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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet
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<td>001. list</td>
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COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Anthony Blinken (Speechwriting)
OA/Box Number: 3381

FOLDER TITLE:
Human Rights Day, 12/10/96

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PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).
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RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)].

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)].

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(5) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]
Before I begin, let me first say that just a short while ago, I spoke with Secretary Christopher who is in Brussels at the meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers. Together, they agreed to hold what I believe will be a historic NATO Summit next July 5th and 6th in Brussels -- a Summit that will advance our goal of building, for the first time in history, a Europe that is undivided, democratic and at peace. At the Summit, we will work to develop a strong NATO-Russia partnership... to adapt NATO to the demands of a new era... and to invite the first aspiring members from among Europe's new democracies to begin the process of joining NATO. My goal is to see them become full members of the Alliance for NATO's 50th birthday in 1999.

It is fitting that this important step forward for the future of NATO and Europe...good news about NATO's expansion should comes as we celebrate International Human Rights Day, Bill of Rights Day, and Human Rights Week. The prospect of NATO membership and integration with the West has served as a strong incentive. We have already seen how... for Europe's newest democracies are moving to expand their political freedoms and deepen their commitment to protect universal human rights. Working together with our allies and partners, we are building a
world where, as Judge Learned Hand once said, “right knows no boundaries, and justice no frontiers.” For the first time in history, more than half the world’s people now live under governments of their own choosing.

Today, we rededicate ourselves to the unfinished task of expanding freedom’s reach. Promoting democracy and human rights reflects our ideals and reinforces our interests. It is a fundamental pillar of our foreign policy. Time and again, we have seen that nations where rights are respected and governments are freely chosen are more likely to be our partners in peace and prosperity. That is why we have worked hard over the last four years to help equality and freedom take root in South Africa...to end killing and ethnic cleansing in Bosnia...to stop the reign of terror in Haiti...to promote reform in Russia...and to enable millions of suffering people around the world to reclaim their dignity. That is why we must continue supporting the world’s newest democracies, and keep the pressure on its remaining authoritarian regimes.

The First Lady and I have just come from a remarkable meeting with several dedicated and courageous women who are promoting human rights and democracy by helping women around the world to live up to their potential. [TK, who just spoke, has done TK. For the last 20 years, Dawn Calabia has fought to protect women refugees and children from violence and abuse -- a goal she continues to pursue at the United Nations High Commission on Refugees. TK, TK ,TK]
Each of these women has her story to tell. But together, their experiences underscore a shared truth: As the First Lady said last year at the United Nations Women’s Conference in Beijing, “human rights are women’s rights -- and women’s rights are human rights.”

We cannot advance our ideals and interests unless we focus more attention on the fundamental rights and basic human needs of women and girls, who comprise more than half the world’s population. We must recognize that it is a violation of human rights when girls and women are sold into prostitution...when rape becomes a weapon of war...when women are denied the right to plan their own families, including through forced abortions...when young girls are brutalized by genital mutilation...and when women around the world are unsafe even in their own homes.

If women are free from violence, if they are healthy and educated, if they can live and work and earn as full and equal partners in society...then families will flourish. And when families flourish, the communities and nations they live in will thrive.

[I am committed to place our efforts to protect and advance women’s rights where they belong: in the mainstream of American foreign policy. During the last four years, we have...2-3 SENTENCE RECAP OF ACHIEVEMENTS.]

[Today, I call on the Senate to ratify the TK, which will DO WHAT. [I am also pleased to announce a series of new initiatives...]
These efforts will strengthen America's global leadership on behalf of human rights and democracy. They reflect our nation's enduring commitment to the freedoms in the Bill of Rights — among them freedom of speech, religion and assembly — that safeguard our citizens. They support the values in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights that promote freedom, justice and peace around the world.

We live at a time when America's most deeply held ideals are ascendant. But this hopeful trend toward freedom and democracy is neither inevitable nor irreversible. While we seek to engage all countries on terms of goodwill, we must continue to stand up for the proposition that all people, without regard to their gender, their nationality, their race, their ethnic group, or their religion, should have a chance to live up to their potential. As I sign this proclamation marking Human Rights Day, I ask you all to remember not just that women's rights are human rights -- but that the defense and promotion of human rights are the responsibilities of us all.
CLINTON ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO PROMOTE RIGHTS OF WOMEN FOLLOWING THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING

- USAID supports projects in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East encouraging the participation of women in the political process. In Bangladesh, where AID has been active on this issue, the percentage female voters in recent national elections surpassed the percentage of eligible males who voted.

- USAID helps women in Asia and Eastern Europe to protect their legal and economic interests. In Nepal, AID supports a program for women lawyers, who successfully persuaded that country's Supreme Court to declare a discriminatory property inheritance law unconstitutional.

- At the G-7 summit in Lyon last summer, the President announced a $5 million program to support of women in Bosnia, emphasizing training, legal assistance, and micro-enterprise projects.

- The President appointed a Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues at the State Department, with a mandate to integrate the advancement of women into our foreign policy.

- The Administration funds programs around the world that offer physical protection and promote self-sufficiency for women refugees, including funds to support schools for Afghan refugee girls in Pakistan.

- The Administration seconded personnel to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to address the reproductive health concerns of women refugees.

- Through the work of the U.S. delegation to the World Congress on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and through other efforts, we are working to combat international criminal activities involving child prostitution, child pornography, and trafficking of children internationally.

NEW INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN

- The Administration will renew its effort to obtain from the Senate prompt consent to ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
• We will provide $1 million from State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for Rwandan refugee women, including programs that offer physical protection, economic self-sufficiency and social reintegration.

• We will provide $.5 million from the State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for women around the world to promote access to reproductive health services and to programs that offer protection and self-sufficiency.

• $1 million in Economic Support Funds will be awarded to a consortium of Asian women's NGOs to combat discrimination against women in the workplace and violence against women.

• We will provide up to $1 million from the State Department's Democracy and Human Rights Fund (DHRF) for projects focusing on women's empowerment in Africa.

• The Labor Department will provide $.3 million for the prevention of trafficking in children and child prostitution in Nepal.

• The Labor Department will provide $.2 million for the prevention of trafficking in children, child prostitution and exploitative child labor practices in Thailand.

• The Department of State and Justice will co-sponsor a Conference for U.S. and Russian NGOs focusing on the prevention of international trafficking of women and girls.

These projects are supported by a combination of unobligated FY '96 and new FY '97 funds.

PARTICIPANTS FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1996
11:00 A.M.

Non-Government Organizations

Lobel Novins Lamont  Anne Zill
Feminist Majority  Eleanor Smeal
Reebok

Institute on Religion and Democracy
??
Human Rights Watch

Sisterhood is Global Freedom House

American Jewish Cmtte
Ms Foundation for Women
Lawyers Committee for Human Rights InterAction

Center of Concern

Miller & Chevalier
Georgetown University Law Ctr
  Sex Discrimination Clinic
The Stanley Foundation
Advocates for Human Rights
Asia Foundation
Women's Leadership Project
National Endowment for Democracy
National Spiritual Assembly

Human Rights Alliance
Amnesty International USA
Int'l Center for Research on Women
Women's Campaign Fund

Jennifer Jackman
Christine Onyango
Julie Su
Coleen McCabe

Diane Knippers
Nancy Rubin
LaShawn Jefferson
Regan Ralph
Mahnaz Afkhami
Nina Shea
Bette Lord
Felice Gaer
Marie C. Wilson

Elisa Massimino
Julia Taft
Marilyn McAfee
Jim Hug
Maria Riley
Lucinda Low

Anne Goldstein
Joan D. Winship
Barbara Frey
Carol Yost
Laura Liswood
Laila Al-hamad
Firuz Kazemzadeh
Katharine Cosby
Marjorie Sonnenfeldt
Kathryn Porter
Patricia Rengel
Jill Merrick
Majorie Margolies-Mezvinsky

Sally Shelton-Colby
Nhutrang Huynh

Government

USAID

Brian Atwood
Ann Kittlaus

State (South Asian Affairs)
State (Population, Refugees,
BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARIES

Julie Su is an attorney at the Asia Pacific Legal Center and co-founder of Sweatshops Watch. Ms. Su investigated and helped to shut down an illegal sweatshop in El Monte, California that had imprisoned 72 Thai immigrants. Her organization defends the rights of immigrant Thai women workers from illegal practices.

Nahid Toubia is a Physician from Sudan and President and Founder of RAINBOW (Research Action and Information Network for Bodily Integrity of Women). Her organization specializes in Women's health and human rights issues, and focuses on female genital mutilation and violence. RAINBOW consults with international agencies, non-governmental organizations, the United Nations and foreign governments. It offers technical assistance or research and policy development.

Dawn Calabia is Senior External Relations Officer for UNHCR and former Director of International Programs at the U.S. Catholic Conference. While working for Representative Stephen Solarz and for the House Foreign Affairs Committee, she was the driving force behind the U.S. anti-piracy legislation that was designed to end rape and abduction of Vietnamese women and children by pirates in the Gulf of Thailand. She is one of the co-founders of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, the leading U.S. organization working against sexual violence and other abuses of women and children refugees. She is currently involved in promoting UNHCR Guidelines on Protection and Assistance to Refugee Women.

Barbara Frey is Executive Director of Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights. Her organization specializes in investigating arbitrary killings, domestic violence as a human rights abuse, asylum and refugee law, and corporate responsibility for human rights. She has investigated human rights violations in a half dozen countries and she frequently lectures and publishes on international human rights topics.
SCENARIO FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DAY EVENT

ROOSEVELT ROOM
December 10, 1996
11:00-11:30 a.m.

10:50 a.m. Guests enter through West Lobby and are escorted to the Roosevelt Room.

10:55 a.m. Nancy Soderberg, Eric Schwartz and members of the First Lady's Office enter the Oval Office to brief the President and First Lady on the event.

11:00 a.m. Following the briefing, Matthew Lorin escorts a small group of women human rights leaders into the Oval Office and makes introductions. Everyone is seated. Meeting begins. (White House Photos).

11:10 a.m. Meeting ends. The guests are escorted from the Oval Office into the Roosevelt Room, where they take their appointed positions behind the lectern.

11:11 a.m. The President, accompanied by the First Lady, the Vice President and Ms. Soderberg enter the Roosevelt Room. All take their positions.

11:12 a.m. The First Lady approaches the lectern, makes remarks, then introduces Ms. Julie Su.

11:13 a.m. Ms. Su approaches the lectern, makes introductory remarks, introduces the President, then returns to her position behind the lectern.

11:15 a.m. The President approaches the lectern, makes remarks, then walks over to the table to sign the Human Rights Day Proclamation.

11:22 a.m. The President signs the Human Rights Day Proclamation.

11:23 a.m. After signing the Proclamation, The President steps forward and shakes hands with those seated in the front rows and, if time permits, mingles with other guests.

11:30 a.m. The President and First Lady exit the Roosevelt Room. The President returns to the Oval Office.
• Have just spoken to Secretary Christopher, who is in Brussels at the meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers. Secretary Christopher conveyed the results of this milestone meeting which advanced my goal of an integrated, democratic and secure Europe for the next century.

• NATO has decided to hold a NATO Summit [next summer/on July 7-8] [in Brussels]. This Summit will, I hope, welcome development of a strong and enduring NATO-Russia partnership; strengthen partnership with all of Europe's new democracies; approve adaptations to NATO itself to better enable it to meet the challenges of the coming century; and invite the first aspiring NATO members to begin negotiations to join the alliance. My goal is to see them become full NATO members in time for the 50th anniversary of NATO in 1999.

• Now is the time, for the first time in history, to realize a centuries-old dream of a united Europe, rooted in common values and security. This dream is becoming reality and this NATO Ministerial marks another step.

• We have come a long way in the past four years and no one deserves more credit than Warren Christopher. He has built a foundation for a historic breakthrough. Thanks to his efforts, Secretary-designate Albright and my new national security team can go forward to achieve what we have begun.
STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

NATO Agrees to Hold Summit

Today, NATO called for a NATO Summit on [July 8-9, 1997 in Brussels] to take the crucial next steps on the enlargement and adaptation of the North Atlantic Alliance for the 21st Century.

Secretary of State Christopher has just informed me that NATO’s Foreign Ministers, meeting today in Brussels, have called for next year’s NATO Summit to advance a strong and enduring NATO-Russia partnership; to strengthen partnership with all of Europe’s new democracies; to approve adaptations within NATO to prepare the alliance to meet the challenges of the coming century; and to invite the first aspiring NATO members to begin negotiations to join the alliance. My goal is to see NATO take in its first new members by 1999, the 50th anniversary of NATO’s founding and the 10th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

From the beginning of my Administration, I have been determined to end the Cold War division of Europe and to create, for the first time in history, a Europe united in democracy, security and free market prosperity. Now, we are well on our way to these objectives. We must reach out to Russia, including this great nation in the fabric of the emerging European community of democracies. We must open the doors of Europe’s institutions such as NATO, that nurtured peace, prosperity and security throughout the Cold War, to Europe’s new democracies, excluding no nation that shares our values and is willing and able to shoulder its share of common responsibilities.

We have come a long way over the past four years in realizing this bold vision, and no one deserves more credit than Warren Christopher. He has built a foundation for a historic breakthrough. Thanks to his efforts, Secretary-designate Madeleine Albright and my new national security team will be able to go forward to achieve what we have begun.
ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: DANIEL FRIED, ANTONY BLINKEN, STEVE PIFER, MARY ANN PETERS (ACTING)

SUBJECT: NATO Ministerial: POTUS Telcon with Secretary Christopher, Points to Press

Tab I contains your memorandum to the President providing background and points for the President's December 10 telephone conversation with Secretary Christopher and brief remarks to the Press immediately afterwards.

Concurrence by: John Schmidt, David Johnson

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Attachments
Tab I  Memorandum to the President
Tab A  Points for POTUS Telcon with Secretary Christopher
Tab B  Points for POTUS Remarks to the Press
ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ANTHONY LAKE

SUBJECT: NATO Ministerial: Your Telephone Call with Secretary Christopher and Remarks to the Press

Purpose

To underscore the importance of the NATO decisions just taken at the NAC Ministerial.

Background

Secretary Christopher is scheduled to call you on December 10 to convey the results of the NATO Ministerial Meeting taking place earlier that day. Immediately after the call, you will open your Human Rights Day remarks to the press with a brief statement about the NAC and Christopher’s call.

We expect that NATO Foreign Ministers will have taken an historic decision to hold a summit next July to invite the first group of aspiring members to begin accession talks. July 8-9 are the likely dates. Ministers should also have made clear that NATO membership will remain open after the first new members are announced. Other ministerial announcements will include significant enhancements to the Partnership for Peace, a firm call for development of a strong NATO-Russia partnership, and agreement to resolve NATO command structure issues and ESDI in time for the summit. Your remarks make clear that our European security policy is a whole, of which NATO enlargement, the NATO-Russia partnership, NATO internal adaptation and strengthening of PFP are constituent elements.

RECOMMENDATION

That you use the points attached at Tabs A and B for the call with Secretary Christopher and with the Press.

APPROVE ________

DISAPPROVE ________

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff
Attachments
Tab A  Points for Telcon with Secretary Christopher
Tab B  Points for Remarks to the Press
POINTS TO BE MADE FOR
TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH
SECRETARY OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER

Thank you for your usual fine job in leading a milestone 
NATO Ministerial. Understand NAC made major decisions 
charting a way to a united Europe with a growing NATO and 
strong NATO-Russia partnership.

Tell me how we’ve done on our key issues: agreement on a 
NATO Summit, NATO internal adaptation, NATO enlargement, 
NATO-Russia partnership.

[After hearing Christopher’s presentation] Good to learn of progress; know how hard you and State worked.

Know we have a lot of work before Summit: on enlargement, 
must decide on first new members and ways to keep confidence 
of other prospective members; must put NATO-Russia 
relationship on positive track; must resolve internal NATO 
adaptation and resolve AFSouth issue with French.

Understand you will meet Primakov. Please convey importance 
I place on my recent talk, letters with President Yeltsin. 
He and I agree: both Presidents must be engaged to make 
1997 a positive year in U.S.-Russian relations; NATO 
enlargement will happen, but we cannot let it block progress 
that is in both countries’ interests. Russian engagement, 
constructive role crucial to enhanced European security.

Understand you also will meet Central European Foreign 
Ministers. Tell them from me that U.S. is doing its part by 
opening up Europe, European institutions to the new 
democracies, keeping door open. I know they will do their 
part by deepening reforms, improving ties with neighbors, 
seeking productive relations with Russia.
Have just spoken to Secretary Christopher, who is in Brussels at meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers. Secretary Christopher conveyed results of this milestone meeting which advanced my goal of an integrated, democratic and secure Europe for next century.

NATO has decided to hold a NATO Summit [next summer/on July 7-8] [in Brussels].

This Summit will, I hope, welcome development of a strong and enduring NATO-Russia partnership; strengthen partnership with all of Europe's new democracies; approve adaptations to NATO itself to better enable it to meet challenges of coming century; and invite first aspiring NATO members to begin negotiations to join alliance. My goal is to see them become full NATO members by NATO's 50th anniversary in 1999.

Now is the time, for first time in history, to realize a centuries-old dream of a united Europe, rooted in common values and security. This vision is becoming reality and this NATO Ministerial marks another step.

We have come a long way in past four years and no one deserves more credit than Warren Christopher. He has built foundation for historic breakthrough. Thanks to his efforts, Secretary-designate Albright and my new national security team can go forward to achieve what we have begun.
December 5, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH: ANTONY BLINKEN

FROM: JULIA MOFFETT

SUBJECT: NATO Summit Announcement

The attached schedule proposal recommends the President accept a telephone call from Secretary Christopher and make a brief statement welcoming the NATO Ministerial agreement on the date and location of the 1997 NATO Summit, at which the first new members will be invited to join the Alliance.

Concurrences by: Sandy Vershbow, Daniel Fried, John Schmidt

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached schedule proposal.

Attachment
Tab I Schedule Proposal
Schedule Proposal

TO:
Stephanie Streett
Anne Hawley

FROM:
Anthony Lake
Don Baer

REQUEST:
To (a) accept a phone call from Secretary Christopher and (b) make a brief statement welcoming the NATO Ministerial agreement on the time and place of next year's NATO Summit, at which the first new members will be invited to join the Alliance.

PURPOSE:
To associate the President with this major step forward in his push for NATO enlargement, adaptation and building a strong NATO-Russia relationship.

BACKGROUND:
Adapting NATO to the challenges of the 21st century has been a central component of the President's foreign policy agenda. The announcement from Brussels will most likely be a news story. Embracing this intermediate, but significant, step forward will underscore the President's consistent leadership on this issue.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:
Has foreshadowed this timetable in recent foreign policy speeches and interviews.

DATE AND TIME:
Tuesday, December 10, 1996. The "window" to accept a telephone call from Secretary Christopher in Brussels is approximately 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.
BRIEFING TIME: 5 minutes
DURATION: Dependent upon scenario.
LOCATION: Oval Office. Roosevelt Room might also be a factor (see below).
PARTICIPANTS: n/a
OUTLINE OF EVENTS: -- The President would receive a phone call from Secretary Christopher in Brussels.

-- Following the call, he would either (a) make a short statement to the pool from behind his desk, or, (b) proceed to the Human Rights Day event in the Roosevelt Room and make a short statement on NATO enlargement at the top of the event.

REMARKS, REQUIRED: Talking points to be provided by NSC speechwriting.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Pool press.
FIRST LADY’S ATTENDANCE: n/a
VICE PRESIDENT’S ATTENDANCE: n/a
RECOMMENDED BY: NSC, WH Communications, Department of State
CONTACT: Antony Blinken/Julia Moffett 6-9371
ORIGIN OF THIS PROPOSAL: NSC Office of Strategic Planning
SECOND LADY’S ATTENDANCE: n/a
Re: Possible Human Rights Day Event

As of Thursday night, he is where we were:

-- Presidential Scheduling still mulling it over, but we're told that the First Lady really wants this to happen and her office thinks it will probably happen; we'll see.

-- Today, we expect that State will send us information on what we have accomplished on women's rights issues; a short list of women HR figures to be honored, and information on a few new initiatives; we will pass this information to Speechwriting, to form the basis of a statement that 1) reaffirms Administration efforts in this area; 2) summarizes some of those efforts; 3) unveils a few new international initiatives directed at women;

-- Matt will finish work on the Human Rights Day Proclamation.

-- We will receive from State a list of potential invitees to a Roosevelt Room event and will share it around.
Blinken, Antony J.

From: Moffett, Julia
To: Blinken, Antony J.; Schwartz, Eric P.; Soderberg, Nancy E.
Cc: /R, Record at A1; Lorin, Matthew; Malley, Robert; Ragan, Richard F.
Subject: RE: HR Day SP [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 1996 11:00AM

Eric/Matt:

Don was lukewarm. He doesn’t think this is a big news-maker, nor does it fit into his message framework for the month. December, as we discussed, is very light. Message events are largely focused on children and families. Having said that, you should definitely still submit it. It is an important event for other reasons.

I have a few suggestions for the SP. First, I would break the purpose into sections: 1) To affirm commitment; 2) to recognize women; 3) to announce.

Next, under the press section, I would indicate that the Oval Office meeting would be photo only, and that the Roosevelt Room event would be pool press.

Lastly, I would not recommend VP participation......If he comes, he needs to speak. I don’t think the event is substantial enough to warrant such a large program.

As for Don, once the SP is submitted, we will continue to encourage him. Depending on what initiative can be announced, you could create something interesting to the press. Also, is there a chance that the women to be honored work to advance children’s rights—ending child labor, child prostitution, etc...This might give us a boost.

From: Schwartz, Eric P.
To: Blinken, Antony J.; Moffett, Julia; Soderberg, Nancy E.
Cc: /R, Record at A1; Lorin, Matthew; Malley, Robert; Ragan, Richard F.
Subject: HR Day SP [UNCLASSIFIED]
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 1996 08:24AM

<<Attached File: SPHRD.DOC>>

For your comments, ASAP.

Would like to send forward today.

I have not mentioned the visit of the Chinese Defense Minister in the SP. Should we?

We’ve listed OFL as co-sponsor, but we have yet to hear from them. It will be difficult to get them quickly, as they are on the road with the First Lady, but we will try.

Eric
Schedule Proposal

TO: Stephanie Streett
Anne Walley

FROM: Anthony Lake

REQUEST: That the President and First Lady host a December 10 White House commemoration of International Human Rights Day, focusing on the theme that “Women’s Rights are Human Rights.”

PURPOSE: 1) To affirm the Administration’s commitment to human rights in general and women’s rights in particular. 2) To recognize American women who have been leaders in the international human rights movement in general and in the international women’s rights movement in particular. 3) To announce 1997 international AID initiatives relating to the advancement of women.

BACKGROUND: December 10, the anniversary of the adoption by the UN General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is recognized around the world as Human Rights Day. The White House has commemorated this anniversary for many years. “Women’s Rights as Human Rights” is a very important new theme in the international human rights movement, and gained increased prominence after the Beijing Women’s Conference in 1994.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The President hosted a Human Rights Day event in 1993; and a combined

ACCEPT ___ REGRET ___ PENDING ___
DATE AND TIME: December 10, at a time to be determined.

BRIEFING TIME: 5 minutes

DURATION: 20-30 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office and Roosevelt Room.

PARTICIPANTS: The President and First Lady would meet with a small group (4-5) of women human rights leaders in the Oval Office, after which the group would proceed to the Roosevelt Room to join invited guests. Members of the audience will include leaders of U.S. and foreign-based international human rights groups, Members of Congress and senior Administration officials. The President would then give a short statement, expressing appreciation for the work of the human rights leaders, announcing a series of Administration initiatives on international women's issues and reaffirming the Administration's commitment to international human rights. He would then sign the Human Rights Day Proclamation.

REMARKS REQUIRED: To be provided by NSC.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Oval Office - PHOTO ONLY. Roosevelt Room - PRESS POOL.

FIRST LADY'S ATTENDANCE: Yes.

VICE PRESIDENT'S ATTENDANCE: No.

RECOMMENDED BY: NSC/OFL

CONTACT: Eric Schwartz
         Matt Lorin

SECOND LADY'S ATTENDANCE: If possible.
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National Security Council  
Anthony Blinken (Speechwriting)  
OA/Box Number: 3381  

**FOLDER TITLE:**  
Human Rights Day, 12/10/96

**RESTRICITION CODES**

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

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Key Points for President’s Remarks on Human Rights Day

o As the First Lady said in Beijing - Women’s Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women’s Rights. Our government’s commitment to this concept is unwavering.

o We cannot remain silent while
  - international gangs profit from the trafficking of young girls for prostitution.
  - young women are mutilated in the name of cultural practices
  - women are driven from their homelands and subjected to rape and sexual violence during armed conflict
  - female workers are undervalued and forced to work in the inhumane conditions of sweatshops
  - girls are driven out of schools and women are deprived of the opportunity to work to support their families

o We have worked hard in the last year to promote respect for the human rights of women around the world. We are working to integrate the advancement of women into our foreign policy process.

  - USAID has funded projects in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East to encourage the participation of women in the political lives of their country. If we want democracy to flourish around the world, women must be represented and their voices heard. This project has had remarkable results in Bangladesh, for example, where the highest percentage of female voters ever turned out for the national elections this past summer, surpassing the percentage of eligible males who voted.

  - USAID is also helping women in Asia and Eastern Europe to understand and exercise their legal rights to enable them to protect their legal and economic interests.

  - I announced a $5 million program at the G7 summit this June in Lyon to promote the reintegration of women into the economy of Bosnia, emphasizing training, legal assistance, and support for micro-enterprise projects.
And we will keep working in the coming year in partnership with the nongovernment community here and around the world to carry through on our promises from the Women’s Conference in Beijing:

- The Departments of State and Justice are working with American and Russian NGOs to host a conference on international trafficking of women and girls. The conference will include law enforcement and judicial experts from Russia, Japan, Europe and Canada. We have established an interagency working group of law enforcement and policy experts to address this increasing global criminal activity. (The First Lady had the opportunity in her recent trip to northern Thailand to visit two educational projects designed to assist young girls who were victims of trafficking for prostitution.)

- We have committed funds ($1 million) to support the reintegration of Rwandan refugee women, including protection and self-sufficiency efforts, similar to our program in Bosnia this past year. In addition to suffering the destruction of their homes and villages, thousands of these women faced unspeakable sexual violence because of their ethnicity and gender.

- We will continue to address the reproductive health needs of refugee women and ensure that they have access to programs that provide protection and help them become self-sufficient ($500,000).
- Our Ambassador to Austria, Swanee Hunt has supported this effort and initiated many other projects to help the women of Bosnia and the new democracies of Eastern Europe get on their feet. This is part of our foreign policy mission to build civil societies.

- We have committed personnel to work with the UN High Commission for Refugees to addressed the reproductive health concerns of refugee women around the world. And committed additional funds to protect refugee women and promote their self-sufficiency. And committed funds to support schools for Afghan refugee girls in Pakistan.

- The Interagency Council on Women which I established to get our whole government focused on fulfilling the commitment we made at the UN Women’s Conference worked a number of collaborative projects with other governments and the NGOs.

- Our annual Human Rights reports from the State Department will include even more information on the status of women around the world. These reports shine a light on abuses that have sometimes not previously been recognized as human rights violations.

Today I am pleased that we can honor just of few individuals who are representative of a very active and committed non government community working to promote the human rights of women.

I would like to ask the First Lady to read the citations for each of our honorees today.
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY EVENT

Description of event: President meets in Oval with 4-5 prominent women’s rights activists; goes to Roosevelt Room with them, where they join 30-35 others from the HR community; President makes statement affirming commitment, on HR Day, to women’s rights as human rights; describing our efforts on these issues; honoring the work of the women’s rights activists he met in the Oval; and announcing several new initiatives in this area. He will end by signing the HR Day Proclamation.

To do:

Complete the list of invitees, invite the guests: State Department (Theresa) will handle; invitees and State will provide NSC with names and birthdates.

Decide on list of honorees and vet: State has suggested list. WH will vet (timing?).


Prepare statement: NSC Speechwriting, based on materials provided by agencies; will have draft Monday.

Prepare one-page description of USG activities in this area, including new initiatives: NSC will prepare, based on materials provided by agencies.

WH Proclamation: Being finalized by WH.
Eric: Attached are both the policy initiatives we have currently on-line, as well as a funding summary. Some of the policies don't require funding, as you know. I'll be sending the same to Theresa Loar so she can "crank it in" as appropriate. If you want more explanation of anything, please call (663-1076) Friday.
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration  
Department of State  
(DOS/PRM)

1996 - Current Initiatives for the Advancement of Women

Bosnian Women's Initiative: $5.0 million announced by the President in June (at Lyon G-7 Summit) to promote the reintegration of women (whether returning refugees, widows, or other) into the economy in Bosnia, emphasizing training, legal assistance, and support for micro-enterprise projects. Supported by activities of U.S. Ambassador to Austria Swanee Hunt. Managed by UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Reproductive Health for Refugees: $172,393 to establish a reproductive health coordinator at UNHCR, produce a field manual on reproductive health and create an international working group to address reproductive health concerns for refugees. Result: recent UNHCR emergency response in Great Lakes has included a reproductive health component for the first time.

UNHCR Women's Initiative Fund: $200,000 to establish a fund for pilot projects to address women-specific concerns in an imaginative, non-traditional, or experimental manner to improve protection or self-sufficiency of refugee women.

Promotion of Protection of Refugee Women: $150,000 to the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children to promote implementation of the UNHCR's guidelines on the protection of women in programs run by non-governmental organizations (NGO's) who are implementing partners of UNHCR.

Education for Afghan Refugee Girls: $217,500 to the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to support schools for Afghan refugee girls in Pakistan.

1997 - Initiatives for the Advancement of Women

Rwandan Women's Initiative: $1.0 million in response to UNHCR's Great Lakes appeal, which includes a UNHCR initiative to address refugee women's reintegration, including protection concerns as well as self-sufficiency efforts, into Rwanda, as was done in Bosnia in 1996.

UNHCR Initiatives for Refugee Women: Total of $500,000: $200,000 for continued integration of reproductive health into emergency and on-going health programs for refugees and $300,000 to the UNHCR Women's Initiative Fund for new, non-traditional, pilot projects to ensure that refugee women have equal access to programs to provide protection or assist them in becoming self-sufficient.
Policy Initiatives related to Refugee Women and Human Rights

Protection for Refugee Women: State responsibility to provide refugees protection is agreed by the international community, and monitored by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as a means of guaranteeing human rights to refugees, who cannot avail themselves of the protection of their own governments. The United States encourages UNHCR to be attentive not only to the legal protection of refugee women, but also to their physical security, and has provided special funding for many programs designed to improve the physical protection of women refugees, especially from sexual violence. (Both legal and physical protection for refugee women are addressed in the Beijing plan of action.)

Under the Bosnian Women's Initiative, we have encouraged UNHCR to pay particular attention to the legal needs of women, especially widows, who need to settle inheritance or property claims in order to reintegrate properly into Bosnia.

We have supported UNHCR attention to the issue of women who suffer gender-based persecution, to ensure that they are afforded the international protection they require.

Reproductive Health for Refugees: The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (FWCW) both emphasize the provision of reproductive health care services for all populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDP's). The Cairo Program of Action specifically affirmed that all countries should make accessible through primary health care systems, reproductive health care to all individuals of appropriate age, including refugees and internally displaced persons.

The United States (DOS/PRM) funded a symposium on reproductive health for refugees, from which emerged guidelines for addressing reproductive health considerations which are of heightened concern in refugee populations, especially sexual violence. Since then, we have funded and provided a reproductive health coordinator at UNHCR Headquarters who is managing the field testing of the guidelines. UNHCR has formed an international working group on reproductive health for refugees, which is comprised of interested governments and non-governmental organizations involved in refugee health. The United States (DOS/PRM) is the most active government participant in the working group.
Ensuring Access of Refugee Women to Assistance Programs: The connection between assistance to refugees and their protection is a strong one: the protection one offers is not useful if the refugee is starving; but sustenance alone without protection does a refugee little benefit.

The United States presses the agencies it funds to assist refugees and conflict victims to ensure that their programs of direct assistance or to promote self-sufficiency among refugees are accessible to women. Sometimes that requires adjusting the type of activity envisioned to include appropriate emphasis on employment that women engage in; in other cases, it may require an imaginative combination of activities such as combining therapeutic infant feeding programs with education for the mothers as they accompany their children.

The United States has urged UNHCR, the World Food Program (WFP) and their implementing partners to involve women in the programming and delivery of supplies for refugees, especially food.

DOS/PRM has supported education programs to target Afghan girls in Pakistan, who otherwise would not have had equal access with boys. Education is a sector of assistance specifically highlighted in both the Cairo and Beijing programs for action.

The Bosnian Women’s Initiative has as a goal providing information on programs for reintegration into the post-conflict economy in addition to establishing programs to address women’s self-sufficiency.
SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ISSUES

OFFICE OF UNDERSECRETARY FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

PH: 202-647-9154 FAX: 202-647-1795 OR x0753

TO Matt Lorin
FROM Henry Leo
DATE
FAX #
PAGES (including cover: 2)

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**COLLECTION:**
Clinton Presidential Records  
National Security Council  
Anthony Blinken (Speechwriting)  
OA/Box Number: 3381

**FOLDER TITLE:**  
Human Rights Day, 12/10/96

**RESTRICTION CODES**

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- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
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