. I am aware that much of the best work in human rights has been done by those outside government -- students and activists, NGOs, brave religious leaders -- people from all backgrounds who simply want a better, safer world for their children. Many have done so in the face of great adversity -- the imprisoned members of the Internal Dissidents Working Group in Cuba, the political prisoners of the National League for Democracy in Burma, the imprisoned dissidents in China. We make common cause with them all.

That is why, today, we are presenting the first Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights to four outstanding Americans -- not only for their own efforts, but because we know that, by working together, we can do more. From different backgrounds and generations they stand, all, in the great tradition of Eleanor Roosevelt, pioneers in the fight to expand the frontiers of freedom:

Robert Bernstein, a pathbreaker for freedom of expression and the protection of rights at home and abroad. Bette Bao Lord, the head of Freedom House, a prolific author and campaigner. Dorothy Thomas, a champion of women's rights, the voice of a new generation committed to human rights. And John Lewis, a veteran in the civil rights struggle, now serving his Congress with great distinction in the House of Representatives.

I would like to ask the military aide to read the citations

(The citations are read.)

I'd like to ask the members of the Roosevelt family who

are here to stand. Thank you. (Applause.)

The day the U.N. delegates voted to approve the Declaration, Eleanor Roosevelt wrote, "Long job over." (Laughter.) One of the few mistakes she ever made. (Laughter.) She left us and all our successors a big job that will never be over, for the Universal Declaration contains an eternal promise, one embraced by our founders in 1776, one that has to be reaffirmed every day in every way.

In our country, each generation of Americans has had to do it -- in the struggle against slavery led by President Lincoln, in FDR's Four Freedoms, in the unfinished work of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, in the ongoing work here in this room.

I have learned in ways large and small in the last six years that there is within every person a scale of justice and that people can too easily be herded into hatred and extremism, often out of a belief that they have absolute truth and, therefore, are entitled to absolute power, that they can ignore any constitution, any laws, override any facts. There will always be work to be done.

And again, I would say to you that this award we gave to these four richly deserving people is also for all of you who labor for human rights.

In the prologue of John Lewis's magnificent autobiography, "Walking With The Wind," he tells a stunning story that has become a metaphor for his life and is a metaphor for your work, about being a little boy with his brothers and sisters and cousins in the house of a relative that was a very fragile house, when an enormous wind came up. And he said he was told that all the children had to hold hands, and one corner of the house would blow up in the wind and all the children would walk, holding hands, to the corner and it would go down. And then another would come up, and all the children would hold hands again and go to the other corner until the house came down. And by walking with the wind, hand-in-hand, they saved the house and the family and the children.

John says that that walk is a struggle to find the beloved community. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights applies to individuals, but it can only be achieved by our common community.

Thank you, and God bless you all.

Message Sent

To:

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Virginia Apuzzo/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Karen Tramontano/WHO/EOP @ EOP

Sean P. Maloney/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
John Dankowski/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Elizabeth J. Potter/OVP  
Philip G Dufour/OVP  
Miguel M. Bustos/OVP  
Daniel C. Montoya/OPD/EOP @ EOP  
Clark E. Ray/OVP  
Jonathan E. Smith/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Richard Socarides/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Todd A. Summers/OPD/EOP @ EOP  
Moe Vela/OVP  
Jacquelyn J. Bennett/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Daniel W. Burkhardt/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Paul\_Yandura @ hud.gov  
Stephen K. Horn/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Leslie Bernstein/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Joseph E. Voeller/WHO/EOP @ EOP  
Alison M. Kolwaite/WHO/EOP @ EOP