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JOURNAL

OF

WILLIAM H. NATCHER

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

2ND. DIST. OF KENTUCKY

VOLUME LIV

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, in addressing a Joint Session of Congress on Thursday, made a good impression on a few of us who attended the Joint Session. Not over 100 Members were present in the House Chamber and only five Senators marched down the center aisle just before the President of Germany was presented. Of course, the Diplomatic Corps had its usual well over 100 men and women attend, the Supreme Court was absent, and with the President Cabinet apparently not invited. If so, none appeared. I presume that Richard von Weizsäcker, in looking over the audience, really arrived at the conclusion that we have a lot of young men and women in the Congress. Interns and secretaries from the different offices, all very young, really stood out in the audience and especially from the Speaker's podium where the address was being delivered.

In going back to my old friend, Jamie Whitten, this of course, had made it right difficult for me. As Vice Chairman, and in the number 2 position on the 59-member committee, a great many of the Members expect more of me from the standpoint of advising my Chairman as to what he should do than should be expected.

I stand ready to present all of the bills from the full Committee and take all of the action necessary if my old friend, Jamie Whitten, will just permit me to do so.

May 5, 1992

More announcements of retirements are taking place each week. Matthew F. McKugh (D-N.Y.) a member of our Committee on Appropriations and the Chairman who presided over the bank, cold check event, announced his retirement yesterday. The Chairman of the Ethics and Conduct Committee, Lou Stokes of Cleveland, after being advised he had over 500

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was then named as the Chairman to investigate the bank matter. At that time, it was understood that he had no cold checks, but shortly after announcing that he was to be the Chairman, it was disclosed that he had one cold check. This not only disturbed Matt McHugh, but also the others serving on the Committee with him. I was advised several weeks ago that McHugh had said he had had all he could take and was ready to leave.

In addition to McHugh's announcement yesterday we were advised that Joe McDade of Pennsylvania, the Ranking Minority Member on our Committee would be indicted today. This matter involves campaign contributions from a company that had contracts with the government.

Another Member, Robert W. Davis (R-Mich.) who had a number of cold checks also announced his retirement yesterday. So far, this makes a total of 54 Members who have announced their retirement. The total number can go well over 100 before it is over.

My Chairman is still having health problems and simply will not turn loose. We go before the Rules Committee today for a Rule on the recission bill and instead of letting one of us who sit next to him go for the Rule, he has decided he will go and be in charge, but he wants two of us to go with him.

There are some four primaries taking place today throughout the Country and there may be other surprises in the House before the day is over.

May 6, 1992

Our Chairman, Jamie Whitten of Mississippi, is no better physically and the recissions bill will be before the House

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tomorrow. A number of articles have been written in the last few days concerning his condition and the fact that he asked me to go before the Rules Committee to get the Rule for the recissions bill seems to have caused some of the newspapers to start writing stories that Jamie is about ready to resign from Congress. He has just advised me that none of this is true and that he intends to present the recissions bill himself tomorrow. He certainly is not well and I hope everything works to his advantage when we start the recissions bill. If not, there will be a number of us that will be on the floor to help him if it is clear that he is not able physically to be the Chairman while general debate is underway.

The looting and burning in California has really played an important part now in the Presidential race to come up in November. The Republican White House has backed away considerably from the "law and order" part of the action the President started out with in the beginning since too many editorials have been written that the cause is lack of jobs, lack of consideration for settlements in large cities and education and health program failures, not only in California, but throughout this Country. A White House statement linking the Los Angeles riots to the social programs of the 1960's and 1970's certainly unleashed an angry debate yesterday as politicians in both parties predicted that the new wave of urban disorder would alter the tone considerably and the content of the 1992 Presidential election campaign.

May 7, 1992

I have just returned from the House Chamber where we passed H.R. 4990, the Recissions Bill for 1992. Here, we had \$5,800,000,000 recommended by our Committee and with the President having \$5,700,000,000.

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To be exact, we were \$141 million more in recession requests than the President and even though this bill was predicted to be the center of a right bloody battle that was to take place, we passed the bill on a roll call vote of 412 to 2. This is the first time since I have been a member of the Committee on Appropriations--and my tenure up to this time is a little over 38 years--where there were only two Members voting against the bill. Always on any appropriations bill we will have anywhere from 38 to 60 voting against--just on general principles.

My Chairman, Jamie Whitten of Mississippi made a short statement and then he left the Chamber and asked me to take over the bill. Everyone helped me and the outcome clearly showed.

May 8, 1992

I decided in 1969 to start writing letters to my grandchildren. I have never missed a week since that time in sending each of my grandchildren a letter. I now have six grandsons and one granddaughter and the total is something over 1,500 letters prepared and mailed out up to this time. This week with all of our problems and with over 50 Members announcing their retirement and some doing so as a result of the check-writing scandal and a great many other matters that have caused problems, I have had considerable difficulty in selecting a subject for this week's letter. Finally, I selected a subject and here is the letter:

"As you know, I have been a Member of the Appropriations Committee for a period of 38 years, and when my time comes, I want to be Chairman of the Committee.

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Our present Chairman is Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi and he is the Member who on January 6, 1992 established the all-time record for tenure in the House of Representatives. Up until January, Carl Vinson of Georgia, now deceased, had the record with 50 years and four months. I served for a period of about 10 years with Carl Vinson and he not only at one time served as Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee, but when the Army Affairs and Naval Affairs Committees were consolidated, Mr. Vinson served as Chairman of that Committee up until the time he retired from Congress.

My Chairman, Mr. Whitten, for a number of weeks now has been under the weather, and yesterday, May 7, was designated to present the rescission bill of 1992, H.R. 4990, to the House of Representatives. He decided that he would make his statement as the Chairman when the bill started, and then turn over the management of the bill to me since I am Vice Chairman and number two on the Committee. My Chairman made an excellent statement, and all of those present could see he has improved as far as his condition is concerned, and when he finished his statement, I then managed the bill until final passage. This is the bill that President Bush recommended with \$5,700,000,000 in rescissions or reductions in the current 1992 fiscal year budget. He requested

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99 rescissions. Our Committee on Appropriations approved 66 of the 99, and added a number of our own where a reduction would not be too severe. Instead of rescissions of \$5,700,000,000 with this being a rounded-out figure, we rescinded \$5,800,000,000 in programs and projects. We then were rescinding \$141 million over the President's request and this was good.

The hearing on the rule was real controversial, and after the roll call vote, with the rule adopted, we then started general debate on the bill. Following my Chairman's statement, I as the floor manager then decided to take this bill through as quickly as possible since it was controversial and could have kept the Members in session well beyond midnight. In allocating the time to speakers on the bill, I was fortunate in convincing all of the Members who requested time that we should make the speeches short and put the bill in line for passage. Everyone helped me, and we were really fortunate because just about 3:30 in the afternoon, we were ready for final passage. Notwithstanding the fact that the speeches on adoption of the rule were all very vigorous, and with everything indicating a real battle all the way through to the final vote, we succeeded in passing the bill on a roll call vote of 412-2. The two voting against the bill

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were Bob Davis, a Republican from Michigan who has announced his retirement and Joe Kennedy, one of the sons of Robert Kennedy who represents a Boston district. Bob Davis apparently was unconcerned since he is leaving Congress and Joe Kennedy believed that one of the rescissions affected something in his Congressional District.

I have never been able to pass my own bill with just two votes against the bill, and have been really pleased on several occasions when we had no more than 56 voting against the bill that appropriates the money for the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education. We have \$566 billion in outlays, budget authority, along with trust funds in our bill.

This 412-2 roll call vote on an appropriations bill will stand for some time to come.

Under separate cover, I am mailing to you a Congressional Record with the portion marked where we had debate on the bill and the roll call vote on final passage."

May 11, 1992

Following the action of the House on the rescissions bill, our Speaker announced that under no circumstances would he attempt to move Jamie Whitten of Mississippi out of the Chairmanship. Jamie is recovering from an illness and this should stop now all of the talk about taking him out at this time.

I would assume that Jamia would not be a candidate for Chairman of our Committee on Appropriations next year, with this being the 103rd Congress coming up. Some of the rebels in the House, and especially young ones who are so far down on our committees that the odds are they will never become Chairman, would start a move to keep a great many of us who have served on our committees for many years from becoming Chairman. I presume we will have to go through this fight in the Caucus in either December or January.

When you consider reducing the defense appropriation substantially at this time, every consideration should be given to the fact that we still have trouble all around the world. The Soviet Union is now splitting into many pieces and the large piece which is Russia, is having all kinds of trouble. Algeria is still in turmoil and the same applies to Yugoslavia.

We are now waiting for the Budget Committee to finish its conferences so that we will know how much money we will have on the Appropriations Committee for the Fiscal Year 1993. If the conference brings about a freeze at the 1992 level, this will bring about a substantial reduction in education and health.

We are still sending up our space shuttles and one is up and now seeking to grab a satellite that is not working and after bringing it into the shuttle, install a new engine and turn it back into outer space. So far, the spacewalkers have been unable to fasten the link that would correct it so that it could be brought into the shuttle, but another try will be made today. This satellite cost millions of dollars and if it is repaired, will save over \$150 million for the companies who put up the

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money to place it into outerspace.

We are now moving to help California with a disaster emergency bill calling for \$404 million. If approved by our Committee tomorrow and in the House, this would then generate about \$800 million additional funding in the Small Business Administration. I hope this bill sails through like the recissions bill, but the odds are that other sections of the Country who have suffered from disaster brought about as a result of hurricanes and water damage will be somewhat reluctant to vote for a large amount of money to bring about construction where looting and burning was the cause for the damage.

May 12, 1992

At 9:45 a.m. this morning the President will have a photo session at the White House with all of the Democratic Chairmen of the Standing Committees invited, along with others who are very much concerned about what took place in California following the verdict, and with burning and looting totaling hundreds of millions of dollars. Nothing but politics, and really an easy way of attempting to justify the programs now in affect in the large cities and a method to draw in the Democratic Party. Since my Chairman is under the weather, I was invited to attend in his place but I am holding hearings on my bill and I simply do not like these kinds of meetings. I will not attend.

May 15, 1992

Gorbachev spent the day here in Washington yesterday and starting at 11:30 a.m. a ceremony was held in Statuary Hall. The Speaker, Majority Leader in the House and the Majority and Minority Leaders in the Senate made short speeches, then Gorbachev with an interpreter made a very good speech.

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He discussed the present situation in Russia and the independent states that at one time were a part of the Soviet Union, and the economic situation and the need for assistance at that time. His wife sat just across the aisle from me and she listened to every word he spoke and clearly indicated that she hoped that what he was saying would not be held against him in Russia. From time to time she would push one shoe off and free one foot and then she would do the other one all during this period, clearly interested in every word. There were about 150 chairs in Statuary Hall and the balance of the Hall was crowded. Following the ceremony, a luncheon was held for Mr. Gorbachev and considering everything, his visit I think was good.

We had our rescissions bill in conference with the Senate yesterday and almost at the same time had the urgent supplemental bill on the floor. The urgent supplemental bill provided for \$492 million with most of it to be used in helping Los Angeles bring order out of chaos. About \$200 million from the Small Business Administration and the overall amount in the urgent supplemental will be used in Chicago to help with the severe water damage that took place underground through all of the tunnels and tremendously large underground storage rooms. It has not been determined as to what brought about all of the flood damage and some of the Members in the House thought this was really stretching the imagination to make a disaster out of the event when it probably was brought about as a result of negligence on the part of the city. After carefully discussing the matter, it was determined that the bill should pass and I understand the President will sign the bill this weekend.

May 19, 1992

I guess you could call the present period through which we are passing "the perk period." The media has really scared the leadership in the House and the Senate and have done a right good job of convincing the people in this country that Congress has too many perks. Recently, the Speaker notified me that the gym dues must be raised from \$100 a year to \$100 a quarter. The washing of automobiles has ceased and no longer can you drive your car into your parking place and on the way in give the attendant \$3 or as most of us do, \$5 to have your car washed during the day. They are even going so far as to say that we, the Members of Congress should pay for the parking places inside the Rayburn, Longworth, and Cannon Buildings. The two doctors and several nurses that are in the doctors' office in the Capitol Building render an excellent service in most instances and now this service has changed somewhat. According to notices that we receive, Members will have to pay a little over \$500 a year for this service.

Some suggested that since the media is so enthused about going after Congress on the perks that Congress should look into the question of perks for the media. It turns out that the reason we are short on inside parking places is because that over the years the media has somehow very quietly taken over 97 parking places. I don't know what names are on the register for these particular spaces, but at least the names are not for any of the Members of the House. In addition, a number of House Members say that the media should pay for the space off of the third floor where they have the press rooms with typewriters, computers and a little of everything else since it saves them from having to go downtown or into

some other building around the Capitol where rentals would be required. According to the list we read in "Roll Call" about the different perks that are available they are just really getting started in the elimination process. Instead of doing like we are in the gym and just advising the media that the answer is "no" as to all of their real inquisitive questions, the leadership on both sides has decided to run with the hounds and no telling where we will end.

We know that the Soviet Union is now in shambles but trouble still exists all around the world. In Yugoslavia they are fighting in the streets in several sections and in Baghdad, Thailand, the troops are out to curb massive protest groups and scores are reported killed and wounded. The numbers we have as to the dead are, of course, reduced accordingly and the television cameras are in with pictures on a daily basis showing the number of dead and the bodies being carried from place to place following attacks by the troops.

Our old friend Lawrence Welk died this week. He was 89 years of age and his wholesome style made his television show a real hallmark for the people in this country. About two years ago \$500,000 was placed in the Agriculture Appropriations bill to be used in purchasing the birthplace of Lawrence Welk in North Dakota. This really raised a howl throughout the country and finally as a result of OMB dragging its feet this project was dropped.

We are about ready to take the Memorial Day recess which will only consist of about two days this time and the primary election in Kentucky is to be held a week from today.

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There will probably be the lightest vote we have had in Kentucky in many, many years and the people are just simply not interested in elections in this country.

Another entertainer is folding his tent and this is Johnny Carson. For 29 years he has had the "Tonight" show on television and is one of the best performers in this country. A number of marriages, but an accumulation of millions down through the years have placed him in a position where he probably is entitled to his retirement.

Ronald Reagan has his picture in today's paper hugging his daughter Maureen after endorsing her Congressional candidacy in California. California gains about seven new seats and the seat Maureen is a candidate for is the 36th District. If she is elected and comes to Washington she will be quite a vivacious Member of Congress and, of course, will receive considerable publicity.

We are in the process of winding up the hearings on our thirteen appropriations bills and within the next three weeks we will start the bills through the House.

May 20, 1992

Today in the House while one-minutes were underway, 134 Members lined up, really cluttering up the well, to get to the clerk's desk to sign the discharge petition for the Balanced Budget Resolution. We leave here tomorrow night for the Memorial Day recess period consisting of only four days, and I presume that they want to be able to say to their people that they now are on the Discharge Petition to bring out the Balanced Budget Resolution. This Resolution, like all of the others introduced in the last several years provides for two exceptions when the budget may be taken out of balance.

One--in case of war, and this is to be expected. Two--when 60% of the Members vote to take it out of balance. I have seen this done many, many times. This, of course, is a real defect as far as a Balanced Budget amendment is concerned.

The line was so long and so many joined with conversation taking place that the Speaker had all kinds of difficulty clearing the way and making them line up along the outside wall to come on down to the Clerk's desk near the podium to sign the Discharge Petition. This Resolution like a great many others may not get the 218 names necessary to force the Amendment out of Committee.

This man Perot is still on the rampage and unless something takes place, he may get on the ballot and bring about the defeat of either Clinton or Bush. I must check to see when the last Presidential race was decided by the House of Representatives. I know all about the John Adams campaign that was decided in the House with Henry Clay later ending up as Secretary of State.

May 27, 1992

We had our Primary election yesterday in Kentucky. I had two opponents and one of them was making his third race. We secured 73% of the vote and I am delighted.

Carroll Hubbard, the Representative of the First Congressional District in Kentucky was defeated in an upset election and his wife who was also running for Congress in the Fifth District of Kentucky which is the mountain district, was defeated. An unusual combination and especially for Kentucky. Chris Perkins, the son of Carl Perkins who died in 1984, withdrew as a candidate in the Fifth Congressional District due to a number of

reasons and this was the district that Hubbard decided to run his wife in. Larry Hopkins, the 6th District Representative and a Republican from Lexington was defeated for Governor in November last year and he did not run for re-election to the House. It is entirely possible that instead of three Republican Members and four Democrats from Kentucky in the House, we may end up with only one Republican and five Democrats. We lost one seat under the 1990 redistricting. Today has been a wonderful day for me and my family and all of the lovely ladies on our staff.

One other nice thing happened to me today and that was the return of Volume LIII of my Journal. We sent it over to have it bound in beautiful dark blue leather and it is a good volume of the Journal.

May 28, 1992

The newspapers here in Washington are still full of articles about some of the escapades of the Members. For instance, on the front page of "The Washington Post" today there is an article entitled "Lawmaker Linked to Violations." This article goes on to state that a former employee in the House Post Office who, by the way, is under indictment, now maintains that he improperly exchanged postage vouchers from House Ways & Means Committee Chairman Dan Rostenkowski (D-Ill.) for cash in amounts that varied from several hundred dollars to more than \$2,000. It seems that when Rostenkowski, Kolter and Murphy's records were subpoenaed it was on the basis of using campaign money to buy stamps and then charging it to the campaign funds as provided for by law, but the next day going back and returning the stamps and receiving the cash. This laundered money was then kept and no requirement was made for a recordkeeping process to take place. Why anybody would get into a deal like this, the Lord only knows.

The newspapers in Kentucky are still writing about the custer of Carroll Hubbard and the defeat of his wife who was also a candidate for Congress from Kentucky. Hubbard spent hundreds of thousands of dollars and the Louisville "Courier-Journal" stayed with him all the way with articles almost on a daily basis opening him up for observation with all kinds of stories about how he was collecting money from large banks and moneyed interest for his support on the Banking and Finance Committee. He has been under investigation a number of times and he is the one who defeated Frank Stubblefield for Congress. Frank Stubblefield was a good Member and everyone loved him here on Capitol Hill. Money and deals took him out, thereby bringing forth again the old maxim as far as Hubbard is concerned that is "you live by the sword, you die by the sword."

This man Perot still has the White House and the Clinton organization in a quandry and if he does finally make it and get on the ballot as an Independent throughout this country, we really are going to have an unusual race in November. At the present time with the unrest in Kentucky politically he would have a good chance to carry our state.

Yesterday we finally passed an energy bill that really turns around some of the old laws insofar as the environment is concerned. Coal, oil, additives to gasoline and emissions were all throughout the bill and on final passage the 382 to 37 vote was quite a surprise. There was just enough incorporated in the bill for the environmentalists in this country to bring about a tremendous vote in favor of the legislation.

The state of Kansas, from time to time, really acts up as if the old Dodge City days were back again. In fact, that section of the state where Dodge City is located now

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wants to secede from the State of Kansas and form a new state. We have three Representatives from the State of Kansas and one is Pat Roberts, the Republican Member. He has the Dodge City section and he says they are all rebels, including himself. It would be right unusual if they, under the State constitution, would set in motion the proper operation that would bring about a division of the state. They say they are not like other sections of Kansas and they want to have a bold, two-fisted, long barrel .38 type of state. In fact, they want to return to the days when "might makes right" and pistols are carried both by men and women as you do pocketbooks today.

May 29, 1992

The crime situation here in the District of Columbia is so bad that now it is known as the Crime Capital of the world. Maybe this is going just a little too far, but up on Capitol Hill, we have had a number of serious crimes committed against Members of Congress, members of their staff and employees in the Legislative Branch for several years. This past week, Bob Traxler, one of the thirteen Subcommittee Chairmen on our Appropriations Committee was beaten by one or more thugs on his way to his car from the Hyatt Regency Hotel which is a short distance from the Capitol Building. A patrol car found him unconscious on the edge of the street behind his parked car. He is still in the hospital and was returning to his car after visiting in the Hyatt Regency. \$8 was all the thugs received, but this is one good example of just how bad the situation is here in our Nation's Capital.

June 2, 1992

Elizabeth Taylor will stop by today and discuss with me funding for Acquired

Immune Deficiency Syndrome. She has been really active in this movement now for several years and in fact, attended an international meeting not too long ago. She and Rock Hudson were good friends and he, of course, was a right famous movie actor who died of Aids. The friend that lived with him for quite some time filed suit following the death of Hudson and according to the media, settled his case some four or five months ago and received nearly \$6 million. I understand he invested this money in a number of get-rich-quick schemes and apparently is now broke.

During the hearings on the bill that I am Chairman of which appropriates the money for health and education, we always have a number of actors and actresses who either appear in person or send in statements for the record. This year in addition to Elizabeth Taylor appearing, we have had Arsenio Hall, Shelly Fabares and Mary Tyler Moore. Mary Tyler Moore has appeared on a number of occasions.

The White House is really stirred up over the Perot fireball that apparently has gone across the country and those there now say that the White House staff needs to be changed. Some are requesting that Jim Baker go back in the White House and see if he can get the staff to function in this election year. In fact, I do not think it is the White House staff, I think it is just simply the people in this country not too much interested in re-electing Bush or electing Clinton. This makes Ross Perot then, who is politically independent, a real candidate for discussion.

I guess my old friend George Bush is looking around the world for a little country that is misbehaving so that he can get everything all set and go in with rockets and guns and tanks and bring them back into the 20th

Century. In fact, he has a right good choice since there is considerable trouble with the independent countries in the old Soviet Union, in Africa, and especially in Yugoslavia. Most any time now he may pick out a target and we could go back to the Persian Gulf war days.

June 3, 1992

We are back on the "perk" situation again. Now, the media has decided that the Speaker should no longer be permitted to stop and catch his breath because he is supposed to be on the run. This week they were demanding to know the reason why we had a bomb shelter in the House Annex. This, of course, was erected many years ago and when it appeared that we might have a nuclear engagement with the Soviet Union. In this morning's paper I see where our Speaker has recommended that the Defense Department scuttle an underground bomb shelter in West Virginia and consider using it for other government business now that its previously secret site has been revealed in news articles. Other Congressional leaders are expected to concur with Foley's recommendation and this will spell an end to a \$14 million shelter that was constructed three decades ago.

The primary elections in eight states yesterday brought about some surprises. Two women won in California for the United States Senate. Barbara Boxer, who is serving with us in the House, and Diane Feinstein, the former Mayor of San Francisco. Feinstein was running in the unexpired (two-year) term seat and Boxer in the full six-year term seat abandoned by Senator Alan Cranston. Feinstein, I understand, is a right able woman and Boxer will be able to continue talking when she gets to the Senate.

My next door neighbor here in the Ray-burr Building, Bob Lagomarsino, apparently lost in his primary. He had an opponent that was spending millions of dollars of his own money and this, of course, was really something. In Ohio, two of the Members were placed in the same district and that vote is really close. These two men are Clarence Miller and Bob McEwen. In one of the Cleveland districts, Mary Rose Oaker was really under attack, but I understand that she was able to win.

In the primaries yesterday, Clinton finally secured enough delegate votes in California to go over the top and he surprised a great many of the people in the state when he defeated Jerry Brown. Both were in the high 40's, but Brown did not succeed in carrying his home state. In the most recent poll of Bush, Clinton and Perot, Perot had 46% to Bush's 42% and with the poll also showing Perot and the Democratic candidate Clinton with 33% for Perot and Clinton with 31%. Perot continues to say nothing as far as his position is concerned on any matter and he might be able to coast all the way into the November election using this type of a campaign.

We take up today the Department of Defense Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 1993. In this authorization bill I have three projects for Fort Knox that were not included by the Army. My friends on the Committee placed them in the bill for me so that the authorization would be present and now I will be able to fund at least two of them in our Committee on Appropriations. The only way we will ever be able to save Fort Knox is to continue renovating present structures and building new buildings. If Fort Knox ever gets on a "closure" list, I think it will be gone.

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June 4, 1992

Another article appeared in today's Washington Post concerning my Chairman, Jamie Whitten of Mississippi. This article goes on to state that our Speaker Tom Foley of the State of Washington advised my Chairman yesterday to step aside until recovering his health to the extent that he can handle all of the duties of the Chairmanship. In the meantime, the Speaker suggested that since I am number two on the Committee, Jamie Whitten should relinquish day-to-day operations of the Committee to me as Congress enters the most grueling phase of the appropriations process. One of our Subcommittee Chairmen was quoted in today's article as having said that Whitten's health and poor hearing have been a problem for the past five years and he has really slipped quite a bit at the present time. He went on to say that of course they would not want to embarrass our Chairman, but it is so hard communicating with him since he is ill and really doesn't know it. I do not know just what the outcome will be, but something will have to take place soon because we are starting the mark-up of our 13 appropriations bills and then we will start going to conference.

June 5, 1992

We are now starting conferences with the Senate on Appropriations bills and the fact that my Chairman Jamie Whitten of Mississippi is still very much under the weather makes it right difficult. Yesterday in the conference with the Senate on the Dire Emergency Supplemental Bill he turned to me after we had been in conference only a few minutes and asked me to take over. I did and he sat next to me for three or four hours and we finished all of the conference with the exception of one or two items. We go back in session I hope this morning. The newspapers and media

generally are now on the subject as to whether or not my Chairman will step aside until he recovers his health and it appears that he is still in the same frame of mind and refuses to do so.

We still have special counsel making an investigation concerning Iran and Iraq and what transpired and late last night the subpoenas which will secure the testimony of former Secretary of Health and Human Services and Defense, Caspar Weinberger, will be turned over for examination. This bounces back and forth and according to the statements made last night this investigation so far has cost the taxpayers \$40 million.

Ed Rollins, an old political hound and professional campaign manager this week accepted employment with Ross Perot and will help organize Perot's organization. He was joined by Hamilton Jordan, the former Chief of Staff for Jimmy Carter in the White House. Here we have a staunch Democrat and a staunch Republican traveling down the road now with an Independent. This is really causing both sides trouble.

June 9, 1992

The meeting now being held in South America concerning the warming of the earth and the environment generally is one of the most important meetings that has been held in many years. Our President will attend this meeting and he has indicated before leaving that he will not vote for any agreement which places an undue strain on limiting carbon dioxide by a certain year or date. This has caused quite a commotion among the other countries of the world because they naturally expected our country to take the lead in this conference.

The newspapers today announced the death of William McGowan, the 64-year-old

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telecommunications industry individual who launched the campaign that led to the break-up of American Telephone & Telegraph. From the time he joined the almost bankrupt MCI Communications Corporation in 1968, he fought the Bell system constantly at every level of government and in the courts. His main argument was that AT & T's monopoly power was squashing promising rival communications technology that his company was developing. When the Justice Department joined the fight, AT & T surrendered and its break up took affect in 1984.

From time to time, clinic cases have gone before the Supreme Court, and other cases which you might expect to bring on a change in Roe v. Wade, but the Court has very carefully sidestepped in these cases and in one from Virginia this week, the Justices have ordered new arguments to take place this Fall over the blockade of a Virginia clinic. This puts off one of the most important cases of the current term which would decide whether federal courts have the power to stop Operation Rescue antiabortion protestors from blocking access to clinics. Placing this one on the sidetrack for months now is absolutely unnecessary because the ordering of a new round of arguments next Fall will produce nothing new.

June 10, 1992

Late yesterday afternoon my Chairman Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi decided that as a result of his illness he had better step aside and let me, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, take over pending his recovery. He called me and asked me to come over and talk with him about it and at that time tentatively explained the type of letter he would write to me turning over the duties of the Chairman to me, which met with my approval. This letter was accepted by the

Leadership and now the matter is completely settled with no caucus being necessary and no embarrassment to my Chairman as a result of having to bring it out in the open and having the House vote on the question of him stepping aside at this time. Under our Rules in the House since he was elected for a two-year period, the only way this can be changed is for the caucus to make a recommendation and then this has to be ratified in the full House since he was elected as Chairman of the Committee by the House of Representatives.

There is quite a bit of publicity today about this move throughout the country and I hope that the articles that were carried in Mississippi do not hurt my Chairman. After establishing the all-time record of 50 years and 5 months and being the Dean of the Congress, certainly he was entitled to every consideration.

June 11, 1992

We have our first Full Committee meeting on a Fiscal Year 1993 bill today and I will, under the agreement with my Chairman, take over as Chairman and preside during the presentation of this bill which is Energy and Water and then we will adopt our 602 (b) allocations. Five of our Subcommittees out of the 13 have completed hearings and marked up their bills and these are Energy & water, Agriculture, Legislative, Treasury, Postal Service, and Military Construction. Transportation is scheduled for this afternoon and Foreign Operations is scheduled for tomorrow morning. This will make a total of seven and we are now underway. With luck and a lot of hard work, we will be able to put all of our appropriations bills on and through the House by July 2.

(10)

June 15, 1992

This past week one of Bowling Green's more famous and I guess I should say notorious citizens passed on. Pauline Tabor, who operated a house of prostitution for many years in my home county died in Texas where she had lived for a number of years. After she retired and had battled the law for many years, she was on Johnny Carson's "Tonight" show and several others. I recall one night listening to her when she said in answer to a question that she had no problem at all with the law enforcement officials in Warren County because the sheriff was her best friend and her next best friend was the Chief of Police. In fact, she said there was only one official in Warren County that ever caused her trouble and they had kicked him out. He was the County Prosecutor and she said he caused her all kinds of trouble but after being kicked out he is now working in Washington. The one who was kicked out was me and I am now serving my 20th term in the Congress of the United States. In fact, I am the only one that had "Her Majesty" placed in jail. On many occasions when we had to raid the house, the officers would inquire of me as to whether or not I wanted the girls arrested and I immediately responded by saying "no" that I felt sorry for the girls and I did not want them arrested. They would then inquire as to whether or not I wanted the men who visited from time to time arrested and I said that I was not interested in the men. I informed the officers that I was only interested in "Her Majesty" who has now passed on.

This is the 10th Anniversary of Watergate and on Sunday on the front pages of most of the newspapers up this way, there were articles with pictures of all of those who participated in the Watergate affair. Rather

than have these copied into my Journal, I have placed the articles in an envelope and noted that they really furnish information that is considered right accurate in a review sort of way of what transpired back in those days.

June 15, 1992

Russian President Boris Yeltsin arrived in this country last night for a two-day U.S.-Russia summit meeting that according to both sides would underscore the demise of the cold war and the emergence of a new partnership between the former foes. Yeltsin announced that America and Russia are becoming friends on his arrival at Andrews Air Force Base shortly before 5 p.m. yesterday for his first full-scale summit with President Bush. He said the discussions and the documents he will sign, which may include an accord on deeper cuts in long-range nuclear weapons will prove that the gap between us has been closed. Before leaving Russia, he said he would not come to this country with his hand out seeking money. He said he was seeking friendship and cooperation which would help Russia and the independent countries that formerly made up the Soviet Union in this, their time of dire need.

There is an article in today's "Washington Post" that states that Natcher is to brief the news media. The article went on to state that a week after House Appropriations Committee Chairman Jamie L. Whitten (D-Miss) relinquished his day-to-day responsibilities to Vice Chairman William H. Natcher (D-Ky.) Natcher invited reporters to a briefing today on the 1992 appropriations budget. The article further stated that while it may not seem like much considering Capitol Hill's usual torrent of news conferences, aides said this is the first time in the Committee's 127-year-history that the panel has called a news conference to answer questions about its work.

June 17, 1992

I have just returned from the House of Representatives chamber after listening to Boris Yeltsin, the President of Russia. He is a natural politician and I have never seen a man enjoy making a speech any more than the President of Russia. Whoever prepared his speech should be employed to start writing speeches for President Bush, Ross Perot and Governor Clinton. I have never seen as many standing ovations at a Joint Session since I have been a Member of Congress. Time after time, the House would stand and wave and yell and laugh and this I have never seen at any State of the Union Joint Session by any President. This man is a big man who says he is healthy and he smiles all the time. Every statement had a real meaning and of course, he was making his pitch for economic assistance and for monetary help from our Country. He said he was willing to continue on his road and he did not understand some of the requirements we were placing on him. All of us enjoyed this Joint Session and I hope this man lasts considerably longer than Gorbachev and some of the others.

June 19, 1992

Now, while I am serving as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee temporarily, I find that my old friend, Bob Byrd of West Virginia who is Chairman of the Committee on his side really goes after his Subcommittee Chairman in a right unusual way when they cross him. This week, Tom Farkin, the Chairman of the Subcommittee that I am Chairman of on the House side, and his Chairman, Senator Bob Byrd, had a little falling out over their Sec. 602 (b) funding allocations and Byrd took out of Labor, Health & Human Services and Education \$377 million after

the allowance was made and this amount was placed in the Transportation Subcommittee. The Transportation Subcommittee is in charge of several projects that really affect the State of West Virginia and since Senator Byrd has been designated by the media here in Washington as the "King of Pork", he decided to place this additional money in the Subcommittee that could do more for West Virginia at this time than the one that Harkin chairs. There is a story in the "Wall Street Journal" today which to a certain extent sets forth the deletion of the amount from Harkin and intimates as to why the move was made. Senator Byrd called me since my name was mentioned in the story and especially since I indicated my displeasure for any reduction in my bill and with an explanation as to why such a story would be written. The Senator maintains that the reporter from the "Wall Street Journal" is not his friend and for sometime now has been pursuing the Senator's pork recommendations and decided this was the time to show how far he would go in his own Committee in dividing up the money in order for West Virginia to be really protected.

Just for a change the perks of the Members are off of the front pages of the newspapers now and in place of the legislative perks we have stories to the effect that the perks of U.S. officials are now on the chopping block. The private dining rooms in each of the departments of the government have come under scrutiny now for several days and it just so happens that the taxpayer's tab this year for the Treasury Department's executive meals served in the department have cost the government \$126,048. The tab paid by the Treasury executives amounted to about \$4.75 per meal and the menu consisted of shrimp, crab meat, pasta salad, fruit salads, strawberry sundaes, broiled lobster tail, roasted red skin potatoes,

asparagus, poached pears with chocolate and raspberry sauce. All of the nice, good little things that you want to eat at different times and all at the expense of the American taxpayer. On the Senate side, Senator Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz) who was one of the savings-and-loan-five members under attack for many months, recently introduced a bill that would prohibit taxpayer subsidies for executive meals, fitness centers, and on-site medical offices which are available to all federal workers. The bill also calls for opening military golf courses to the public and directing the Treasury Department to charge regular fees and with the money to go into the Treasury of the United States. This, you could call "tit for tat" because the perks of the legislative branch have been under attack now for months, so just for a change, some of the investigations Subcommittees here on Capitol Hill are giving some attention to the perks of U.S. officials.

June 22, 1992

This past weekend we had a terrific fire in Bowling Green and at one time it looked like our office building would go up in flames. Starting at CDS #1 at College and Park Row, and going on up Park Row and 10th Street in the rear, three of the buildings were really severely damaged. The second building from the corner collapsed and this then placed the fire department in Bowling Green and the fire departments all around Bowling Green in a position where they could control the fire. It appeared for a time that the entire public square would go up in flames. Our building, with offices on 10th and Main Street and Park Row, is the fifth building from the corner. There was no fire damage and any damage is from smoke inside and from the damage to the roof where tremendous water was hosed up for over 4 hours to keep that building from catching on fire.

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The same applied to several other buildings where the only damage was to the roof. I have a lot of records and books and memorabilia in that office which are of considerable value to me and at 6 p.m. Saturday it appeared that everything would be lost.

Sunday's Courier-Journal carries a story on the front page about me and this was just enough to perk me up a little after the terrific stress of the fire on Saturday. This is a beautiful story and one that I will long remember. The story is entitled "DOING IT RIGHT--Kentuckians can expect fairness, not pork, from Natcher-led panel" and is as follows:

"A fellow once asked Rep. William Natcher what he wanted on his tombstone, and Natcher says he replied: 'He tried to do it right.'

That's much the same thing Natcher, a Bowling Green Democrat who represents Kentucky's 2nd District, said last week when asked how he will handle his new position as acting chairman of the Appropriations Committee: 'I'm going to try to do it right.'

Natcher, who has taken over for ailing Chairman Jamie Whitten of Mississippi, is an engaging storyteller full of anecdotes that stretch all the way back to Louisville newspaper Editor Henry Watterson, who has been dead since 1921.

But in his public utterances, Natcher, a 39-year House veteran

who will turn 83 in September, tends to be cautious and unrevealing -- just like the dark, three-piece suits he wears unfailingly. So his 'I'm going to try to do it right' requires translation, and there are at least two versions.

First, Kentuckians should not expect Natcher to suddenly pour millions more pork-barrel dollars into their state a la Robert Byrd, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Byrd has tried, literally, to move a good chunk of the federal government into West Virginia, his state.

Natcher is proud of the five flood-control lakes and other special projects he has gotten over the years for his district. 'They don't elect me in New York City. I'm elected in the 2nd District of Kentucky,' he likes to say.

But Natcher is a by-the-book legislator who has generally resisted 'earmarking' money for pet projects for anyone, including himself.

He also doesn't like another common practice -- using appropriation bills to make new law. That's what the other committees are for, he insists.

Natcher avoids public conflict and is unlikely ever to say anything that would approach criticism of Byrd. But a Wall Street Journal

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story last week noted their differences, calling the Kentuckian 'a potential counterweight to Mr. Byrd's penchant for pork-barrel politics.'

Another factor is the tight federal budget. The spending limits in the 1990 deficit-reduction agreement between Congress and the White House leave the committee this year with the politically unpleasant task of distributing cuts -- not new undertakings.

'This is going to be the most difficult year since I've been on the committee,' said Natcher, who came aboard in 1955. It's a view widely shared.

Wednesday, in what was at least partly a reflection of this new pressure, the House overruled the committee and killed the multibillion-dollar superconducting supercollider scientific-research project under development in Texas.

Natcher, who voted against stripping the money from the appropriation bill for energy and water projects, said he had anticipated the outcome of the vote but not the large margin: 232-181.

'I think that's an indication... there's going to be close scrutiny on all these items. Difficult choices are going to be made,' he said.

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Rep. Harold 'Hal' Rogers, a Republican from Kentucky's 5th District, who has used his Appropriations Committee seat to win millions of dollars' worth of flood-control and transportation projects for his district, says of Natcher:

'I think he will try to help Kentucky where it is possible without setting a bad example... He will be careful not to appear to be taking advantage of his position to the detriment of others.

The second translation of Natcher's epitaph, 'I'm going to try to do it right,' is that he wants to move the 13 annual appropriation bills through the House quickly and smoothly.

Whitten, even in his prime, often mumbled to the point of incomprehension. Natcher, by contrast, is making an effort to bring crisp discipline to the committee meetings.

'We've got this train running,' Natcher said Thursday after the committee approved three appropriation bills for floor action in an hour and a quarter, not counting a break for a floor vote.

His model is the late Rep. Clarence Cannon of Missouri, a published parliamentarian who was chairman of the committee when Natcher arrived. 'Clarence Cannon ran this

committee like I'm running it,' Natcher said.

Legislative efficiency has always been a goal of Natcher, who is chairman of the subcommittee that handles the huge appropriation bill for the Labor, Education and Health and Human Services departments. He cites his record for floor passage of the bill several years ago: one hour and 55 minutes.

In a report last week on the Whitten-Natcher shift, the Congressional Quarterly suggested that the Kentuckian's chances of securing the chairmanship for good depend on how successful he is in getting the 13 appropriation bills passed.

In a presidential election year in which federal spending and congressional competence are major issues, the appropriation process is sure to be a high-profile, high-stakes game.

Natcher doesn't talk about taking over the chairmanship permanently. Officially, the 82-year old Whitten has stepped aside only while he recuperates from what many believe was a stroke, though Whitten's office denies he had one.

'I'm substituting for him,' Natcher, who takes every opportunity to praise Whitten, explained last week on the floor as he shepherded through an emergency appropriation bill.

However, for all practical purposes Natcher is now considered the chairman, and is being treated as such. Whitten is present for meetings and floor debates, but his apparent weakness indicates he is unlikely ever to resume control.

Assuming the Democrats retain their House majority in November, Natcher would be first in line for election as Whitten's successor by Democratic members. But he could be challenged by less senior committee members.

Natcher is a lawmaker who seeks neither partisanship nor confrontation; his goal has always been to pass appropriation bills, not make political points.

The question in the coming weeks will be how he and House Democratic leaders, whose jobs frequently require partisanship and confrontation, will be able to work together.

"It's going to be a matter we will have to work out," Natcher said."

June 23, 1992

With all of our problems today, it appears that we may have a railroad strike beginning as of tonight. Negotiators reported little progress yesterday in efforts to head off a crippling strike that could shut down freight and passenger service from coast to coast and strand hundreds of thousands of commuters in the populated Washington-New York-Boston corridor. Five

railroad unions involved in three different contract disputes are free to strike virtually every major railroad after midnight tonight. All of the emergency provisions of federal labor law that have prevented a strike will be exhausted at that time.

Under existing law the President can prevent the strike from taking place for a matter of time, but I hope they do not reach that point since we have done this in the past and it has always brought about trouble.

This man Perot is still upsetting the applecart of both parties and is having no difficulty whatsoever in securing the necessary number of names to qualify and place him on the ballot in the different states across the country. His desire and request that he go on all of the ballots throughout the U.S. and with the promise to spend his own money in the neighborhood of \$150 million or more may be consummated and if so, the Democrats and the Republicans had better remain alert. In Kentucky, for instance, he secured the necessary number of names to go on the Kentucky ballot in a matter of a very few hours and just to make sure, secured absolutely the same number of surplus signatures.

As Acting Chairman of the Appropriations Committee we are now moving our appropriations bills along and this week, will report out of full Committee, Agriculture Appropriations and Treasury and Post Office. We have on the floor this week three of our appropriations bills and this, with the Energy and Water Development bill that passed last week will make four out of the House, with nine to go. My Chairman is improving somewhat, but still is not able to take over the full Committee and I will remain as the Acting Chairman until he reaches the point that he is able physically to go back in charge.

June 24, 1992

Gaspar Weinberger, our former Secretary of Defense who served in many capacities in addition to this assignment under Ronald Reagan, was indicted this past week. He is charged with lying to Congressional committees and to other legislative bodies concerning the President's knowledge of the selling and furnishing of arms and equipment to Iran back during the days when the hostages were being held. Weinberger, himself, was bitterly opposed to the move by the Administration to sell the arms and now he is indicted for being loyal to his President and to those that forced the sale upon him while serving as Secretary of Defense.

June 26, 1992

We were here last night until about 9 p.m. debating the emergency railroad legislation. A railroad strike was underway and this affected over \$1 billion a day in merchandise just on the Eastern seaboard alone. The bill that we passed provided that the railroads should immediately start running again and the railroad would appoint an arbitrator, the labor union would appoint an arbitrator and these two would select a third member of the arbitration board. In the case of a deadlock between labor and the railroad, the third named arbitrator would then make a decision and present it for acceptance as provided for under the law. The railroad workers were much concerned about this type of legislation since they maintain it removes from them the right to strike and have any effect on the outcome. The emergency is so critical at this time that excuses did not prevail and there were only some 60-odd votes against the bill.

I still write a letter every week to my grandchildren with each of the six boys and the young lady receiving an original.

letter--the same subject, and of course after years of letters with the total being over 1,600 now, subject matter is right important. Today, I wrote them a letter about the presidential candidate by the name of Haynes, who of course is unknown to millions of people in this country and his slogan is "Turn the Reins Over to Haynes." He stands in the corridor leading into the Capitol Building, straight as an arrow, and still as a statue so that everyone can see him. He maintains that the election will be so close that it will go into the House of Representatives for a decision so he wants all of the Representatives in the House to see him and know who he is so that they will vote for him when it goes into the House for a final decision. The odds are very much against this election going into the House, but it did in the days of Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams.

June 29, 1992

Another earthquake hit California this weekend and they seem to be coming more frequently at the present time. This one took place mainly in the southern section of the state, but on the Richter scale it was a little over 7 points so it may have been one of the first in the last 50 years for that section.

The Secretary of the Navy resigned this past week due to his complete failure to have investigated and corrections made for charges of sexual harassment in the Navy and especially on one occasion when a number of Navy pilots were attending a reunion party and one of the women pilots was really assaulted. The Admiral in charge of this particular section was removed and the Secretary resigned. The President was very much disturbed over the complete failure of the Navy to make corrections and to prefer charges. Senator

Sam NINE of Georgia who is Chairman of the Armed Services Committee in the Senate is holding up some 4,500 promotions and says he will continue to do so until those guilty of the offenses against the Navy Lieutenant are punished.

We are before the full Committee again this morning at 9:30 and will report out interior and defense. This means that eleven Subcommittees have marked up their bills and State, Justice, Commerce will mark up on Tuesday. We will mark up my bill, the Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education bill on Wednesday. The two bills that will be before the full Committee this morning are the seventh and eighth bills considered by the full Committee. Transportation and District of Columbia will be considered in the full Committee on Wednesday morning and this will make a total of ten bills. Four bills have passed the House and the Agriculture and Treasury and Postal Service bills will be on the House Floor tomorrow. The Interior bill will be on the floor on Wednesday and the Defense Appropriations Bill on Thursday of this week. We really have this train going now and my Chairman has stepped aside with the exception of the Agriculture Appropriations Bill and he indicated on Friday he might try to present it. In his condition, it would really be a disaster and I hope he changes his mind.

July 1, 1992

We are now trying to finish up the legislative program for the week in order to take the Fourth of July recess consisting of four days. Today, after we mark-up the Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education bill, all thirteen of our appropriations bills will be marked up and we will have ten of the bills through the full Committee after Transportation and D.C. go through today. Five bills

have passed the House and Treasury and Post Office, along with Interior are up in the House today for final passage. When we have Defense Appropriations tomorrow this will make a total of eight bills through the House and this simply means that we have really moved right fast now since the full Committee was placed in a position to start the bills through.

I watch President Bush from time to time on television and on a few occasions each month I get to see him in person. Without any question he, by the expression on his face, indicates anxiety over his re-election bid. In fact, he looks right bad and Perot and Clinton are not helping at all.

At our mark-up today, a few language changes will be proposed to go in the bill which should not be accepted. One pertains to the Department of Labor regulation recently issued to all local unions throughout the country that a record must be kept of all expenditures by the local unions for campaign contributions and an accounting in general. This has disturbed the local union President, but as far as the members are concerned not too many are disturbed. The local union leaders here in Washington at the top level are just up in arms over such a crazy regulation. All kinds of pressure has been placed on our Subcommittee Members during the past two days urging that an amendment be accepted and placed in the bill which provides that no funds shall be used to enforce such a regulation. You would think that the Leadership, knowing a little about what's taking place in this Country, would be against such an amendment, but they are walking up and down the halls urging the Subcommittee Chairmen involved to back down and accept these amendments. Each day the Leadership in the House has to deal with lobbyists that are pushing

all kinds of measures and programs for abortion, homosexuals, education and increases in all kinds of appropriations for transportation, health & human services, and education. It will be good when we have all thirteen bills out of the House and in the Senate and then both conventions will be over and we can get down to a better understanding as to how to hold this deficit down and still weed out political pressure moves that simply go in without too much trouble.

July 6, 1992

The list of candidates for Vice President that Governor Clinton is to select from has been publicized all around the country this past week. One of these candidates is Lee Hamilton, a Member of Congress from Indiana. He is a good Member of the House and is now in line for the Chairmanship for the Foreign Affairs Committee since his Chairman has announced his retirement. Notwithstanding the fact that he can run for re-election for his House seat and still be on the ballot for Vice President, Hamilton just about eliminated himself this weekend when he emphatically said that he thought the recent Supreme Court decision was correct and this decision, of course, upheld the Pennsylvania law which requires all kinds of reporting and consent agreements before abortions can be performed. This is strictly contradictory to Clinton's position because he is pro-choice. This then brings the list back down to Kerry of Nebraska Bradley of New Jersey, Rockefeller of West Virginia, Gore of Tennessee and one or two others. None can really believe that Clinton has a good chance to win at this time.

Perot is still chopping on Bush and Bush is the recipient of every blow from Perot. The Republicans are leaving Bush across the country because they do not

believe that Bush stands for anything that would help the economy of this country at this time. Bush, of course, has decided to start traveling again and he flew off this past weekend to Warsaw, Poland where he made a speech urging the Poles to persevere. He promised that the U.S. would help with the economic woes of Poland and pictures have appeared in all of the newspapers showing our President and the Polish President Walesca shaking hands and smiling all around. Bush will end up meeting with other leaders throughout the world and the major problem they will consider is Russia's request for economic assistance at this time. Here in our country our economy is just about the same as it has been for months and unemployment is up to about 8.2%. The glitter has all disappeared as far as the Persian Gulf is concerned and Bush is making every effort to bring about the spark that will place him back in the lead in the presidential race.

The economic summit is to be held in Germany and this is the one that the leaders of the free countries of the world will attend. Yeltsin maintains he will not come with hat in hand but that's the way he will arrive.

This past weekend was the Fourth of July and parades were scarce all over the country and the weather was not too good. We have had a number of small tornadoes and heavy rain storms all up and down the eastern seaboard which made all of the planes run hours late and thousands of mad people arriving too late to make their next connection and having to spend the night in hotels at the expense of the airlines.

July 7, 1992

The National Education Association is holding its annual convention here in Washington at this time. The convention site is

the Washington Convention Center. The Washington Convention Center was constructed while I was Chairman of the D.C. Budget Subcommittee and Senator Pat Leahy of Vermont was Chairman on the other side. He made up his mind that this convention center should not be constructed in Washington because it would compete with convention centers in Chicago, New York, Cincinnati, and other places around the country. A deadlock resulted which lasted for about three months and finally he backed away and we constructed this center. At that time we knew the income would not be sufficient to maintain the center and that it would have to be subsidized. This is exactly what is taking place at this time. Only a few of the major organizations have had their conventions here and one of the reasons, of course, is the climate from the standpoint of crime and especially since our Nation's Capital is known as the "Murder Capital" of the world. The convention center is located in that section of Washington that makes it exceedingly difficult to protect pedestrians on the streets.

My daughter Celeste Jirles is attending this NEA convention as the delegate and she and her husband, Darwin Jirles are having a good time here in Washington. Celeste is almost a perfect "peacenik" and marches in every parade that is for "good government" and is strong for education. Yesterday at the convention, Secretary Lamar Alexander, the former Governor of Tennessee and now the Secretary of Education, lambasted NEA for its endorsement of Clinton. In a press conference he said that this organization which was nothing but a labor organization endorsed those who back down on every occasion to the wishes of NEA and that the 2 million teachers who belong to the organization were misled about a number of issues from time to time. Alexander went on to say that in order for Clinton to get the nomination he had to make the NEA

happy and the NEA only likes people they can control--a right bitter statement and others followed in the press conference. This, then brought forth NEA's Executive Director who said that Alexander's comments were part of a calculated decision by the presidential campaign to discredit NEA in order to have an enemy that could possibly divide the teachers. He went on to say that the Bush Administration had not been able to improve education and rather than accepting responsibility, they are searching out someone to blame for the education woes that are prevalent now in our country.

The Bush Administration has done very little for education and from time to time, makes claims about increasing funding for education and when you search the budget carefully the money is not there. In the 1992 Fiscal Year budget, education, according to the White House, was increased \$1,600,000,000 but every dime of the increase was removed from ongoing programs throughout my bill that appropriates the money for the three departments. Those in charge of preparing the President's budget know that we cannot approve of a budget that deletes category "b" impact aid, library services, community services block grants, makes severe reductions in low-income fuel legislation, NIH, and many other programs.

Alexander comes to see me quite often and has been unable to sell his "Education 2000" program to the education and labor authorizing committees so funding each year now is impossible because his programs are not authorized. Of course, he is unhappy about this and has had rough sledding since he has been Secretary of Education. He succeeded one of the nicest men to ever participate in the education field in this country and a man who has nine children, all college graduates, a lovely wife, and a wonderful education background.

July 8, 1992

Dan Quayle, our Vice President has been under attack for the past four years but Bush still maintains that he is on the ticket to stay and that he has made a good Vice President. While serving in the House with us, he made very little impression on the Members and after spending a lot of money from his father's newspaper empire in Indiana, he succeeded in being elected to the Senate and from there to Vice President.

About two weeks ago Quayle, while traveling around visited an elementary school in New Jersey and was sitting with a group of small boys and girls when the question arose as to how to spell "potato". One boy walked up to the blackboard and spelled it correctly--"potato." Quayle quickly said he should put an (e) on the end of the word which then would correctly spell potato. This brought about a howl, not only from the children in the school, but from a great many people throughout the country. They had cartoons the next day of Quayle holding up a large spelling bee sign with a tremendously large "F" right in the center.

Here in Washington we have the "Washingtonian" magazine and each year they take a poll of the best and worst of Congress. I have appeared right favorably in this poll on several occasions and this year under the category of "falling stars" they have listed number one our Speaker, Tom Foley; number two is Dick Gephardt, our Majority Leader, and number three is Mary Rose Oakar, the right controversial Member from Cleveland, Ohio. Joseph Kennedy, the son of Robert Kennedy and one of our newer Members from Boston comes up in the poll as a "no Rhodes Scholar" person. He is listed number one and Joe Kolter (D-Pa.) who has announced his retirement is number two.

A recent poll in this country shows that the majority of the voters believe that both parties have lost touch with the people. I am not surprised at this and it is one of the issues in the present campaign. Clinton is still in the process of deciding upon a Vice Presidential candidate and according to the media today, Al Gore, Jr. of Tennessee is seen as the leading candidate and Kerry of Nebraska, who started out as a candidate for President in the primaries, has made several trips to Arkansas and is really an active candidate for the position. Al Gore, Sr., is still alive and he served in the House and in the Senate. Running on a ticket that may not win for the Office of Vice President certainly does not add anything to your political clout or career so I believe that Al Gore will not be the designated candidate for Vice President. Ever though Kerry is an active candidate, his statements in the South bitterly criticizing Clinton for evading the draft and his military service will not sound good on television when played back in October just before the November election. Keeping this in mind, I believe that Clinton will come up with a candidate that has not been publicized or discussed recently for this position.

July 9, 1992

Governor Clinton announced last night that he had selected Senator Al Gore, Jr. as his running mate. This, of course, comes as a surprise to me because I did not believe that Al Gore would accept the offer to run as Vice President at this time. His father served in the House and Senate and Al Gore, Jr. of course, also served with us in the House at one time for about six or seven years. He was then elected to the Senate and has made a good senator. I thought all along that he would wait and make a run for the office of President instead of accepting the offer to run as Vice President at this time.

President Bush is still in Munich attending the economic summit with the seven leaders of the free countries of the world. Yesterday they pledged assistance to Yeltsin for Russia and this should help Russia carry out its present economic changes in the government. The group of seven yesterday gave strong support for Yeltsin's free market economic reforms, but announced no new initiatives to support them. The Russian President announced immediately that he was delighted with the action of the seven members at the summit and really did not expect anything more than the comments received. His main forte, of course, will be the International Monetary Fund and his success in delaying the interest and annual payments on the indebtedness that amounts to about \$80 billion to the banks around the world.

July 10, 1992

The selection of Al Gore, Jr. by Governor Clinton as his running mate for Vice President has been well received in this Country. I was surprised that Gore would accept at this time, but this really strengthens the ticket and places Clinton in a position where he should have a much better chance of winning. A whole lot depends, of course, on Perot and as to how far he goes as an Independent. Al Gore, Sr. is alive and apparently well, along with Al Gore's mother. They are a nice family of people and one that will really receive support in Kentucky. Both of the Republican incumbents in Congress from Kentucky should watch carefully now because with Gore on the ticket, Kentucky could go almost solidly Democratic this time.

The Columbia space shuttle landed yesterday at Cape Canaveral, Florida and this was the longest shuttle flight of

record. It was a 14-day scientific research flight and the record as far as number of days and hours is concerned. This has been called a significant milestone by NASA and the information obtained as a result of the flight will certainly be of great assistance in the future. I recall in 1958 when our Select Committee on Astronautics and Space Exploration brought forth reports to the effect that some day we would have shuttle flights of 14 days and even longer.

Another recent discovery and achievement along similar lines is the black hole discovery. A black hole with the mass of a billion suns has been found in a galaxy 30 million light years from the earth astronomers reported this week. According to the report, the black hole in the center of galaxy NGC 3105 appears to be about 100 times larger than any previously detected black hole. Discoveries along this line cause you to wonder as to what the future will hold from the standpoint of the occupation of other planets way out in outer space.

Our President seems to be having a good time traveling abroad now but according to the unemployment figures released recently and the bumps he is receiving from the Congress, he would do much better at home. During the past three weeks, bills concerning abortion, the deficit, foreign aid, education, and health have passed in the House and the Senate with the full knowledge of the leadership that they will be vetoed, but each will have its own certain influence in the presidential election in November. Claiming to be the education President and claiming to be in favor of necessary research funds for cancer, heart and stroke, diabetes, Aids, and other serious illnesses sound good, but must be funded properly and really nurtured to success.

Here in our Nation's Capital, we have a man by the name of Jack Kent Cooke who is a billionaire and made his fortune from real estate in the metro area. He is now the owner of the Washington Redskins and sporting a third or fourth wife. Recently, his wife had some sort of an episode with a pistol that involved her son by a former marriage and instead of passing this event over since it was a family matter, the Metropolitan Police started a serious investigation of why such an event took place, and the Mayor, a lady by the name of Sharon Pratt Kelly, is quoted as having said that this case would be investigated and Mr. Cooke would be thoroughly investigated along with his wife as to why his wife received an injury from a gunshot wound to her finger. You could tell by television scenes when Mr. Cooke was traveling back and forth from his office to his home and being pursued by reporters and television cameramen that this would not be good in the future from the standpoint of the location and construction of a new stadium for the Washington Redskins. The Washington Mayor, Mrs. Kelly, had been negotiating with Mr. Cooke and had claimed all along that the negotiations would produce another stadium here in the City of Washington for the Redskins. Yesterday, the announcement was finally made that Mr. Cooke decided to go to Virginia and enter into an agreement with Governor Wilder of Virginia for the location and construction of a new stadium for his football team. This was quite a shock to the football fans here in the City, but clearly indicated that the old gentleman was still disturbed about how his family matter was handled by the officials in the City of Washington.

July 20, 1992

The Democrat National Convention is over and Governor Clinton of Arkansas received nearly all of the delegates' votes, and then Senator Al Gore, Jr., of Tennessee was nominated for the office of Vice President. By virtue of Senator Gore being on the ticket, this means that a number of southern states will go democrat this time and one of them should be Kentucky. Gore is well liked throughout the South and this was Clinton's best selection. For days it appeared that he might go to the far West for his candidate for Vice President, but notwithstanding the fact that both of our candidates are now from the South, it still is probably the best ticket for the November election.

This past week, Ross Perot who had been making all kinds of noises, maintaining that he would spend at least \$150 million of his own money in his campaign for President, suddenly withdrew. His withdrawal was so sudden that it causes me to believe that the White House decided that President Bush would be the loser if Perot remained in the race as an Independent candidate and they decided to just take him out. Some of the commentators and correspondents believe that he just changed his mind but this is not sufficient for me, and one of these days we'll find out just how the White House sent the message that really hit Perot in his pocketbook. His name was already on the ballot in 24 states as the Independent candidate and his people, who have followed him now for weeks, are just as mad as they can be.

During the recess period, I spent my time in Kentucky and I understand that a number of Governors in New York City at the convention wanted to see me so that

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they could make their pitch for more money for their State. Some, of course, have never heard of me but since I am now the Acting Chairman of the Appropriations Committee in the House of Representatives, I am just a little better known.

July 21, 1992

President Bush and Jim Baker, the Secretary of State, go fishing every so often and recently were in Canada trout fishing. Here in Washington, the President's campaign for re-election is a little on the rocky side and moves are being made to convince President Bush to bring Baker back into the White House to manage his campaign for the November 3 election.

We spent millions of dollars and sometimes billions on new planes and military equipment that is a long way from being approved as safe, and yesterday an experimental plane, which is designated as the Osprey, crashed in the Potomac River killing all seven aboard. This plane on one other occasion while being demonstrated crashed and turned upside down. The plane takes off like a helicopter and flies like a plane with high wing propellers and with the rest of the fuselage shaped like most planes. The test pilot for this particular plane was on vacation and a new pilot was demonstrating the plane to some four or five civilians aboard. So far millions of dollars have been invested and it is a long way from being approved as necessary or safe.

Secretary Baker is now in Jerusalem and he and Rabin, the new Prime Minister who ousted Shamir, are holding meetings with Rabin indicating that he is in favor of stopping further construction on the Gaza

Strip and on the West Bank thereby placing Israel in a position of receiving the \$10 billion in guaranteed money from our country.

The big Clinton lead following the Democrat Convention may not last too long. At the present time, Clinton is about 30 percentage points ahead of Bush. Following the Republican National Convention the candidates may be about even and then the race will really begin.

The assault that was made on several women who are Navy pilots has brought about disclosure that at least 24 U.S. Army service women were raped or sexually assaulted while serving in the Persian Gulf. This is not good and is a matter that was really discussed several years ago when women were insisting upon all of their rights in the military with assignments the same as men regardless as to whether it was peacetime or wartime. In the Persian Gulf problem several of the victims waited for weeks or months before reporting the assaults. These charges are now being investigated and a number of the ladies in the House now have another issue that is one that meets with the approval of our people

In going back to the poll that was recently taken in the Presidential race, the Arkansas Governor received 58% to 23% for President Bush. This is the largest recorded majority of any contestant of a sitting President since public opinion polls began back in 1984.

July 23, 1992

The big battle on here in the District of Columbia today is over the selection of a new stadium site for the

Washington Redskins. Our Mayor, Sharon Pratt Kelly apparently is in a running battle with Jack Kent Cooke, the owner of the Redskins, and according to the news media, Cooke has entered into some kind of deal with Governor Wilder of Virginia with the stadium to be constructed in Virginia. Kelly maintains that her relations with Mr. Cooke have been right tense at times and especially on one occasion when he patted her on her rear end. Cooke is a billionaire and a right independent old gentleman and has had his ups and downs with his wives and public transactions generally but still has accumulated over a billion dollars by virtue of his careful, astute selection of land and real estate transactions in the District and in Virginia. It may be this time that the Redskins will actually leave the District.

President Bush has started travelling again from elementary school to high school in some of the states and is making every effort to dispel certain crazy rumors which he said are affecting his campaign for re-election. One is that Quayle may leave the ticket as Vice President, and yesterday the President, in a Cabinet and staff meeting, emphatically said that Quayle will remain on the ticket and any conversation to the contrary is simply gossip. A great many Republicans in the House of Representatives believe that Quayle should be dropped notwithstanding the fact that the Republican convention is just a few weeks off.

We go before the full Committee on Appropriations this morning and present our three final bills which will then be brought to the House next week for final passage. This completes our 13 regular appropriation bills and so far,

we have been right fortunate in passing the bills and keeping all of them out from under a continuing resolution.

From time to time, one or more of our large corporations are fined for illegal sales of weapons and certain engines which cannot be sold without permits. This past week, General Electric Company pleaded guilty to charges of fraud, money laundering, and corrupt business transactions as a result of the sale of military jet engines to Israel in the 1980's. This company agreed to pay a fine of \$70 million. The legal action resulting from the investigation comes after a two-year federal probe triggered by a lawsuit filed by a General Electric employee who was a marketing executive located in Israel.

Medical examinations now disclose a new AIDS virus which was found in Thailand and this unusual strain of the AIDS virus occurs almost exclusively in heterosexuals and is not the usual HIV virus found in this country and through the balance of the world. This is causing problems but may be just the same virus really but since it is located in Thailand there may be a reason for the difference resulting from the examinations.

We have nearly \$2 billion in our bill for Fiscal Year 1993 for research and education in the AIDS disease program and before too many years this amount will probably be well over \$5 billion.

July 27, 1992

Three of our Members have signed a letter to the Speaker with copies forwarded to the special counsel named to investigate the Post Office and bank cold check episode, stating that they will not be subject to a

subpoena calling upon them to produce their records insofar as the Post Office is concerned. It seems that some of the Members are charged with filing office requests for stamps and after their requests are approved and the stamps are delivered, then the stamps are returned and cash is received by the Members. The three Members who are up front are Dan Rostenkowski, Democrat of Illinois, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee; Joe Kolter, Democrat of Pennsylvania, who has announced his retirement; and Austin Murphy, Democrat of Pennsylvania, who not long ago was investigated for having people on the payroll who did not work or appear to have any assignment in his office. In other words, a Fifth Amendment is what we have here, and it does not speak well for these Members or any Member of the House.

George Bush has become right irritable since he is so far behind in the polls in his race for reelection. One day last week in one of his speeches, there was considerable hissing and booing, and he stopped and yelled out that they ought to shut up their mouths and listen to him. The question here in Washington that is being discussed is whether Jim Baker will resign as Secretary of State and take over the campaign for reelection since everything seems to be in disarray.

This past week the special counsel on the Iran matter indicated that he might ask for an indictment against former President Ronald Reagan. It is generally believed here in Washington that the former President knew all about the deal with Iran, especially as it applied to military equipment and spare parts. This, of course, followed the holding of the hostages beyond the inauguration date and suddenly releasing them after President Carter went out of office.

July 29, 1992

Yesterday we passed two appropriation bills in the House and this is the first time in 20 years that two major appropriation bills have passed in one day. The appropriation bill that funds the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, along with the Emergency Supplemental bill passed with the final roll call vote on the second bill taking place before 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Now we have passed 11 of our 13 bills and today another one will go under the wire with the final bill to take place tomorrow. Most of the time we have to carry the foreign aid appropriation bill under a continuing resolution but this time we are passing all 13 of our bills.

The Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, are now underway and the champion athletes of the world are setting all kinds of records. The King and Queen of Spain officially opened the Olympics program and the torch was lighted with the games starting underway. The King addressed a joint session of Congress a number of years ago and I have a picture of him when he stopped in the center aisle and shook hands with me. He looks about the same as he did back in those days and apparently is still right well fixed as the ruler of Spain.

Indictments not only in Kentucky but in Washington and New York are being returned almost on a daily basis. Tomorrow in New York, indictments from a federal court will be returned charging Clark Clifford, one of our most prominent citizens here in the District of Columbia, along with Robert A. Altman, the husband of Linda Carter, with conspiracy and general violations of the law resulting from the takeover of the First American Bank here in Washington by the SOGI.

One of the sheiks and a major Arab investor was indicted this past week and he has agreed to pay fines totaling \$106 million and to fully cooperate with the Federal officials on the First American Bank matter. With this source of information, Clifford and Altman will have a difficult time in defending themselves and especially since both maintain no knowledge whatsoever that the BCCI was the organization that had purchased the controlling interest in the bank. According to the newspaper reports, each received all kinds of stock dividend privileges and increases in salaries as a result of the takeover. Clifford is now an old man and he has begged for weeks now hoping that he would not be indicted due to his feeble condition.

President Bush is still looking for some major event to place him back in the polls where he will at least be even with Clinton. He has again directed his attention to Iraq but since the United Nations organization investigating committee seems to believe that Iraq is cooperating a little more in regard to weapons and other matters, the White House has had to back up just a little. Now the Bush administration says that the Iraq crisis has eased and it will not be necessary to send our planes in or to use any military force to bring Iraq to allow inspection of the ministry and comply with other United Nations orders. Here in Washington we have watched the President make his foreign policy decisions and it is clear that he is right well disappointed in not having the proper excuse to go back into Iraq. Kicking a little country all around the world finally is considered too much by the people of the world and this is the situation that President Bush finds himself in today.

July 30, 1992

Yesterday, Clark M. Clifford, the Washington attorney and former presidential advisor to a number of Presidents, was indicted, along with his law partner Robert A. Altman, with both being charged in criminal indictments of lying to banking regulators, accepting bribes and falsifying records to help the Bank of Credit and Commerce International to illegally acquire U.S. banks, including Washington's First American Bankshares Inc. Clifford is 85 years old and is an old man. Altman is the husband of Lynda Carter, the famous movie actress, and they have a beautiful home in the Potomac section. Clifford made the plea before the indictments that he should not be indicted because he is physically unable to defend himself in court. The Arabian sheik who was also charged several days ago has furnished the government with the necessary information against Clifford and Altman which will probably mean that both men will be convicted. Millions of dollars changed hands and here we have two men who were greedy and simply cast aside all principles in regard to loyalty and violated their obligation in regard to the bank they were running.

The House Members on the Republican side are really worried now because the announcement of the poll figures in California showing that Clinton received 62 percent and Bush 28 percent, has really scared a number of Members who hold close seats. Yesterday they really vented their anger at Bush's campaign manager, Frederic V. Malek, in a name-calling session that underscored the rising fear among elected Republicans as their Party heads into the national convention in about three weeks. One Republican said that Malek's perfor-

mance up to this time reminded him of a trip through fantasy land, and further said that he and his colleagues listened to a presentation meant to calm jittery House Members who were frightened about their own reelection prospects in a mood beyond depression and worse then despondent. Malek apparently handed out a prepared statement and literature designed to highlight President Bush's accomplishments and offered an outline of how the President would run on his record. With Quayle on the ticket, this makes it still worse and unless Bush really comes back up again after the Republican Convention, this race may be over.

July 31, 1992

Yesterday we passed the State, Justice and Commerce appropriation bill after a number of hours of general debate with many amendments submitted. This was our 13th and final appropriation bill for Fiscal Year 1993. For the first time in a great many years, all 13 appropriation bills were passed in the House and then sent on to the Senate. Foreign aid appropriations has become so unpopular in the Congress and in this country generally that we have had to carry this bill under a continuing resolution for a number of years. The same applied to a great extent on defense appropriations and especially since the Armed Services Committee has failed for several years to bring out and send to the President an authorization bill. All of the Members in the House that have talked to me are really delighted with our success in passing all 13 bills and especially before the August recess. Now the leadership will have trouble thinking of excuses to keep us here after October 1 since all of the appropriation bills have now passed in the House.

Clark Clifford, who has been known as one of our elder statesmen for many years, is now on the front pages of the newspaper across this country stuffing very slowly at age 85 and under indictment. He continues to talk to reporters and to almost anyone who will listen to him while he explains that he is innocent and should never have been indicted. He is a very distinguished looking man and a man with considerable pride -- a close confidant of a great many Presidents and one that was recognized as an excellent advisor. He maintains that the charges against him are false and that he will fight every day of his life to clear his name. The stories that have been written, if true, indicate that Clark Clifford has made the most serious mistake during his lifetime and that he will have considerable difficulty in clearing his name and will be fortunate if he remains out of the penitentiary.

The Presidential campaign is now really underway and the booming popularity of our ticket has changed the strategy somewhat in that the Democrat National Campaign Committee believes that the tremendous lead now held by Clinton should be downplayed somewhat. Bush, of course, will come up in the polls after the Republican National Convention but he may be so far behind that he will never overtake Clinton. The Republicans are really after Clinton on the matter of the Gulf War. They contend that Clinton is attempting to defend his stand on the Gulf War by simply talking around the issue.

A Freedom of Choice bill is now before the House and it may come out next week or the following week. This bill will be enacted in the House and the Senate but vetoed just as certain as Tuesday follows

Monday. The question now is should this bill be moved forward to establish a campaign issue or will it backfire and hurt the Democrats.

August 3, 1992

During the weekend, a number of Republican leaders called upon George Bush to step aside and let someone else run on the Republican ticket for President. This really must be disturbing to President Bush. The polls show him way behind Clinton, but this will change some after the Republican Convention which begins on August 17. Carrying Quayle is quite a task, but it never occurred to me that State Republican Chairmen would ask Bush to step aside after Perot dropped out of the race, which clearly indicates that Bush is vulnerable. With a whole lot of negative campaigning, this should be one of the worst.

August 4, 1992

For a great many years now public figures, and especially those who are presently holding office, are eligible for media attack almost regardless of whether it is true or not. The Supreme Court in a number of decisions has held that libel does not apply unless the story not only is untrue, but maliciously published with the publisher knowing that the story is not true and has no basis for truth whatsoever. In other words, you have to go down to the bitter end before any kind of law suit is successful regardless of the nature of the story in most instances.

In today's Washington Post dated August 4, 1992, on the front page of the Style section, there is a picture of Strom Thurmond, who is a former Governor

of South Carolina and is now a Senator in the United States Senate. He has been in the Senate since about 1955, and the title of the story is -- Thurmond and the Girl From Edgefield. Further with the title is a statement that reads -- Old Stories Have Reemerged About the Senator And His Long-time Tie With a Black Woman. According to the story, Thurmond, from Edgefield, South Carolina, is rumored to have had relations with a black woman, and a daughter was born that the story goes on to say was said to be Strom Thurmond's daughter. That was back during the days prior to Thurmond's term as Governor of South Carolina and while serving as Governor, the story says that the official car of the Governor of South Carolina would pull into the narrow driveway of South Carolina State College, a small all-black school nestled in a dirt-poor farming hamlet, and the car was driven by a state trooper. According to the story, the Governor in the car, who by the way was an arch-segregationist, was visiting this black girl. The woman, according to the story, was named Essie Mae Washington, and she was believed by many on campus and throughout the black community to be Thurmond's daughter. This was denied by the black student and by Thurmond, and according to the story, was never really proven to be true. Regardless of the truth of the story, here we have quite a lengthy article that has brought back an old story that was told many years ago, and one that should be considered libel if not true. Under the rulings by the Supreme Court, the Washington Post was safe in publishing this story and will continue publishing stories such as this, without any fear of losing a law suit for libel.

One thing about Strom Thurmond that I recall is that he started out as a Democrat

and was elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate. He said that he could not uphold the platform of the Democratic Party and that the Party was too liberal for him. He resigned from the Senate and changed his Party affiliation, and then ran for the United States Senate and won. He has been in the Senate since that time and now holds the record for tenure in the present U.S. Senate. Bob Byrd of West Virginia was elected to the House of Representatives prior to the time that Strom Thurmond was elected to the Senate, but as far as seniority in the present Senate, Strom Thurmond holds the record for seniority.

What is taking place in Yugoslavia is almost unbelievable. One or two children were killed in a civil war underway in that country at the present time, and while being buried in a cemetery, mortar fire took place and several were injured at the burial ground. Just to think that during a burial ceremony that those who want to take over the country would wilfully fire into a cemetery is almost unbelievable.

George Bush is really traveling now because after the polls showed he is nearly 30 points behind Clinton, he has decided that he must come back and be a strong contender even before the Republican National Convention which starts on August 17. In Jacksonville, Florida yesterday, certain statements made by the President were disavowed by the White House. The White House said that the attacks on Arkansas Governor Clinton launched by certain Bush supporters in Florida did not meet with the approval of President Bush. This will be a dirty campaign and Bush almost on a daily basis goes after the big spending Democrats and those in the Democratic Party here in Washington who are out

to destroy our government. Running against the Congress will not help George Bush and this is one reason why the Republicans in the House of Representatives are really hysterical about the system that George Bush is using at the present time in his race for reelection.

August 5, 1992

This will be a real unusual year from the standpoint of election of House of Representatives Members. So far, 11 have been defeated in primaries, and some who were defeated really surprised the Members. For instance, yesterday in the Michigan primary, Guy Vander Jagt was defeated in his primary, and for 20 years he has been the Republican Campaign Chairman, raising the money for the Members and one of the best speakers in the House. The total number, including Vander Jagt and Dick Nichols of Kansas, now brings the total list to 15.

We now have some 2500 of our airmen in Kuwait and in the Gulf, performing maneuvers, and they say that within the next few days the number will increase to 5000. Bush, of course, is really searching for something that will bring him up in the polls and bring him back in the race as a contender.

August 7, 1992

Bush is really watching Saddam Hussein's action in Iraq, and especially during the past week when Hussein has again bowed his neck in regard to inspection by the United Nations organization officials. A new Iraqi threat to bar future United Nations inspections of government ministry headquarters immediately brought about an

answer from President Bush who said that we will help guarantee the United Nations access to the buildings if necessary. Searching for something to raise him in the polls, he is really following matters in Iraq, as well as in Yugoslavia. This week the President has changed his position in regard to conditions in Yugoslavia and yesterday denounced the vile policy practiced by the Serbs in the former Yugoslav republics and announced measures to penalize Serbia and deliver humanitarian aid which will be protected by military forces if needed. I do hope that the President is careful now and at least will wait until after the Republican National Convention takes place before he makes any decision.

August 10, 1992

The Olympic Games are now over in Barcelona, Spain. Our Country won 108 medals and this was just four below the number won by the allied states or countries which originally were known as the Soviet Union. We won our share of the gold medals and in fact, did much better than we expected when the games started. The King and Queen of Spain were really nice hosts and as I have said before, he looked some different than the time when he addressed a Joint Session of Congress, but still looks like a King.

The polls released in Texas this weekend were certainly not considered good in the White House. Clinton now leads Bush in Texas by about 18 points and this, along with the other polls that have been released in the last several weeks have really discouraged the Republican leadership. The defeat of Guy VanderJagt in a Republican primary in Michigan has been discussed considerably here in Washington and unless some drastic move is made at the Republican Convention in Texas

beginning next week, this election may be over.

This Administration is still looking around the world for something that will bring Bush back to the days of the Persian Gulf. Over the weekend, Clinton was interviewed as to how he felt about the U.S. taking an active part in Yugoslavia and he almost concurred with Bush's statement that we must be alert and if force is necessary, we must use it. This is exactly what Bush is hoping will take place and concurring with the President did not help Clinton down my way.

August 11, 1992

On the front page of "The Washington Post" today there is a picture taken in Somalia showing starving children and men and women. It is believed in this country that hundreds are dying every day of starvation and in some remote villages sit in their huts alongside the dead that they are too weak to bury. Those who are strong enough to make it to town centers such as Merca, Somalia, go to the relief agencies that provide some emergency food and obtain the allowance permissible. This condition is almost unbelievable around the world and especially in our country where we have all of the food necessary for our people and each time an agriculture bill appears before the Congress, the Administration maintains that too much food is being produced and the American farmer is being subsidized. For years now, we have had famine in different sections of the world and I hope that we are doing our share at the present time to relieve this dreadful condition.

The Republican leaders in the House and Senate are not in agreement by any means as to matters concerning abortion, who is to be Vice President, and whether or not addi.

tional taxes are necessary. We will see what is produced at the Republican Convention and this may go a long way in convincing the people that Bush has a chance to be re-elected.

August 12, 1992

Yesterday was run-off day in the State of Georgia and after Ben Jones, the former television actor lost in the primary, Charles Hatcher, who was serving his sixth term in the House and the Member who gave 819 bad checks, lost in the run-off. A black State Senator beat him in the run-off and it now looks like Georgia will have two or three additional black Members in the House since the run-off. In re-districting Georgia, the plan finally adopted really fixed the sitting Members and two others almost were defeated. For the first several months after Charles Hatcher arrived in Washington, we received his mail from time to time and a story was written about him by George Will, one of the political columnists who traveled into his District. The story that was published said that even though he had almost the top amount in cold checks and had really done nothing in Congress, his people said he was their Congressman and he would be re-elected.

A book has been released this week that details somewhat an extra-marital affair of President George Bush. The New York Post, in a front page story yesterday with Bush's picture and the picture of the lady involved, Jennifer Fitzgerald, reveals that a U.S. envoy set up a Swiss hideaway in 1984 for Vice President Bush and his secretary. This story has been rumored from time to time and started somewhat in his first race for President, but the name of the woman was not used and none of the facts could be verified as to whether or not Bush had an extra-marital affair. Yesterday, at his Maine summer home Bush angrily denied the

affair that was set forth in the New York Post and branded it as a lie.

Clinton, who has also been under attack for a number of extra-marital affairs, is somewhat sympathetic as far as Bush is concerned, and said that he himself recently had to go through such an attack and he felt sorry for Bush. This will be a part of the overall campaign now in November and the lady involved is in the State Department at the present time and she hesitated about answering questions for sometime, but according to late television reports last night, she denied the affair. The unusual thing about the woman involved is she looks enough like Barbara Bush to be almost a sister.

The civil war in Bosnia and Yugoslavia generally is still on the front pages of the newspapers and the United Nations will vote today as to what action the organization will take. A number of people downtown hope that it results in Bush being one of the leaders in the decision making and that U.S. troops could be requested in such a way that Bush would receive some benefit from this event.

We still hear about MIA's here in Washington and there are some people on Capitol Hill who still believe that there are some 30 or 100 still being held prisoner in Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. Henry Kissinger was on one of the late-night television programs last night and he was very angry over certain interpretations the media had given to a list of 80 names he was given at one time, and the question of MIA's continues on. In the Senate, Senator Kerry of Massachusetts is conducting hearings that will continue throughout the balance of this year and he and the Members of the Committee hope to obtain some facts that indicate one way or another as to whether or not there are still MIA's who are being held anywhere in that part of the

We recess today for a month and I will return to Kentucky and travel in my District.

For a number of years now, we have developed a practice of placing a great many bills on the Suspension Calendar. In other words, after 20 minutes of debate on either side, if two-thirds vote in the affirmative, the bill passes. If it fails and a roll call vote is demanded either then or the next day, it still requires two-thirds and as a general rule, most of them fail on a roll call vote. This is a practice that we inherited from Tip O'Neill, the Speaker of the House at one time, and is a hand-down from a great many State legislatures who use this practice to carry out promises to the Members that their pet bill or bills will be considered at some time prior to adjournment. For days now, we have had anywhere from 15 to 41 bills under Suspension and then this is followed by one or two bills that require rules and general debate. One of our Members from Montana, a man by the name of Ron Marlenee, has been objecting vigorously to the number of bills placed on the Suspension Calendar and especially so since a number of them carry authorizations for millions of dollars in appropriations. He has complained to the leaders on his side, which is the Republican side, that over \$1 billion has been authorized in the last 2½ weeks in bills on the Suspension Calendar and that with so much money involved they should be debated like all regular bills and with a roll call vote available if desired. Since I have never missed a vote, I knew that he was mad this week and had asked for Journal votes and other votes that really were not necessary, so last night with some 28 or 29 bills on the Suspension Calendar, I decided I better wait for final adjournment. Just after the last bill under Suspensions was approved, he made a demand for a roll call vote on adjournment. They had to get

Gephardt, the Majority Leader, from home, and the Minority Leader Bob Michel, from his home and bring them in at 9:30 p.m. to beg Marlenee to withdraw his request. Marlenee is a right positive individual and he and Bob Michel, entered into a shouting match and it lasted for several minutes. Finally, Marlenee backed down and withdrew his request. If he had persisted, then the leadership would have been called and the vote would have continued open until a great many Members would have had a chance to cast their vote. On occasions, this has happened and instead of the 15-minute rule under the electronic voting device, such a vote would last for 1 1/2 or 2 hours. After final adjournment, I left and I just had the feeling that this might happen.

August 13, 1992

The Senate Ethics panel, after weeks of deliberation, finally rebuked Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon for accepting some 13 gifts between 1983 and 1988 without reporting the gifts as required by Senate rules. Thousands of dollars were involved and matters concerning free tuition for his son at a South Carolina University, after thousands were secured by Hatfield for the University were a part of the charges against the Senator. This man is a former Governor of Oregon and is serving his 5th term--he was elected January 10, 1967. The gifts ranged from a \$400 compact disc player to \$17,000 for home improvements. Hatfield is 70 years of age and is the ranking Republican on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Hatfield accepted the rebuke and said his "mistakes were many and my omissions were serious." He further said "there is no one but myself to blame and I take all responsibility." He is a man who is supposed to be a very religious man but one that has all down through the

years to my knowledge accepted gifts and has generally violated the ethics code of the Senate. We have always had difficulty with Hatfield in conferences on appropriations bills and on occasions when he was serving as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, he would threaten Members on our side with removal of public works projects from that Member's state unless the Member would agree in the conference on certain matters that Hatfield was concerned about.

President Bush is now back into the abortion controversy and when interviewed this week, questions were asked concerning his daughters and granddaughters decisions in cases of rape, and if an abortion was to be performed. In a general way he said he would stand by his daughter and granddaughter and back them up in their decision, but then when the direct question was asked as to whether he was for abortion or against it, he wavered somewhat. He has vetoed my bill on two occasions over the abortion matter and at the Republican National Convention which convenes in Houston, Texas next week, there will be a number of delegates who maintain that they will be heard on the question of abortion even though the platform which will be adopted is generally anti-abortion.

The President has accepted Israel's request for a \$10 billion housing guarantee proposal and this, to a certain extent, heals wounds that have existed now for well over one year between the President and the Israeli leaders. The new Prime Minister of Israel is still in this country making speeches and he and the President, in a Rose Garden ceremony seemed to remove all doubts as to our friendship with Israel. All down through the years we have supported Israel and Israel has been our true friend in that part of the world.

This week the President also announced that he had entered into an accord with Canada and Mexico in a right sweeping trade pact that would open markets, eliminate barriers and create the world's largest free-trade zone. There is considerable doubt in labor's opinion in this Country that this will prevent moving jobs from our Country into Mexico and this agreement, although it has received considerable publicity, is still right questionable from the standpoint of benefits to be derived by our country. According to the agreement it would bring together some 360 million consumers in a market which would form the world's richest and largest trading block. According to the agreement, it would eliminate tariffs and other trade barriers over five to ten years. Certain tariffs would remain in place, but would change over the years. According to the information we received today on the Hill, the U.S. auto makers would receive certain concessions that would assist them in the sale of American made automobiles. There are certain other agreement highlights but still there will be considerable doubt in the Congress that such an agreement will produce any benefits for our people.

I presume that the President will enter into certain other agreements following the Republican National Convention which will be heralded as real achievements for this Administration in a time when unemployment is 7.8% which is the highest in 8 years.

All of the money in the presidential race this time, to a great extent, will be received and used by the Republicans, and this has been the practice for a number of years now in presidential races. At the same time, the Republican National Committee here in Washington accuses the media of bias against Bush. Even our old friend, Dan Quayle the Vice President, says that the journalists

in this country are pursuing a sleaze policy. His family probably will not like this statement since he is from a newspaper family that owns a number of newspapers in the State of Indiana. While campaigning in California yesterday, Quayle said reporters questioning Bush Tuesday about an alleged extra-marital affair, was motivated by a desire to hurt the President and to help Bill Clinton. In going back to this proposed event, I have my doubts that it actually took place because Bush is not stupid and asking a member of the State Department to arrange a hide-away for he and his secretary just does not make sense to me.

August 14, 1992

The August recess period started yesterday and we return to Washington to finish the Second Session of the 102nd Congress on September 9. In the meantime, the Republicans will have their national convention in Houston, Texas and according to the President the nominees on their side will be George Bush and Dan Quayle. Today is right gloomy as far as the Republicans are concerned because Bush is so far behind in all of the polls that are taken, and to cap the climax, early this morning in London, England, the bookmakers announced that Clinton would be elected President of the United States. They are willing to place their money accordingly.

Jim Baker, the Secretary of State, was named yesterday by President Bush as the Chief of Staff. He will take Sam Skinner's place and this, of course, will be a relief to those in the White House as well as those in the Republican National Committee who are attempting to re-elect Bush. Skinner never has established himself even though as a member

f the cabinet he did a right creditable job. Baker is smart, mean and a wealthy man. He is as hard as nails and believes in winning regardless of the cost. Baker will set up a different organization in the White House with his group consisting of four assistants. All experienced in government and all are right able people. As Chief of Staff his main duties from now on, of course, will be the re-election of George Bush to the Office of President.

When we return in September, we have a lot to do to close out successfully the 102nd Congress. Our Speaker, Tom Foley of the State of Washington, in a newspaper article today entitled "Much Needs to be Done in Final Days of 102nd Congress," listed the major accomplishments and those yet to be accomplished. This story is as follows:

"It has not been one of Congress's better years, and members will be hard-pressed to give their legislative record an applause-winning finale when they return Sept. 8 for one frantic month of preelection lawmaking.

As they fled Washington Wednesday, bound for the Republican National Convention or for home-state politicking, lawmakers could look back on seven of their most frustrating months in memory, dominated by partisan bickering in Congress, surly relations between Congress and the White House, political embarrassments, broken promises, dreams dashed and agendas delayed.

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Words used by House and Senate leaders at a news conference Wednesday to sum up the 102nd Congress's record so far were revealing.

'Productive, constructive and meaningful,' said House Speaker Thomas S. Foley (D-Wash.). There was 'good progress' in some areas, but 'we recognize much needs to be done' in September, said Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell (D-Maine).

The leaders' summary pointed to five major accomplishments, all but one of which were put in place last year; highway, civil rights, veterans and unemployment benefits legislation.

All that could be claimed so far this year were a higher education bill and a third extension of jobless benefits.

Most of a dozen other major bills on the leaders' list, on subjects ranging from abortion to urban aid, are under threat of a veto, a Republican filibuster in the Senate, some other hitch in Congress or have already been vetoed, with the vetoes sustained on Capitol Hill.

In the past, including the 100th and 101st Congresses, solid accomplishments came in the last few weeks before adjournment as months of legislative struggle finally bore results. But this year most of the Democrats' major initiatives are on the president's veto list, and the stepped-up pace of presidential and congressional campaigns this fall is not expected to ease the partisan tensions.

On the plus side, the leaders noted that appropriations bills are on track for completion by the start of the new fiscal year Oct. 1, which is when they are supposed to be passed and signed by the president.

They are \$12.5 billion under President Bush's request, at least so far, and rescissions (cancellation of previous spending authority) are exceeding Bush's requests by \$8.2 billion, the Hill leaders claimed.

Here is a rundown of the progress of legislation through the second session of this Congress and the outlook for enactment before it adjourns, presumably in early October:

Higher Education - Congress last month passed and Bush signed a \$100 billion, five-year extension of higher education loans and grants that makes more aid available to middle-income students.

Elementary and secondary education - The House and Senate have passed legislation aimed at spurring improvements in the nation's public schools, but the bill, headed for a House-Senate conference, faces a veto because it does not allow federal aid to students in private schools.

Tax relief and urban aid - Emergency aid to cities, prompted by the Los Angeles riots, was approved by Congress and Bush. A longer-term aid plan, including tax relief to prompt development in depressed 'enterprise zones,' has been broadened to include a wide array of tax breaks; some sought by Bush and some by the Democrats. But a veto has been threatened, in part because of the Senate's refusal to include a capital gains tax cut in the package.

Unemployment benefits - Congress approved and Bush signed the third extension of jobless benefits since the recession began, including permanent changes in the program so further extensions will not be necessary.

Energy - Legislation intended to make the nation less dependent on foreign oil has been passed by both houses, and a conference must work out some contentious differences. This is one major bill that may escape a veto.

Abortion - Legislation to enact abortion rights guarantees was held up by Senate and House leaders because of fears that some restrictions, such as parental notification in the case of abortions for teenagers, would be approved. In any case, the bill is threatened with a veto. A veto also threatens legislation to life restrictions on abortion counseling at federally funded family planning clinics; Congress lacks the votes to override.

Family leave - The House is prepared to approve next month and send to the White House a Senate-passed bill to require employers to give workers up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for newborn infants or seriously ill family members. Bush has threatened a veto of any such government-mandated benefits.

Health Care - Proposals to overhaul and cut cost of the nation's health care system

are not expected to come to a head until next year, although some action may be possible this year on incremental steps such changes in medical malpractice laws.

Crime - Anticrime legislation, including a proposed week-long waiting period for purchase of a handgun, was approved by both houses last year, but a conference agreement remains bogged down in the Senate, where filibustering Republicans contend it is not sufficiently tough on criminals.

Campaign finance reform - Legislation authorizing taxpayer-financed subsidies and other incentives to encourage congressional candidates to comply with voluntary campaign spending limits was passed and vetoed by Bush. The veto was sustained by Congress.

Saving and loans - The House has balked at approving even a scaled-back version of Senate-passed legislation to replenish the Resolution Trust Corp.'s thrift cleanup funds, which ran out April 1. The administration estimates that losses total \$6 million a day from S&Ls that are failing but remain open. Action this year is questionable.

Cable TV - Both houses have passed bills authorizing some regulation of cable television rates and services, and Bush has indicated he will veto the legislation that is expected to come out of House-Senate conference.

Balanced-budget amendment - Both House and Senate fell short of the two-thirds vote necessary to enact a constitutional amendment aimed at balancing the federal budget-now totaling nearly \$400 billion in deficit annually-over the next five years.

Voter registration - Congress approved but Bush vetoed legislation that would have made it easier to vote by allowing people to register when they apply for driver's licenses or for unemployment, welfare or other benefits.

Social Security - The House and the Senate Finance Committee have approved legislation to raise the current \$10,200 limit on earnings before Social Security recipients begin to lose benefits, but the measure is bogged down over such issues as how to pay for it and whether to repeal the limit instead of raising it.

Defense - Legislation that includes a post-Cold War military conversion program and a nuclear testing moratorium has bogged down in the Senate in a dispute over whether to scale back the 'Star Wars' antimissile program in what appears to be a rebellion against expensive weaponry designed to fight the now-defunct Soviet Union.

Aid to Russia - Both chambers have approved wide-ranging packages of aid to Russia and other former Soviet republics, including a \$12 billion increase in the U.S. commitment to the International Monetary Fund for all its activities, although differences remain to be ironed out. Bush sought the legislation.

China - The House has approved legislation, now pending before the Senate, to restrict trade benefits (most-favored nation status) that Bush has approved for China. Bush has vowed to veto the legislation, which would condition aid on human rights and other reforms. Previous Bush vetoes of China MFN bills have been sustained.

Trade - The North American Free Trade Agreement negotiated by the United States, Canada

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and Mexico to reduce trade barriers among the three countries will not come up for ratification until next year, although battle lines are already being drawn. The House has approved legislation aimed at opening Japanese markets to autos and other American exports; its fate in the Senate is unclear, and Bush has threatened a veto.

Reform of Congress - Both chambers have approved resolutions creating a bipartisan, bicameral commission to make recommendations on how to improve Congress's operations, with a report due by December 1993.

Appropriations - The House has approved all 13 appropriations bills for the year beginning Oct. 1; the Senate has approved seven. The agriculture spending bill has been sent to Bush. Several others contain items that have drawn veto threats."

As the above story shows, all thirteen of the Appropriations Bills are now in the Senate and the Senate is simply dragging their feet because a Continuing Resolution is always too attractive for that body. They would like to place over half of our bills under a Continuing Resolution so that they can get their pet projects all in the Continuing Resolution and this is the way to not only protect them, but succeed in bringing them about because if the Continuing Resolution is vetoed, the Government stops. None of these bills

should be placed under a Continuing Resolution and just for a change the leaders of the Appropriations Committee in the House and Senate should use good judgment and work together to end this Congress properly.

As we close out the Second Session of the 102nd Congress we still have all kinds of trouble around the world. Great Britain seems to be somewhat better, not only from the standpoint of the operation of their government, but also from the standpoint of their economy. Starvation continues throughout a number of countries in Africa and fighting continues in the Middle East and in Yugoslavia. The Soviet Union as it was at one time, with 13 independent states and Russia, is now in turmoil,--economically, and especially from the standpoint of not producing enough food for their own people. Keeping up with the United States in a cold war over a period of 12 years was simply too much for the Soviet Union and the leadership in that country is somewhat different from the days of Stalin. Of course, millions of people were murdered under the days of Stalin, but the Communist Party was in complete control and Stalin was the dictator who was able to keep his country together.

I do not recall at any time during my lifetime that we have not had one or more wars underway around the world and this especially applies to some of the Middle East countries where fighting has continued for well over 100 years. One of these days military weapons and fighting will be set aside and education will be supported considerably more than it is at the present time and the social lives of the people will change.

I go down home tonight and travel in my District and I look forward to going.

August 20, 1992

The Republican National Convention is underway in Houston, Texas at this time. Of course, George Bush will be nominated again for the Office of President and he has refused to permit anyone to make a move to take Dan Quayle off of the ticket as Vice President. Quayle, of course, has been a dead weight proposition for Bush ever since he was elected four years ago.

The keynote speaker this time at their convention was Senator Phil Gramm of Texas. He is a right controversial figure. He served with us in the House first as a Democrat and then he changed his party affiliation to Republican and was elected the next time around. After serving some three or four terms in the House, he was then elected to the Senate and along with Lloyd Bentsen, represents the State of Texas.

Last night Barbara Bush, together with the other 21 members of her family, including the President, appeared on the podium and after she made a real nice talk concerning family matters and the importance of the family being held together, one of her grandsons made a short speech. Every move is being made to attract attention to this convention since apparently very few people in the country are watching the convention on television. The percentage that watched the Democrat convention in New York was the lowest in the last 12 years which clearly shows that the people are just not concerned about either party or either candidate at this time. Unless something else takes place at the Republican National Convention before they adjourn on Saturday of this week, Bush will still be behind in the polls and he may never catch up.

We still have our problems around the world and the situation in former Yugoslavia is no better. They are watching carefully in Washington about the situation in Iraq and along with these problems, we still have the serious problem of starvation in Somalia.

September 8, 1992

During the recess period which extended from August 14 to September 9, I traveled in my district and had a real good time. In our section of Kentucky, the people are not for President Bush and they are not convinced that Governor Clinton can rule this country. Both candidates are now hollering at each other, with Bush using as his main point the fact that Clinton avoided the draft and with pressure, avoided Vietnam. Clinton is hollering almost by the hour that the media should now investigate Bush because if they do, they will find that he played a major part in the Iran-Contra affair. This campaign will be reaching a low ebb long before November 3 and both candidates are really struggling.

Senator Quentin Burdick of North Dakota died during this recess period and he, for a number of years now, has been in very poor health. Really unable to handle his Subcommittee on Agriculture Appropriations, we all still liked him and felt sorry for him during the past number of years when he obviously could not handle his duties as a senator.

Former President Nixon says that this will be a strongly contested presidential race and he believes Bush will come up in the polls to the extent that it will be close on election day.

Our bridge that we are building across the Ohio River at Owenboro is coming along now in good shape and will produce many benefits for our section of the state. This bridge, along with our five reservoirs, water districts throughout our counties and our many sewer and water projects have produced benefits for our people.

All of my family is descending upon Washington this week and will be present at the groundbreaking ceremony for the William H. Natcher Building at the National Institutes of Health. These three 7-story structures, connected by a center section of a story and a half, will house over 3,500 people and will cost \$175 million. This will be a fun week for all of my family and for me and one that I am exceedingly proud of and will long remember.

September 11, 1992

Today we held the groundbreaking ceremony at the National Institutes of Health for the William H. Natcher Building. This \$175 million building will start under construction on Monday. We have been talking about this building for over 20 years and finally it was agreed that it should be constructed. As I have previously said, the Senate in my bill when it was marked up on their side, placed a provision in the bill that this building should be named for me and during the ceremony, the plaque which will go into the building was unveiled and it is really beautiful. On this plaque, at the top are the words "William H. Natcher Building" and a short statement about me and my service in the Congress. Next is the President's name, followed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Louis Sullivan. Next is the name of Dr. James O. Mason, the undersecretary for Public Health and then we have Dr. Bernadine Healy, the Director of the National

Institutes of Health. The next name on the plaque is that of the architectural firm that was selected to prepare the plans. This competition was right terrific with some 20 firms competing.

According to the Census Bureau which is now issuing certificates apparently to Members of Congress, there were 87,343,600 people in the United States of America on September 11, 1909, the date of my birth. This is quite a change from the present number which is in the neighborhood of 254 million.

All of my family is here today, including my two daughters, six grandsons, one granddaughter, granddaughter-in-law, great granddaughter, son-in-law, and my nephew, Doug Keardon and his two children. We will have a nice birthday party tonight and this weekend will be really nice with all of my family with me to help me celebrate this occasion.

September 15, 1992

This week the newspapers here in Washington carried a story concerning the acceptance by Justice Scalia of the sum of \$2500 to speak in Kentucky, with the speech being sponsored by the Kentucky Bar Association and the University of Kentucky Law School. Scalia agreed to the fee while a case involving the Kentucky Bar Association was pending before the Court, with Scalia along with two other Justices voting in favor of the Kentucky Bar Association. In his 1988 financial disclosure report, Scalia failed to identify the Bar group as a source of the fee. He listed the other sponsor, the law school, as the source of the \$2500. Now upon being questioned, Justice Scalia said he understood the honorarium and expenses were to be paid by the University of Kentucky and not the Kentucky Bar Association.

The June 25, 1987 invitation to Scalia offering the honorarium came from the heads of both organizations and Scalia's acceptance five days later was addressed to both.

September 16, 1992

Two of our Members died this week. Ted Weiss of New York served with us for a number of years and has been under the weather for sometime passed on. He was an ultra-ultra liberal, but a very sincere member.

Our old friend, Walter Jones of North Carolina, the Chairman of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee has been in a wheelchair for some three years now and he passed on this week. Everyone liked Walter Jones and he really suffered before he died.

The bulldozers are out at the National Institutes of Health this morning turning the soil for the construction of the new William H. Natcher Building. The Owensboro "Messenger-Inquirer" carried an editorial as follows:

"Naming Building for Natcher
Appropriate"

Who better than Bill
Natcher is the namesake for
a new building for the National
Institutes of Health?

Well, no one. And that's
why, when ground was broken
Friday for a \$176,000,000 office
and conference complex in
Bethesda, Maryland, the man
of the hour was the esteemed
Congressman from Kentucky's
Second District. And it's
why the complex will be
known simply and appropriately

as the William H. Natcher Building.

It's a fitting tribute to a man who's so staunchly committed to improving the health of Americans, and who's support for NIH and its 13 national research institutes over the years has been unfailing. The two commitments are strongly related for the research funded and conducted by NIH into health problems like cancer and heart disease have saved an untold number of lives and prevented immeasurable grief.

That research continues-- much of it through NIH grants-- thanks to the agency's \$9 billion annual budget. And part of the credit for that goes to Natcher, who has served as chairman of the House Health, Labor, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee for more than a decade. He's got a simple way of justifying those dollars, as he expressed Friday to the hundreds of well-wishers who attended the groundbreaking ceremony:

'If you take care of the health of your people, and continue educating your children' Natcher said, 'you live in the strongest country in the world.'

Logic like that has earned Natcher universal respect in Washington, and endeared him

to colleagues and constituents alike. His popularity also extends to NIH, where a plaque at the Natcher Building site speaks of the Congressman's 'Unmatched integrity and commitment,' and notes that the 'legacy of his enlightened guidance and advocacy is a healthier nation.'

Of course, both attributes have long been known in the Second District where Natcher's integrity, honesty, and ability to put the public needs above his own political agenda have insured his re-election for nearly four decades. They've also earned him the honor of getting his name on another multi-million dollar project, this one much closer to home; the William H. Natcher Bridge. And like the NIH office complex, the bridge couldn't have a more honorable namesake."

September 17, 1992

This morning at 9 a.m. another ceremony was held at the National Institutes of Health. This time, our old friend, Silvio O. Conte who died several months ago, was honored when the children's building was designated as the Silvio O. Conte Building. He honestly worked for months, and months on this project long before we started appropriating the money for it and this honor, even though it comes late, was well deserved. I should have been present, but the House was called into session at 8:30 a.m. this morning and the ceremony was to start at 9 a.m. They wanted me to come out and make a speech for our old friend, but, if I had, I would have

missed the first vote. This ceremony was somewhat different from the one we had with the William R. Natcher Building groundbreaking on Friday. We had well over 1,000 people and this morning there were just a little over 100. The timing was bad and other matters entered the picture which made the crowd very, very small.

September 13, 1992

This week we reduced each one of the thirteen appropriation bills that provide for funding for the fiscal year 1993 in order to have the bills sent down to the White House one by one for the approval of the President. Several days ago he said he would veto any one appropriations bill that exceeded his budget requests and this meant that some six of the bills which were just a little over his request would be vetoed if he carried out his threat. Instead of having a Continuing Resolution which provides for the funding at the previous fiscal year level, we decided that it would be best to reduce the bills accordingly and hope that the President will sign each of the bills as they arrive at the White House. In the bill that I am Chairman of, the reduction is \$124 billion under the amount contained in our bill when we passed it in the House. The Senate allocation for our bill was \$377 billion under us and this simply meant that we would have to come down accordingly so the \$124 million reduction did not come as a great surprise. In signing the Agriculture Appropriations bill, which was \$700 million over the President's budget he, of course, did not carry out his threat to veto that one. Now, they say that he had changed his mind after signing the agriculture bill and that vetoes would follow.

The polls that they take at this time concerning the President and the Congress

place the President considerably higher than the Congress in the esteem of the people. We go down in a great many polls to 17 and 20% which, of course, is not good.

The 12% increase in interest rates in Great Britain to back up the British pound has really caused an uproar around the world. Japan and Germany reacted immediately so this weekend there is a conference being held in Washington by the leaders of those who fix interest rates for the different countries.

After the hurricanes in Florida, Louisiana, and Guam, of course, we had the one on one of the Hawaiian Islands and this has increased the amount of our Supplemental considerably. The Supplemental will come before the House today and will be strongly contested, and especially the Mile.

September 21, 1992

Conditions in Somalia are no better and thousands of people are dying every week from starvation. Our country and several others are flying food and medical supplies in and now we have to have the United Nations forces present to make sure the food actually is received by those starving. The world leaders and those that are seeking to rule in Somalia are taking the food supplies by force from those in need and making them suffer every day.

We are making moves now to adjourn by October 5 and this may take place since the Majority Leader in the Senate, George Mitchell has said he intends to leave Washington on October 5. One or two of the Senators want to force Bush to veto several of the appropriation bills, maintaining this will help in the presidential race. I do not agree

with this strategy and especially with the bill that I am Chairman of when Senatorarkin of Iowa, the Chairman on the other side is insisting that the words "rape and incest" be added to the abortion provision knowing that the President will veto the bill. which he did two years ago and still believe that this is a good political issue. We should pass all of the bills at the reduced figures that we agreed upon last week and adjourn this Congress.

We have a "Congress Daily" sheet that is published by the National Journal and the article on Friday, September 18 is entitled "Whitten Not Expected to Chair Spending Panel Next Year." The article is as follows:

"House Appropriations Chairman Whitten, who has been ailing since February, will not be re-elected by fellow Democrats as chairman of the powerful panel if he is returned to the House in November, two key House sources said today. Instead, the chairmanship will go to Rep. William Natcher, D-Ky. sources said. Under strong pressure from Democratic colleagues, Whitten earlier this year relinquished most of his duties to Natcher. However, Whitten, 82 retained the title of chairman. Despite his illness and apparent slow recovery from what has been widely reported to have been a stroke, Whitten--first elected in 1941 and Appropriations chairman since 1979--is a candidate for re-election from his northern Mississippi district.

Appropriations sub-committee chairmen discussed the chairmanship subject as recently as Thursday, according to a key House Appropriations source. 'We have it worked out-- not with him-- [but] all of us agree that Natcher 'll take over' in the next Congress, the source said. The source said there is no disagreement among key players about the decision to change chairmen next year. 'That goes for the whole [Appropriations] committee and the [House Democratic] leadership,' said the source, adding that Whitten will be ousted as chairman 'unless [his health] improves dramatically.' If he returns next year, Whitten will have a 'different status' than chairman, the source said.

A separate House source familiar with the decision confirmed Whitten will be out and Natcher will be in. This source said Whitten would be 'strongly advised' by House leaders not to seek another term as chairman if he is re-elected. When Whitten was asked this afternoon if he would seek to retain his chairmanship if re-elected, he replied, 'Certainly.' Told that it appeared a decision had already been made that Natcher would become chairman, Whitten contended, 'That's news to me.'

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Jamie Whitten has been my friend for 39 years and even though I would like to be Chairman since I have been on the Committee now for 38 years, I certainly do not want the Chairmanship by virtue of the condition of his health. I do hope that his family and some of his close advisors in Mississippi talk with him long before we have the election of Chairmen for the 103rd Congress.

September 22, 1992

From time to time, we hear cute stories and some right unusual. This is a true story. There is a lady, 106 years of age, who lives in a small community in Shelby County, Kentucky and one day about a month ago she went to the mortician to discuss arrangements for her funeral. She said to the mortician that she had attended a great many funerals in her time and that she loved beautiful flowers, and always loved to hear the sermons that the preachers preached at the funeral service. She said the singing was always excellent and she just felt good for days afterwards when she attended a real nicely conducted funeral. She then inquired of the mortician if it was possible to contract for her funeral then and have it conducted so she could be present and hear the sermon, see the flowers, and listen to the singing. The mortician said he would have to check with the local authorities who might in turn have to check with the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to see if it would be possible to conduct the funeral from the time of the funeral service on to the cemetery where there would be an open grave for a casket to be lowered and the grave to be covered. It seems that before too many inquiries were made, the daughters of the little lady convinced her that it would not be the thing to do, but she is still

alive and still wants to hear her funeral sermon preached and see the flowers and hear the beautiful songs while she is still living.

We are now in the process of trying to wind up all of our appropriations bills and adjourn by October 5. We will have to have a Continuing Resolution which will extend for only two or three days since the fiscal year ends September 30, 1992. The President will sign a Continuing Resolution for just a few days duration, but will not sign one, he said that goes into next year. The only appropriations bill that we really have out of the thirteen that may cause us trouble is the Legislative Appropriations. Regardless of how many corrections are made in the conference or how much it is reduced they tell me that the White House is urging the President to veto it and to continue his fight against the Congress. They say this is the only way downtown that they believe he can win.

September 23, 1992

We have a number of bills now pending before the Congress that may be vetoed before we finally adjourn. One is a cable rate curb bill which passed in the Senate yesterday on a vote of 74 to 25. This vote is large enough to override a veto, but the vote in the House on the bill was not sufficient. The House vote was 280 to 128. The 280 figure will not be sufficient because we had a great many absentees. In addition to this legislation we have a number of provisions that have been added to the thirteen appropriation bills that the White House is bitterly opposed to and unless they come out in conference, a number of our bills will be vetoed. We believe now that the President will pick the Legislative Appropriations Bill to veto even

though it only applies to the Legislative Branch of the Government. His White House portion of the budget is not in the Legislative Appropriations Bill. It comes in the Treasury, Postal Service Bill. The President and Clinton in their campaigns for President have been traveling and with considerable rhetoric criticized the Congress maintaining that the number of staff and salaries of Members and Committees is way too high. We have new Members that will be elected on the Democrat side who have pledged during their campaigns that they will be in favor of legislation cutting back the number of staff, the salaries of staff, and also the salaries of the Members of Congress.

President Bush is still rejecting Clinton's requests for debates during the presidential race. If the President succeeds in having no debates with Clinton, he will be much better off.

Our old friend Henry Kissinger is back in the news at this time. He was on Capitol Hill yesterday and maintains that allegations to the effect that the U.S. may have knowingly left some U.S. prisoners of war alive in Laos or Vietnam in 1973 when the U.S. withdrew from the war is a deliberate lie. In a right tense and passionate exchange with the Senate panel, Kissinger indicated that any charge that Nixon administration officials knew of the prisoners must have come from officials who were misinformed and the facts were just not true. I distinctly recall that when Nixon sent Kissinger around the world to help bring the war in Vietnam to a close, commitments were made that finally cost us \$10 billion and a certain portion of this amount sent through to North Vietnam.

September 24, 1992

Our chances of adjourning, sine die, on October 5, are not as good today as they were yesterday. With the presidential race underway and each candidate making all kinds of statements against his opponent, we now hear today that the President has definitely decided that he will veto the Legislative Appropriations Bill when it comes to the White House since it contains the salaries of all of the Members of the Congress, the staff, and everyone that works on Capitol Hill. I was further advised that Senator Byrd of West Virginia is holding the Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill hostage maintaining that it will not be called up in the Senate until the White House agrees to sign all of the appropriations bills and especially the one for Transportation which contains a great number of West Virginia projects that the Senator placed in the bill.

Caspar Weinberger, the former Secretary of Defense and also of Health, Education and Welfare, is under indictment at this time and is the Cabinet officer who was definitely opposed to making any deal with Iran in the Contra matter and whose advice was not accepted, was the honored guest at a fundraiser last night to help him pay his attorneys. The attorneys' fees in this case will go into the hundreds of thousands of dollars and probably will be considerably more than \$2 million before the case is over. George Bush, of course, knew all about the Iran-Contra affair and so did Ronald Reagan. At all times Weinberger was saying to them don't participate and do not get into this matter. His testimony before the committees of the Congress was under oath and definitely to the extent that neither Bush nor Reagan knew anything about the deals that were being made insofar as the hostages were concerned and now he is the scapegoat up on the cross. A great

many people in this city that are concerned about the Republican Party believe that Weinberger has really been shafted. Weinberger is not in the best of health at this time and on television looks right pitiful. I always liked Caspar Weinberger because when he appeared before the Subcommittee that I am Chairman of, he always made a good witness and answered your questions.

September 28, 1992

In today's issue, the newspaper "USA TODAY" which publishes two million copies a day and is sold all over the United States, the high and low spenders in the House of Representatives are disclosed. This will be a series of articles this week in the newspaper and on the front page appears a picture of the high spender who is Vic Fazio of California, and his amount is \$945,292. Also on the front page is my picture and I am the lowest of the House spenders with the amount that was spent for the operation of my office being \$253,896. Notwithstanding the fact that I will be kidded somewhat by the other Members for the next several days about us receiving food stamps in our office, I can take it and I am proud of the fact that I do not have and do not need press aides, legislative assistants, office managers, and an A.A. When they interviewed me for this story, I said to the photographer who was sent up that I wanted the photograph to include the six ladies in my office along with my picture because they do all the work, and I take all the credit. It is a beautiful photograph with all of us sitting at the desk in the big office and I really appreciate the newspaper using this photograph. The newspaper today also carries the pictures of the top ten spenders with Vic Fazio leading the list. The next spender to Fazio

s Jon Kyl of Arizona who spent \$932,207, then on down the list with Bilirakis of Florida, Lantos of California, Unsoeld of Washington, Geren of Texas, Cox of California Young of Alaska, Wilson of Texas, and Martin Frost, also from Texas. That portion of the story pertaining to me and our office is entitled "Life on a House shoestring." Next to the story is the picture of me, along with my six ladies. This part of the story is as follows:

"Rep. William Natcher runs the House's cheapest office.

The Kentucky Democrat doesn't have a press secretary, legislative assistant, or an administrative assistant.

In fact, although he's entitled to have 18 full-time employees on his staff, he only has six in Washington and three in his district. 'There is no reason at all to spend money on 18 people in this office..I don't need them,' says Natcher, 83.

He does have one computer and a copier, but no fax.

A USA TODAY/Gannett News Service analysis of House spending found that Natcher spent \$253,896 on staff, office expenses and mail in 1991. Average House office cost: \$734,800.

He spent just 30% of his allocation last year, compared to The House average of 83%

Natcher came to Congress in 1953--before cable television, satellite feeds, televised House sessions or electronic mail--to represent a largely rural district in Western Kentucky.

Now fourth in House seniority, Natcher is acting chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which holds the purse strings on federal spending. He has a committee-paid assistant to handle committee work.

'I come here in the morning, I go to work' says Natcher. 'I receive letters from all 50 states. We answer our mail.'

Once a year, Natcher issues a one-page press release listing his accomplishments: he's never missed a vote or quorum call (a record 17,669).

At least one critic describes Natcher's style as inefficient.

'He does not deliver for this community,' says Martin Tori, a Republican who twice lost to Natcher. . . Tori charges Natcher hasn't been able to protect Fort Knox, a major employer in his district, from losing military and civilian jobs.

Stan Reagan, editorial page editor at the Bowling Green Daily News, is not as harsh. 'He has brought his share of projects to the district. People in the district seem to be satisfied with what they're getting.'

Also in today's USA TODAY there is an editorial entitled "Your Tax Dollars Flow to Keep Congress Spending." This editorial is as follows:

"To begin changing the way the House spends money on itself, start howling.

This week, you'll be reading 'Capitol Cash,' a series based on an unprecedented nine-month USA TODAY/Gannett News Service computer study of the money the House of Representatives spent to keep itself going in 1991.

Buried in the numbers is a collection of troubling spending habits. None of them is criminal. But they also aren't what most people have in mind when they think of 'public service.'

Congressmen duck spending restrictions by using tax money to join groups that act virtually without scrutiny.

They use public dollars to support two printing firms, complete with free rent and House health and retirement plans.

They spend millions on tax-funded direct-mail operations to help get themselves re-elected.

Most people running for office probably imagine that

they will get to Washington and change all this. Instead, too many of them are changed by it.

One culprit is the constant worry about raising money for re-election. That alone can start fuzzing the line between what's self-serving and what serves constituents. Another negative force is the way things have been done for so long by so many. After a few years in Washington, what once felt a little slimy can begin to feel quite acceptable.

Old habits are hard to change. Change will come only when taxpayers demand that congressmen live up to the ideals they had when they ran for office."

September 29, 1992

The USA TODAY continues somewhat with the \$700 million Congress story. Today's story goes on to state that the taxpayers foot the bill, but oversight is extremely rare. The different Caucuses and the amounts expended is a part of today's story and the Congress will be discussed again each day this week. The reaction around the country was not good and some of the comments by taxpayers who were contacted clearly indicates that the amounts to be spent should be reduced considerably and that Congress should take care of its

own spending and not try to spend this Country into bankruptcy.

Perot is back on the scene and is on the verge of re-entering the presidential race. If he enters, I do not believe it will hurt either candidate too much but probably help Bush who will lose the disgruntled vote with the vote going to Perot instead of Clinton.

I hope that all of our appropriations bills go down to the White House this week so that we can adjourn on either Sunday or Monday. Up to this time, the President has only signed one bill and that is Agriculture Appropriations. The bills that are now on his desk after the conferences have been held and approved by both bodies are the Energy and Water Development bill, the District of Columbia, Military Construction, and Veterans and HUD. The President will veto the D.C. bill this week because it carries an abortion amendment that he is vehemently against. Conferences that have been completed and are now pending action in the House are the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Bill, Interior bill, Transportation bill, and Treasury, Postal Service bill. The bills that are now in conference are Defense Appropriations, and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Two bills that have not cleared in the Senate are the Foreign Operations and Legislative Branch bills. We believe on our side that if the President vetoes any of the other bills other than the District of Columbia, it will probably be the Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill.

October 1, 1992

The Leadership will have a very difficult time in thinking of some reason to keep us here after Monday of next week.

Nine of our appropriations bills are either on the President's desk or on the way down to the White House for his signature. This leaves us only Defense Appropriations, Labor, Health & Human Services and Education Appropriations, Foreign Aid Appropriations, and Legislative Appropriations. Defense is in conference now and will be completed by midnight tomorrow. We finished the one that I am Chairman of-- Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education Appropriations at midnight last night. Foreign aid is now on the Senate floor for final passage and will go to conference within a couple of days. This leaves only the Legislative Appropriations Bill which will probably have to go under a Continuing Resolution.

There is a little rumor circulating this afternoon that instead of adjourning sine die, we may have to have a pro forma session arrangement up until about the middle of November. This is to take care of any pocket vetoes that might take place.

A bi-partisan panel was organized several months ago and has as its sole purpose here on Capitol Hill the assignment to produce a plan to bring the deficit down and keep it down. A number of outstanding Senators and House Members serve on this new panel and one suggestion that was made early and one that is very valid is that all entitlement programs must be looked at and all placed in a bill for cancellation. Then, those that should remain under an entitlement structure could be re-authorized but in order to control and bring about a system where entitlement no longer consumes three-fourths of the money in the budget, elimination of a great many is very much in order. In order to examine all of the entitlement programs, Medicare, Medicaid and others would have to be considered and

this, of course, would be treacherous territory, but territory that must be covered if we ever are to succeed in bringing down the deficit and controlling the national debt. It is absolutely imperative that income and outgo equal and the only way to do it is to do it through the entitlement programs and with all legislation appropriating money carrying a sunset provision with an expiration date of no longer than five years. If good, the legislation could be reauthorized and at that time an additional look at the amounts involved.

President Bush and Governor Clinton have just about agreed that debates will take place during this campaign and both sides are now attempting to arrange and agree upon a method of holding the debates and the number to be held. So far, Bush has failed to come up in the polls and if the election were held today, Clinton would win without any question.

October 2, 1992

Ross Perot is now back in the presidential race and he said that his decision in July to step out was a mistake. I do not know just who he will hurt, but I know that he will never be elected President.

We are now down to four of our appropriations bills--Defense, Labor, Health & Human Services and Education, Legislative, and Foreign Aid. We know that we will be in session on Monday and in order to prevent the President from picking out just one appropriations bill for a veto, we will take Foreign Aid and Legislative and tie them together so that if he vetoes one, he has to veto the other and here is where he wants to have a veto, on the Legislative Appropriations Bill.

We are playing games like we do on many occasions just before we adjourn, sine die.

Advisers to President Bush and Governor Bill Clinton agreed in principle yesterday to a series of three presidential debates and one vice presidential debate beginning October 11 and ending October 19. The two sides agreed to one debate with a single moderator, the format requested by Arkansas Governor Clinton, and another with a panel of reporters as preferred by Bush.

October 3, 1992

After one minute speeches today, the Speaker permitted me to call up my conference report. Everyone in the House helped me and we had no serious problems. On a final roll call vote, which I requested, the vote was 363 to 47. Only one Democrat in the House voted against my conference report and this Democrat was Charlie Bennett of Florida. Bennett at one time had a right good voting record in the House and since I went into the Guinness Book of World Records he has voted against my bill every time. Personally, I always like Charlie Bennett. He is physically handicapped because of polio, and at times is right arbitrary, but I have been able to get along with him to a certain extent. The Florida delegation, when they found out that he was the only Democrat who voted against the conference report, surrounded him and urged that he change his vote. He refused and this did not surprise me because he voted against the bill on final passage and his vote against the conference report was just being consistent according to his way of thinking.

Reports from the Department of Labor concerning unemployment and the number of unemployed in this country continue to get worse every day. The unemployment rate dipped just slightly, but it is still over 7.5 percent, and when you consider those who no longer are eligible for unemployment benefits, the rate in this country is almost 9 percent.

We are in the process of adjourning the Second Session of the 102nd Congress, and we will again meet late tonight and come in on Sunday at 2 p.m. We should be able to adjourn sine die on Monday, but with a number of promises made concerning adjournment, it probably will be Tuesday of next week before we adjourn this session.

October 4, 1992

We are now in the process of going around the clock, hoping to adjourn sometime late tomorrow. All of our appropriation bills will be on the President's desk before we leave here and this speaks well for our Committee. He may veto one and this will probably be Legislative or it could be Foreign Aid. The veto would be only for the purpose of gaining political publicity in his race for President and certainly at this time he needs a boost from some source because he is down in all of the polls and clearly shows it in his facial expressions when he is speaking all around the country.

This morning I turned on my television and listened to a portion of "Meet the Press." The main questions to Danman, the director of OMB pertained to the deficit and how to bring it down. He, of course, said reduce federal spending and put all the entitlement programs on the table and eliminate every one that is possible to eliminate. We know

about the entitlements and when you say that Medicare, Medicaid and others have to go up on the table, then the people start yelling, but this will be the only way to start the deficit down and ever bring about a balance as far as income and expenditures are concerned.

The situation in Yugoslavia is still critical and what they are doing to their own people is absolutely unbelievable. The first civil war to my knowledge of the Twentieth Century from the standpoint of turning on their own people and then you turn the page in all the newspapers and there are the pitiful pictures of the children in Somalia that are starving to death every day.

October 5, 1992

We started this 102nd Congress with several major votes and probably the most important was the Persian Gulf War vote. After the wars conclusion, the Democrats in the House Leadership invited the President to address the Congress and authorized Gold Medals for General Norman Schwarzkopf and General Colin Powell for their exemplary performance during the war.

During this Congress we passed the Civil Rights Act of 1991 which insures workplace fairness for every American and the overwhelming vote in the House was 273 to 153.

Each year of this Congress we had the Budget Resolution and we succeeded in living with the overall figure set by the Budget Committee. With the assistance of almost everyone in the House, acting for my Chairman, I succeeded in passing all thirteen appropriations bills by the last day of July. This is the first time in 20 years

that this has taken place.

We passed a drought relief bill which was of great assistance to California and several other of our western states. In addition, the Brady handgun control bill was up and it failed by just a few votes.

All during both sessions of this Congress, we had a number of unemployment compensation bills since unemployment is the highest since 1979. During this Congress, we had Most Favored Nation status for China before the House on several occasions and a balanced budget act which failed by just a few votes. The balanced budget act would have passed if the provision concerning a three-fifths vote to take it out of balance had been deleted.

Another bill that attracted considerable attention both years was the Family and Medical Leave Act which finally passed in the House and the Senate and the President vetoed the bill. We failed to override.

We passed another bill concerning the Early Childhood Education and Development Act.

From time to time during the two years we had legislation concerning small business, along with a Clean Air Act Amendment bill.

These are some of the major bills before the 102nd Congress and before we adjourn sine die we may have several more.

I have just returned from the House Chamber where the Rule and the Conference Report on the Department of Defense Appropriation Bill was accepted. Several days ago, the Energy and Water Development Bill was brought to the floor for final passage and nine projects were deleted under an

amendment from the Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee, George Brown of California. None of these projects had been authorized and the authorizing Committee was the Brown Committee. A number of Members entered into the battle at that time and there were several mad Members. Today, in the Defense Appropriations conference report the nine unauthorized projects were placed back into this bill and Brown and his followers made an effort to take them out by defeating the Rule. They lost by nearly 100 votes on the adoption of the Rule and then the Conference Report was adopted within 10 or 12 minutes. You have never seen a Conference Report adopted any sooner but there still are a lot of Members mad over just what took place. When our Committee on Appropriations makes a mistake, it is never a small mistake, it is always a large mistake and as the Acting Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I certainly do not take pride in the action of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations.

My Chairman, who was elected by the 102nd Congress always sends his name in as a Conferee on all of the bills, even though I am acting for him and I only go to conference on the three Subcommittees that I serve on. The Members in the House know this and definitely those that are made over what took place, but still it is a serious mistake and one that the Appropriations Committee should never make. In this bill, we had the Kentucky Locks and Dams project which a Federal Court in a recent decision held would not have to be funded by the Federal Government before being turned over to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In the Energy & Water Development bill we placed \$5 million to help repair the locks before they are turned over and this one dropped out and was placed back into the Defense Appropriations Bill.

October 7, 1992

We finally overrode one of President Bush's vetoes. After some 44 or 45 vetoes the House and the Senate used the cable television bill as the vehicle to put the President in his place. The Senate, with only 24 members voting to sustain the veto quickly overrode and then on Tuesday, the House with some 10 votes to spare followed suit. The cable industry is right arrogant now and all over the United States increases their charges almost on a monthly basis and gets by with it. Some of the larger television channels believe that cable should be reprimanded and others with a financial interest in cable played it real cool. With the presidential race on and with a lot of money involved, the cable industry believed that when the House and the Senate started regulating in a fair manner in proper legislation the President's promise to veto would be final.

In addition to the veto override, the President and his Director of the Office of Management and Budget have had some discussion this week about predictions that the economy was turning around and for the better when this is clearly not true. Darnan, the Director of OMB this week offered to resign since his recommendation concerning the summit meeting last year was accepted in its entirety and has done anything but help with the economy. President Bush refused to accept the resignation but I know he must be really disturbed over Darnan's guesses.

We finally sent all thirteen of our appropriation bills to the President and no Continuing Resolution was necessary. Each bill was reduced accordingly as we have done on many occasions with the amounts being under the President's request in the overall budget. For instance, in Energy and

Water we had a \$388 million reduction below President Bush; Defense \$7,345,000,000; Interior, \$91 million; Transportation, \$294 million; Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education, \$6 million; Treasury and Post Office \$117 million; Commerce, State, Justice, \$464 million; Military Construction \$1 million; Veterans-HUD, \$84 million; Foreign Aid \$999 million; District of Columbia, a little less than \$1 million; Legislative, \$395 million, and Agriculture was \$969 million above the President's request.

A short Associated Press story appeared today and it pertains to the manner in which I handled the Appropriations bills serving as Acting Chairman of the Committee during the illness of my Chairman, Jamie Whitten of Mississippi. This story is as follows:

"Natcher Draws Praise from Foley"

"WASHINGTON (AP) After enduring a marathon session of the U.S. House of Representatives, 83-year-old Rep. William Natcher pronounced himself no worse for the wear.

'I feel good,' said the 83-year-old veteran House Democrat from Bowling Green, the grueling all-night session Monday notwithstanding.

Since June, Natcher has been acting chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. In that position he's been responsible for overseeing development of the 13 funding bills, the most critical pieces of legislation that Congress must pass each year before adjourning.

House Speaker Tom Foley said Tuesday that Natcher had

run the committee 'with great skill.'

This year promised to be a difficult one with twin pressures: a tight budget and an election year.

The stakes rose considerably in August when the president, who had spent a good part of the year bashing Congress as an institution of incompetence and greed, promised to veto any of the money bills that exceeded his recommended funding level.

If Congress took the challenge, the result was likely to be the kind of standoff that in past years has temporarily cut off all funding and forced the shutdown of government offices.

For Natcher, a man who likes discipline and orderliness, that kind of messiness is not appealing. 'We've got this train running,' he said this summer after the committee approved three of the 13 bills in a brisk hour and a quarter.

He also worried that a showdown with the administration would result in one large appropriations bill for all or a part of the government a massive hunk of legislation known as a continuing resolution, or 'CR.'

The upshot was that Democratic leaders in Congress decided not to take Bush's bait, but instead to go back to the drawing board and whittle \$9.2 billion out of the spending bills.

They also agreed to cut a number of non-spending items such as permitting Medicaid-funded abortions in cases of rape and incest from the bills.

Natcher doesn't take credit for the strategy, but he makes it clear he thinks it was a good one. Had the choice instead been for confrontation, he said Tuesday as the House wrapped up its business for the year, 'we wouldn't be leaving here today, I'll tell you.'

During the closing days of this session, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, a Republican from New York, decided to put on a one-man filibuster against the new tax bill that finally succeeded in going for some 11 hours. The world record in the "Guinness Book of World Records" is still held by Strom Thurmond of South Carolina who went for just a few minutes over 24 hours a number of years ago on a civil rights bill.

Manuel Lujan, the Secretary of Interior, told me this week that he was tired and wanted to go home. He served with us in the House for about 20 years and was on his way home when he was notified by Bush that he wanted him to return to Washington and serve as Secretary of Interior. Mannie

Lujan has always been my friend and he was at the groundbreaking ceremony of the William H. Natcher Building at Bethesda, Maryland. Serving as Secretary of Interior is a right difficult job and in fact, it has been that way for the last 40 years.

In addition to Lujan, there are several other Members in the President's cabinet that are about ready to jump ship. The polls are all still very much against President Bush and instead of acting like a leader and one that is qualified to lead this Country, he is almost completely back in the "wimp" category where he started in the very beginning.

October 8, 1992

All in all, this has been a good year for me in the House of Representatives. We succeeded in taking care of all of our appropriation bills and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Natcher Building at the National Institutes of Health was a complete success. We have had our problems and they were all serious, but still the Second Session of the 102nd Congress was good to me.

In closing out this Session, a number of articles and editorials were written which were very complimentary. A Press Release, Editorial, and article are as follows:

"Voting Record of Representative
Natcher (D-KY) "

Representative William H. Natcher, Democrat of Bowling Green, Kentucky, has never missed a day or a vote since he has been a Member of Congress. He was elected in

a special election on August 1, 1953 and sworn in as a Member on January 6, 1954.

He has cast 13,528 roll call votes and 4,221 quorum calls, making a total of 17,749. During the Second Session of the 102nd Congress, there were 473 roll call votes and 15 quorum calls.

During the Second Session of the 102nd Congress, Watcher served as Acting Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. The Chairman of the Committee, due to illness, was unable to serve and this made it just a little more difficult from the standpoint of answering all of the roll call votes."

"The Imperial House

What do you get for \$80,000 an hour? Hmmm...

It isn't often that a newspaper -- or any other business enterprise, for that matter -- will refer its customers to the competition. This is one of those rare occasions.

This week, every American voter should be reading USA Today's series 'Capitol Cash.' It details the \$709.2 million the U.S. House of Representatives spent on itself last year. That figure represents an increase of almost 600 percent since 1970, when the House got

by on \$104.8 million. During that same period, the cost of living increased by 250 percent.

This series will enlighten you and enrage you. It lays out a scandalous free-spending attitude that cuts across party lines. It tells how the House tries to hide its high-rolling ways, while publicly maintaining that all its books are open for inspection. (The Senate and White House are even more secretive about their operating costs, according to the series.)

The series shows how House members pool some of their allotted money to pay for gifts, lavish receptions and assorted other expenditures that are prohibited for individual representatives. It discloses that unspent expenditures were used to increase staff salaries for each House member by \$40,000 -- without a vote and shortly after the House had publicly voted down a \$50,000 increase in staff salaries.

All in all, these stories will make you want to throw every one of the rascals out -- except perhaps Kentucky's own Rep. William Natcher, D-Bowling Green.

Natcher is far and away the most thrifty House member when it comes to office expenses, staff salaries and free mailings. During the last fiscal year, it cost taxpayers \$253,896 to operate Natcher's office in

Washington and back home in his district. That was just 30 percent of what the general House rules would have allowed him to spend, and it's \$175,000 less than the next lowest spender.

Unfortunately, Natcher is the glaring exception in the House, where the average cost of running a representative's office was \$734,800. Rep. Vic Fazio, D-Calif., topped the spending list at \$945,292.

Kentucky's delegation had some big spenders, too. Rep. Jim Bunning, R-Southgate, spent \$786,814. He was followed by Rep. Carroll Hubbard, D-Mayfield, \$772,574; Rep. Chris Perkins, D-Hindman, \$760,002; Rep. Hal Rogers, R-Somerset, \$725,007; Rep. Romano Mazzoli, D-Louisville, \$667,956.

Rep. Larry Hopkins, R-6th District, spend \$544,208. That made him the sixth least expensive member of the House. He and Perkins did not seek reelection this year. Hubbard was defeated in the Democratic primary.

Besides the cost of operating individual House members' offices, the \$709.2 million includes money spent on the chamber's committees and its leadership offices. When you put it all together, it cost taxpayers \$80,000 every hour of every day during the last fiscal year to keep the House operating.

Actually, the total cost was even higher. The \$709.2 million does not include the House members' own salaries -- another \$54 million-plus. Nor does it include their generous benefits and perks.

Read this series. Think about what the rascals are costing you. Think about what benefits, if any, you are getting from their service. Then, enjoy your trip to the polls on Election Day."

"Natcher Wraps Up Tough Year the Way He Prefers: Neatly

During the House marathon Monday-night session, Rep. William Natcher explained he caught a two-hour catnap sitting in his office chair with a blanket around him.

But at 10:00 a.m., yesterday, after a shower, shave and a clean shirt, Natcher was looking -- well, like Natcher always looks, straight, starched, not a hair out of place.

'I feel good,' said the 83 year old veteran House Democrat from Bowling Green.

And well he should have, the grueling all-night session notwithstanding. On Monday the House and Senate completed passing all 13 annual appropriations bills, sending the last of

them to the White House for what Natcher said is certain to be President Bush's signature.

Since June, Natcher has been Acting Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, and in that position has been responsible for overseeing development of the 13 funding bills -- the most critical and potentially the most mischievous pieces of legislation that Congress must pass each year before adjourning.

The prospects of a donnybrook were especially keen this year because of twin pressures: a tight budget and an election year.

The stakes rose considerably in August when the President, who has spent a good part of the year bashing Congress as an institution of incompetency and greed promised to veto any of the money bills that exceeded his recommended funding level.

If Congress took the challenge, the result was likely to be the kind of stand-off that in past years has temporarily cut off all funding and forced the shutdown of government offices.

For Natcher, a man who likes discipline and orderliness, that kind of messiness is not appealing. 'We've got the train running,' he said this summer after the Committee approved three of the 13 bills in a brisk hour and a quarter.

He also worried that a show-down with the administration would result in one large appropriations bill for all or a part of the government -- a massive hunk of legislation known as a continuing resolution, or "CR".

It was for just such a device that former President Ronald Reagan used to heap scorn on Congress.

The upshot was that Democratic leaders in Congress decided not to take Bush's bait but instead to go back to the drawing board and whittle \$9.2 billion out of the spending bills.

They also agreed to cut a number of non-spending items -- such as permitting Medicaid funded abortions in case of rape and incest -- from the bills.

Natcher doesn't take credit for the strategy, but he makes it clear he thinks it was a good one. Had the choice instead been for confrontation, he said yesterday, as the House wrapped up its business for the year, 'We wouldn't be leaving here today, I tell you.'

The smooth outcome also further boosts the likelihood that Natcher will win the Committee Chairmanship on a permanent basis in the upcoming new Congress. The official Chairman is still Rep. Jamie Whitten (D-Miss.), but his continuing poor health is expected to block his re-election to the post.

Speaker Tom Foley said yesterday that Natcher had run the Committee 'with great skill.' "

October 9, 1992

The Senate finally adjourned, sine die, last night after passing the energy bill, a \$27 billion tax bill, and a landmark water rights bill for the far west. The President has indicated that he will veto the tax bill and I believe this will take place. The House will meet at 10 a.m. this morning and then we will adjourn finally today and I will go down home tonight.

Considering the fact that we still need more jobs in this Country and the economy is at a low ebb, we have had a pretty good year in the Congress. I have had a good year and hope that after the election we have a good Caucus back here in Washington when we convene on December 7.

One of my favorite statesmen for a long time was Willy Brandt. He died yesterday at the age of 78. Radio announcements and the news media in Germany said that Germany has become a poorer place as a result of the death of Willy Brandt. During the 1970's it was Brandt who established the agenda for the events that ultimately would lead to the liberation of eastern Europe and the unification of Germany.

October 20, 1992

Following the sine die adjournment of Congress, I returned to my district in Kentucky and since that time have been traveling. I now have 20 counties, plus 52,000 people in Jefferson County and a similar number in Lincoln and Adair Counties. The Presidential race has really warmed up and the polls now

show Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas from 4 to 7 points in the lead. Before election day, I believe that will narrow down somewhat, but unless the President comes up with some real issue, he may go out this time. His charges against Governor Clinton have worn right thin and especially the draft dodging of Vietnam charge. Charges also have been made that he has been a very poor Governor of his state and that his personal life has been anything but excellent. Around the world, of course, they are watching this election and the President in his speeches now is really going after Congress. He goes on in great detail to say that Congress failed to join with him and this is the major reason why we are having the problems in the economy we are confronted with today. In fact, anything for an excuse, and this charge against the Congress, of course, will not do him any good in his race.

October 26, 1992

The polls now show that the President is a little closer, but Governor Clinton is still leading in most of the published polls about 4%. All kinds of accusations are now being made and you can tell clearly from President Bush's expressions that it has just dawned on him that he is in a real contest and that it can go either way. In the District that I represent we have a number of counties that always go Republican in federal elections, but this time with the economy like it is, there may be a change.

November 4, 1992

We have a new President of the United States today.

Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas was elected President yesterday and his running-mate is Senator Al Gore of Tennessee.

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Everything indicated by the different polls that were taken prior to the election that unless a real issue arose that would be of great benefit to President Bush, it was all over. Instead of being a close race as predicted by me and others several months ago, it turned out to be almost a landslide--well over the necessary 270 electoral votes to win and in fact, the total received was 378. The major issues in the campaign, of course, pertain to the economy, unemployment generally and the fact that President Bush was considerably more interested in foreign affairs than he was in the domestic affairs of this country. With over ten million people unemployed and seeking jobs, and with the number of unemployed the highest since 1982, all of this entered into the final outcome of the election. In addition, the investigations that had been previously made concerning President Bush's involvement in the Iran-Contra affair, heated up just before the election and according to papers produced in the campaign there was no question but what President Bush was fully advised and participated in the final decision on the Iran-Contra arms matter. He denied it to the bitter end, but to no avail.

Now, we are faced with a national debt of \$4,200,000,000,000 that requires nearly \$300 billion yearly interest on the national debt and with the deficit for the Fiscal Year 1992 which has just closed totaling \$290.2 billion. This deficit was estimated to be \$399 billion, but since the S & L off budget payments were not counted as a part, it suddenly dropped down to \$290.2 billion.

We convene the 103rd Congress on January 5, and our work will certainly be cut out for us for the first 100 days, and for many days thereafter.

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November 17, 1992

Our newly elected President Bill Clinton of Arkansas is having a series of meetings with leaders not only on the Democrat side in Washington, but in the business community. In Arkansas with the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House Tom Foley, and the Majority Leader of the House, Dick Gephardt, a discussion was held right much in detail concerning the newly elected President's desire to obtain a line item veto. The Speaker of the House explained to him the recession bill that had passed the House just before we adjourned but had not been considered by the Senate and he offered a compromise maintaining that he did not believe the House would vote for a line item veto. Apparently this did not suit the newly elected President and we will hear more about a line item veto as we convene the First Session of the 103rd Congress on January 5, 1993.

In addition to the matter pertaining to the line item veto, a number of matters were discussed including appropriations and the budget generally which must now be finalized by the new Administration since former President Bush is only sending up a 200-page document. The transition seems to be working smoothly and Mrs. Bush, of course, is always gracious and she, this week, is visiting with Mrs. Clinton in the White House. President Bush is also meeting with the newly elected President today at the White House and matters pertaining to the transition and the turning over of the government to the Democrat Party seems to be going along smoothly.

November 24, 1992

Bill Clinton is apparently starting out right. He has held a brief business summit with a number of leaders and small businessmen throughout the Country attending,

and expressing their views. More and larger meetings will be held before any serious moves are made to bring this economy back to where it should be.

In addition, he has met and talked with Jesse Jackson who pouted all during the campaign and really never made a serious move to help Clinton. ~~This is just a matter of trying to placate some of the black people but those who know the most about this situation certainly are not in favor of any serious concessions being made to Jesse Jackson for his "no part play" in the campaign.~~

This week, Governor Clinton flew to Georgia and joined with Wyche Fowler in his run-off campaign for the United States Senate. Fowler is the Democrat candidate and he is in a right serious struggle since there is a run-off provision under Georgia law. Most new Presidents would not engage in such an endeavor this soon, but Clinton is repaying the favor and carrying the party banner which is good.

My Chairman, Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi, has not made up his mind for sure as to what he will do in regard to the Chairmanship for the 103rd Congress. He suffered from a stroke and for the past six months I, as the Vice Chairman of the Committee, have been in charge. I certainly will not do anything to hurt my friend Jamie Whitten who has been my close, personal friend for 34 years. I hope that today or tomorrow he resolves this matter and does it in such a manner as to not tarnish the outstanding record he has established in the Congress.

December 2, 1992

During the November election, several articles were written about me concerning my service in the Congress. One pertains to the six ladies here in my Washington office, and the story in the "USA Today" which also includes a picture of me and the ladies, is as follows:

"Life On a House Shoestring"

"Rep. William Natcher runs the cheapest office.

The Kentucky Democrat doesn't have a press secretary, legislative assistant or an administrative assistant.

In fact, although he's entitled to have 18 full-time employees on his staff, he only has six in Washington and three in his district. 'There is no reason at all to spend money on 18 people in this office... I don't need them,' says Natcher, 83.

He does have one computer and a copier but no fax.

A USA Today/Gannett News Service analysis of House spending found that Natcher spent \$253,896 on staff, office expenses and mail in 1991. Average House office cost: \$734,800.

He spent just 30% of his allocation last year, compared to the House average of 83%.

Natcher came to Congress in 1953 -- before cable television, satellite feeds, televised House sessions or electronic mail --

to represent a largely rural district in western Kentucky.

Now fourth in House seniority, Natcher is acting chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which holds the purse strings on federal spending. He has a committee-paid assistant to handle committee work.

'I come here in the morning, I go to work,' says Natcher. 'I receive letters from all 50 states. We answer our mail.'

Once a year, Natcher issues a one-page press release listing his accomplishments: he's never missed a vote or quorum call (a record 17,669).

At least one critic describes Natcher's style as inefficient.

'He does not deliver for this community,' says Martin Tori, a Republican who twice lost to Natcher. Tori charges Natcher hasn't been able to protect Fort Knox, a major employer in his district, from losing military and civilian jobs.

Stan Reagan, editorial page editor at the Bowling Green Daily News, is not as harsh. 'He has brought his share of projects to the district. People in the district seem to be satisfied with what they're getting.' "

Another story appeared in "The New York Times" and this story is as follows:

"In Kentucky, a Local Legend Runs a Phantom-Like Campaign for Congress"

'Wispy as fog in the bottomland, there is a phantom campaign hereabouts being mastered by a quiet, punctilious Congressman who has never taken a political contribution in 39 years in the House and who drives the hilly Kentucky hustings alone, completely frustrating this year's sacrificial challenger.

'He's totally out of touch, doesn't really campaign a lick,' complains Bruce Bartley, a 25-year-old college student who put in for the vacant Republican nomination to challenge the Democratic incumbent, 83-year-old Representative William H. Natcher, and now finds himself sparring with thin air.

'I saw him once at my cousin's mother's funeral, that's all,' says Mr. Bartley, who rivals the Congressman in threadbare campaigning but only because no one is willing to donate the half-million dollars he figures he needs to win. 'With that kind of money, I could blast him on TV.'

But long ago Mr. Natcher learned the political knacks of slipping punches, waiting his turn and the general uselessness of money in rural Kentucky politics. His challenger's campaign accusations -- neglecting the needs and economic potential of Mammoth Cave and Fort Knox -- seem worthy of Mr. Natcher's

Paul Bryan scale as a Kentucky legend.

17,779 Votes--And Courting

'There were three old men in line in front of me and I waited till they moved on,' he recalled of his eventual arrival in the House in 1953 after a 19-year apprenticeship in county politics. He has patiently evolved into a powerful Congressman, and now is acting chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, having withstood various challenges financed by hundreds of thousands of wasted dollars that only tempered his resolve to have no part of the politics of money or television.

'Never missed a day in Congress and never missed a vote -- 17,749 votes so far,' he says, claiming the single longest voting streak and the least lobby-beholden record in House history. 'Never accepted a campaign contribution. I treat lobbyists nice, but I just do better when I don't have their hands all over me.'

Other modern candidates are paying big-money retainers to the latest heralded television producers to have a convincing white picket fence propped around a folksy tableau, spreading a message that it's verisimilitude again in America. But Mr. Natcher waits for Congress to recess and his streak thus protected, ducks back to fulfill his biennial vow to visit all 20 counties of the Second Congressional District.

He motors alone, with no debates or opposition engagement. Just a simple newspaper advertisement announcing that he is incumbent and running, and then he buys his own gasoline for the quiet morning drop-ins at 20 county seats.

'Nothing to Write About'

Mr. Bartley, who has no illusions about winning, actually doubts that Mr. Natcher ever really leaves Washington. He begs his newspaper friends to look into this.

'They tell me there's nothing to write about,' the young challenger says. 'This campaign has taught me if there's nothing to write about, nothing gets written.'

But such a partisan witness as State Senator Walter A. Baker, a popular Republican here who lost to Mr. Natcher in 1976, attests that the Congressman does, indeed, come home. He does so with graceful stealth when it comes to avoiding controversy, according to Mr. Baker, who admits as a fellow politician that there is a singular beauty to Mr. Natcher's packing the district with Federal projects and leading a scandal-free and virtue-rich life, writing weekly history letters to his six grandchildren about the goings-on in Washington.

'I like running against Bill Natcher to running against God: He's up there by himself,' Mr. Baker

says. 'In the beginning, there was Bill Natcher,' he adds, laughing at his 1976 strategy of running against the Congressman as an aging incumbent. Sixteen years later, at the age of 55, Mr. Baker reworks his concession: 'Bill Natcher has always been.'

'The Way It Works'

'His campaign style is unique,' Mr. Baker recounts in his storefront law office here on South Green Street. 'He gets in his Chevy Citation and quietly drives through the district. He will come to Barren County around 8:30 in the morning. He will walk into the George J. Ellis drug store where the coffee group gathers and will sit down and buy his own cup of coffee, shake hands and talk to the group.'

The Congressman confesses that his strategem of driving around and saying hello is his timeless 'October surprise.' He describes it this way: 'I say, 'I'm Bill Natcher, glad to see you. I'm trying to make you a good Congressman up there.' I say, 'Who are you?' to someone. And he says, 'Charlie Smith.' And Charlie Smith goes home and tells the family and they tell someone else. That's the way it works.'

In his challenge, Mr. Bartley says he has come to realize his competitor 'isn't going to stop until he's physically unable.'

Then, nearly shouting across a 58-year gap, he adds, 'That's disgusting.'

The Congressman, as patient with life as with politics, laughs and cites one of his heroes, Vice President John Nance Garner, as a politician who knew when to quit and how -- phantom-like. 'At the end, he took a truckload of all his office possessions into the countryside beyond Washington and burned every scrap,' Mr. Natcher said. 'Nobody was going to pick over his bones when he died.' "

Another, an Opinion, appeared in "The San Diego Union-Tribune" and this story is as follows:

"Few know him, but he's no sleeper"

"Only a few would recognize the name. But come January, William H. Natcher of Kentucky will be one of the half-dozen most influential people in all of government.

After waiting for his chance for nearly 40 years, Natcher will become chairman of the all-powerful House Appropriations Committee. And although the man is 83, his elevation will mean bumping the sacred seniority system -- albeit in a confused sort of way.

House leaders have decided that the present Appropriations chairman -- Mississippi's Jamie Lloyd Whitten, the longest serving congressman in history, yet nearly a year younger than Natcher -- is no longer sufficiently alert to lead the 59-member panel.

Imagine that. It may be the first time ever that a perceived senility victim has been shunted aside in favor of someone older.

So much for the youth movement in this Congress. Regarding Natcher, though, there can be no doubt of his capabilities. Since coming to Congress in 1953, he never has missed a day's work, nor a single vote or quorum call. When the outgoing Congress adjourned in October, Natcher had answered the bells 17,749 consecutive times -- a record never likely to be approached.

In other ways, too, this Kentuckian is rather different from the popular image of power-hungry, free-spending folk on Capitol Hill. Indeed, if skeptical taxpayers could handpick a chairman for the committee that spends their money, Natcher would almost surely fit their specifications. In addition to his perfect attendance, consider these qualifications:

He owes no one. Natcher refuses to accept campaign contributions.

In an era of runaway political spending, he was re-elected this year with a total outlay of exactly \$10.08, his own money. (This covered registered mailings to the Clerk of the House and Kentucky's state elections commissioner, as required by law.)

Against a limit of 18 office staffers allocated to each congressman Natcher gets by with half that

number. He has six employees in his Washington office, three divided between Bowling Green and Elizabethtown, Ky. His total staff payroll: \$253,000 a year, the lowest in Congress.

Clearly, Natcher has earned the reputation of a penny-pincher. One might wonder why he wished to be in Congress, and especially on the Appropriations Committee. Most of its members feel more attuned to the role of Daddy Warbucks than to Old Scrooge.

Yet there Natcher has sat since first winning assignment to Appropriations in mid-1953. As members move up the ladder on this panel, they may eventually join what's known facetiously as the 'College of Cardinals'-- the 13 subcommittee chairs who, between them, sit in judgment over the funding requests of all government departments and agencies.

And this year, as Chairman Whitten seemed ever less able to fulfill his duties, the leadership called on the next ranking Democrat, Natcher, to quarterback the full committee. He did so, and with dispatch. Avoiding the embarrassment of earlier Congresses, this one disposed of all 13 money bills before adjourning. None was folded into a 'continuing resolution,' the device by which agencies must be funded when Congress fails to complete its work on schedule.

But Bill Natcher has something more than his parsimony or zeal going for him. It could be that no member from either side of the partisan aisle enjoys greater respect than he. Through more than two decades -- and under every speaker beginning with the late John McCormack -- Natcher has been designated to preside over the Committee of the Whole House whenever a particularly controversial bill was pending.

Whether pertaining to civil rights, foreign aid, abortion or some equally difficult subject matter, Natcher could be counted on to protect everyone's right to be heard. It would be difficult to count the times that two or three days of fevered debate on a bill have ended with both sides rising in spontaneous applause for this firm but tactful presiding officer.

And now, at an age honored only by the Chinese, Natcher takes on one of government's toughest, yet most vital assignments. Under the Constitution, all spending bills must originate in the House -- and in the committee he will now chair.

Is anything wrong with the seniority system? You couldn't prove it by Bill Natcher."

A 25-year old boy was selected as the Republican to run against me and I simply made up my mind that I would not spend any money on him. I accepted no campaign contributions and for the entire November election, I spent \$15.12. This consisted mainly of Registered mail postage for the

necessary reports that must be filed with the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance and the Federal Election Commission.

December 3, 1992

The guessing game is now on as to who will be selected by our new President Bill Clinton for his cabinet. One in particular that will make a good cabinet member is Lloyd Bentsen, one of Texas' two United States Senators who is being considered for the Secretaryship of the Treasury Department. He is an able man and one that has survived many elections under adverse conditions at different times and one that I believe will make a good cabinet member. The fact that he is willing to give up the Chairmanship of the Finance Committee and his seniority in the Senate to take a cabinet position if offered indicates clearly that he has decided to end his political career serving in the cabinet and then go back to Texas to live out the balance of his life.

It now appears that we will send in Marines and maybe other military units to join with the United Nations' task force forcing the rebels in Somalia to permit the unloading and distribution of the food and medicine that will prevent starvation and disease that is rampant at this time in that country. The very idea of stopping food from being distributed to the hungry children shown on television each day, so thin that they appear to be just skeletons, is beyond anyone's comprehension. Down through the years, civil war and starvation have brought about control of different factions in some countries, but this is an awful way to gain control of a country.

During this week, all of the new Members are here and the total number is 110.

We have a big dinner tonight in Statuary Hall given by the Speaker for the new Members and for the Chairmen of the different Committees and the senior Members in the House. We start the regular caucus with all of the Members on Monday, December 7 and then we proceed to elect the officers of the House and the House Committee Chairmen and the Subcommittee Chairmen who also have to be elected for the Committee on Ways & Means and the Committee on Appropriations. So far, there are only two Chairmanships that might be contested and they are Appropriations and Veterans' Affairs. This morning, the Chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee informed me that one of his Members was surely going to contest his Chairmanship at the meeting of the Steering Committee and the main reason is that Veterans' Affairs brings out all of their bills under Suspension and not under Rules that would permit many amendments in some instances, and just simply delay passage of a great many bills pertaining to our veterans.

My Chairman, Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi so far has not indicated clearly what he will do so this leaves me in a position where I simply will have to wait and see what the Steering Committee recommends.

In watching some of the new members on television last night while they were having their picture taken on the steps of the East Front of the Capitol, I listened to a number of the statements made and wanted to advise them that after they have been here three or four months, they will not be so positive that they were sent here to straighten out matters and to put the House of Representatives in order.

December 9, 1992

Yesterday I was elected Chairman of the Appropriations Committee on a secret ballot. After serving on the Committee for 38 long years, I sincerely believe that I am entitled to now be Chairman. My Chairman, Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi, is ill and unable to serve. He refused to step aside and the Steering and Policy Committee on a vote, cast their votes for me as Chairman.

Sometimes beautiful stories are written about you and it makes you feel good. In today's JSA TODAY, there is a story entitled "Kentuckian Holds the House purse." This story is as follows:

"Natcher new Appropriations chair"

"If Congress lives and dies by its power of the purse, then Rep. William Natcher has been reborn -- at age 83.

After 40 years of service in the House and an unbroken string of 17,749 votes cast, the Kentucky Democrat finally earned his just reward Tuesday: the chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee, which controls \$500 billion in spending.

It couldn't have happened to a more frugal fellow. Since winning election in 1953, Natcher has never taken a campaign contribution and has spent less on office expenses than all his colleagues.

And while his Senate counterpart, the equally punctual and patriotic Sen. Robert Byrd, is derided by critics for pork-barrel

spending, Natcher is known as a penny-pincher.

'He's the most respected member of the House,' says Rep. Harold Rogers, R-Ky., an Appropriations Committee member. 'He is a gentelman of the old order. He is accommodating to everyone's needs.'

That should be music to the ears of 434 other House members, who will need Natcher's advocacy or acquiescence to bring home the bacon. But Natcher knows when to say no.

'He's fair but tough,' says Thomas Schatz of Citizens Against Government Waste. 'He tries not to appropriate anything that is not authorized.'

Even after he takes over the reins of the panel he has run on a temporary basis since Rep. Jamie Whitten, 82, suffered a stroke last year, Natcher's true source of power will be his subcommittee on labor, health, human services and education -- the source of social spending from the cradle to the grave.

'Subcommittee chairmen are the real powers on appropriations,' says Joseph White, a Brookings Institution scholar. 'The chairman (functions) basically as a broker.'

At his subcommittee, Natcher has favored such programs as Head Start and the National Institutes of Health, which is honoring him

with a \$176 million office complex in his name. But he has been a firm opponent of federal spending for abortion unless the life of the mother is at risk.

'If you take care of the health of your people and continue educating your children,' he says, 'you live in the strongest country in the world.'

He's the picture of strength on Capitol Hill. Dapper in three-piece suits, he begins hearings punctually at 10, eschews interviews and is more concerned about getting the 13 annual spending bills signed than partisan politics.

'He has not allowed a lot of outside special interests to color how he sees the world,' says Kentucky Democratic Party Chairman Grady Stumbo. 'He's more motivated by service than he has been by power. After his years of service, he's in the right place at the right time to get power.' "

The story in today's WASHINGTON POST is as follows:

"Montgomery Retains Chairmanship"

"Veteran Leader Survives
Challenge; House Freshmen
Assert Selves"

"Rep. C.V. 'Sorry' Montgomery (D-Miss.) yesterday narrowly survived a challenge to his chairmanship of the Veterans Affairs Committee, while Rep. Joseph M. McDade (R-Pa.) retained his post as ranking minority member on

the House Appropriations Committee although he is under federal indictment.

The actions to retain Montgomery and McDade came as both House party caucuses voted on rule changes, and Democrats elected four new committee chairmen. Both caucuses saw the largest freshman class since 1948 assert itself.

The House Democratic Caucus reelected Montgomery, Veterans Affairs chairman since 1981, on a 127 to 123 secret ballot. He was the only incumbent chairman to face a challenge yesterday; it came from Rep. Lane Evans (Ill.), fourth-ranking in seniority on the committee.

Evans, 41, made an issue of how concerns of Vietnam-era veterans have been handled under Montgomery, 72, a veteran of World War II and the Korean war. Evans, a former Marine, drew support from freshmen Democrats who, according to one who asked not to be named, 'thought Sonny represented the good-old-boy way of doing things.'

The four new chairmen are Rep. William H. Natcher (Ky.), Appropriations; Rep. Norman Y. Mineta (Calif.), Public Works and Transportation; Rep. Lee H. Hamilton (Ind.), Foreign Affairs; and Rep. Gerry E. Studds (Mass.), Merchant Marine and Fisheries. All but Natcher replaced departing members.

In their caucus, Republicans killed a move by Peter G. Torkildsen, a representative-elect from Massachusetts, to compel McDade to step down because he had been

indicted on a felony charge. McDade argued that all members should be presumed innocent until convicted.

Republicans did impose a six-year limit on how long their party members can serve as ranking members of committees. The limit, sponsored by Rep.-elect John Linder (Ga.) passed 82 to 44.

The Democrats proposed two changes in House rules that Minority Leader Robert H. Michel (R-Ill.) called a power grab: limiting each party to 10 one-minute floor speeches daily and allowing five delegates, including the District of Columbia's, to participate in most floor votes. Currently, all those delegates -- who are also from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands -- are Democrats.

The election of Natcher, 83, brought to an end a protracted power struggle within the Appropriations Committee between Natcher and his longtime friend, Jamie L. Whitten (D-Miss.), who has chaired the committee since 1979.

Whitten, who suffered a mild stroke in February, was forced aside by the leadership after it became apparent he was no longer capable of running the powerful committee. Pressure is also mounting within the committee to strip Whitten of the chairmanship of the rural development, agriculture and related agencies subcommittee and give it to Rep. Richard J. Durbin (D-Ill.).

The Democratic leadership, meanwhile, bowed to pressure from

freshmen, women and minorities in filling vacancies on the Appropriations and Ways and Means committees, two of the most desired assignments in the House because of the increased concern over the economy.

In filling 12 Democratic openings on the Appropriations Committee, the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee selected three women, including a black freshman, Carrie J. Meek (Fla.), and three Hispanics -- Esteban Edward Torres (Calif.), Jose E. Serrano (N.Y.), and Ed Pastor (Ariz.).

The appointments brought to five the number of women on the committee. Reps. John W. Oliver (Mass.) and Pastor, who were elected in special elections in 1991, were considered freshmen for purposes of the committee assignments, which brought to three the number of freshmen added.

Blacks gained three additional seats on the Ways and Means Committee with the appointment of Rep. John Lewis (Ga.), the chief deputy whip, freshman Mel Reynolds (Ill.) and Rep. William J. Jefferson (La.).

Regional considerations also played an important role in filling the slots. Florida and New York each received two retiring members of the Appropriations Committee, while Illinois, New York, Wisconsin, Georgia and Massachusetts replaced members departing from Ways and Means.

December 10, 1992

Since I have been elected Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I am automatically a Member of the Steering and Policy Committee. This Committee is composed of the Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, the Speaker and the Leadership on the Democrat side, along with the Zone Members and some seven or eight that are appointed each year by the Speaker. We are in the process of assigning the new Members to Committees and passing upon the requests of sitting Members who want to change to other Committees. Yesterday, we elected the Chairmen of the Subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations and my old friend Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi who is still unable physically to handle a Subcommittee or the full Committee wanted to retain his Chairmanship of the Agriculture Subcommittee. He was voted out 35 to 0 and this is a sad case. He really doesn't understand what is taking place and with his record of 50 years and 9 months which is the all-time record of seniority in the House of Representatives, it makes it much more sad and of course, highly publicized

We finish up in the Steering and Policy Committee today and then the Subcommittee Chairmen approved yesterday will be voted on in a secret ballot. I was elected to retain my Subcommittee Chairmanship of the Subcommittee that appropriates the money for the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services, and Education. This is an important Subcommittee to me and by the way, the building named for me at the National Institutes of Health is really under construction now and there are large signs scattered throughout the NIH campus calling attention to the construction of the William M.atcher Building.

We will finish up sometime today and then we will not come back into session until January 5 when the 103rd Congress convenes with the Members being sworn in.

Around the world we are now in Somalia with some 15,000 or 20,000 marines and soldiers along with the necessary equipment to distribute food and medical supplies to thousands and thousands of starving and sick people. Under the supervision of the United Nations Organization, we are the major Country participating and this meets with the approval of the majority of the people in this Country.

The headlines in a number of papers today in this country are that Prince Charles and Lady Diana are separating. Here we have the Prince of Wales and the successor to his mother as the British King who really has never been recognized as qualified, or mentally equipped to take over the throne. He is somewhat of a playboy, continuing along with his mistress, notwithstanding the fact that he is the father of two sons. We have always believed in this country that Queen Elizabeth II, although she has wanted to retire for a number of years, is holding on because she knows full well that none of her sons or her daughter are qualified to take over the throne. One son is a baby--the other is considered somewhat peculiar from the standpoint of his sexual desires, and her daughter is divorced and is to remarry again sometime within the next few days. A troubled family, and one that is being highly publicized--with many smiles and nods of heads taking place in the British Isles at this time.

December 14, 1992

During the past several weeks, a number of articles have been written about me and I have reached the point now where enough is enough. When I was elected Chairman of the Appropriations Committee on a secret ballot, I am positive that several of the Members voted against me because of some of the articles concerning my voting record, no campaign contributions ever accepted, and the lowest amount expended for office expense. "Time" magazine will have an article soon and whether it is short or long, this to me will be enough. I have to live with these men and women up here and maybe the way I operate is not right. One of the new ones came over and sat with me and said that my voting record, which is perfect since the day I was sworn in, was used in his campaign considerably since while serving for a number of years on the San Diego, California Council, he missed a great many meetings. He said that his opponent said that he would look kind of funny in the Congress with his failure to attend meetings when he would be confronted by men like me. My guess is that this new Member voted against me on the secret ballot for Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. Of the votes that I lost, if it was possible for me to know who cast the negative votes, I would say that it was not a matter of disliking me, but it was a matter of the articles that have been presented recently concerning the way I operate in the Congress.

Regardless of all of this, one of the nicest ones of all was carried in the Bowling Green, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce 1992-1993 magazine. This article is entitled, "A National Treasure," and is as follows:

"When Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin proclaimed Kentucky Representative William Natcher 'a real national treasure' in a 1989 New York Post article, his statement was more simple truth than political rhetoric.

While politicians in general lack credibility, Natcher's Republican opponents use words like 'honest,' 'honorable,' and 'nice' when they run -- unsuccessfully -- against him. The Wall Street Journal handily labels him 'the last of a vanishing breed -- a lawmaker who runs solely on his official record and his personal reputation...'

None of this comes as a surprise to Natcher's constituents in Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District. After all, they have elected the Bowling Green native to twenty consecutive terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Today, at 83, he has never missed a day in Congress or a roll-call vote. That particular distinction has earned Natcher a place in the 1978, 1990 and 1992 editions of the Guinness Book of World Records. His 13,428 consecutive roll-call votes and 4,219 quorum calls since being sworn in as a member of the 83rd Congress on January 6, 1954, are now an official world record.

'It's true that I've never missed a vote in my thirty-nine years in the House,' Natcher says. 'But when a bill is being presented,

.....

you ought to be there to vote.
If the people elect you, that's
your job.'

But Natcher's stature as a
'national treasure' doesn't hinge,
by any means, on his perfect
voting record. Former House
Speaker Thomas O'Neill once called
him the best parliamentarian in
the House. And while acting as chair-
man of the House Appropriations Com-
mittee which holds the purse strings
on federal spending, Natcher was
cited by USA Today as being the most
frugal member of Congress in 1991.
While the average House member was
busy spending over \$734,000 on staff,
office and mailing expenses, Natcher
spent only \$253,896, which was a
mere 30% of his allocation.

For all his years in the House,
Natcher has managed to remain his
own man in other ways, too. He
refuses campaign contributions,
paying all election expenses out of
his own pocket. In 1986, when the
average House winner spent more than
\$350,000 of his or her election,
Natcher spent \$5,714.

'When I was sworn in as a
representative in 1954, I was
determined to do the job right.
By refusing to accept campaign
contributions, my only obligation
is to the welfare of the people
that I serve,' Natcher says.
'Unless we fix reasonable limits
on campaign spending in this
country, the people are going to
insist that congressional terms
be limited...and they will be
right.'

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As Natcher goes about his business as committee chairman, handling billions of dollars in appropriations for the departments of Health and Human Services and Labor, his legendary status in Congress has attracted a lot of favorable attention.

In September 1992 thirteen members of his family gathered in Bethesda, Maryland, for the groundbreaking of the William H. Natcher Building, a \$176 million office center located in the National Institute of Health complex.

The congressman's list of other awards and honors could fill a book. Distinguished-service awards cover a broad range and include recognition from such organizations as the National Education Association, the American Society of Allied Health Professionals, and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Add various humanitarian awards, honorary doctorates, and citations for public service, and the plaques, certificates, and proclamations number more than sixty.

Famous? Sure, but Natcher isn't overly impressed. He still takes pride in having the smallest staff of any member of Congress -- six aides in Washington, three in Kentucky. And of course there's no need for the usual press secretary, since he only issues one press release each year. That one communication is strictly for the people of his district. The

release simply tells his constituents what they need to know -- how he voted on each issue presented to Congress in the preceding year.

Since he took office Natcher has seen the completion of more than four hundred major federally-funded projects in his district, including airports, lakes, water districts, courthouses, hospitals, and college buildings. Other projects will follow, he indicates, since he considers his job far from over.

'I'm just getting started,' the congressman says. 'I'm planning to give several more opponents a chance to spend lots of money running against me...And sometime in the distant future, I'd like to think that people might be saying, 'I remember Bill Natcher. He always tried to do it right.' "

December 17, 1992

We are now waiting for a budget for Fiscal Year 1994 and for the Inauguration which will take place on January 20. The more I see and talk with our new President, the more I am convinced of the fact that he is a very brilliant man. The problems for the next three years will all be serious and with a great many large companies in this Country cutting back on employees which raises the unemployment figure each month, it will really take some doing to turn this economy around. In fact, on television this morning, I listened to a program where a number of very brilliant consultants and advisors for large company were interviewed and nearly every one of them said "too big"

is our problem in many instances--in General Electric, General Motors, IBM, and others. In fact, IBM will turn out thousands of employees at the close of this year and will cut back, hoping to keep the company alive. At one time, IBM had a protected and closed guarantee not only in this Country, but around the world. Computer competition today is so severe that a great many companies have placed IBM in a position where it either cuts back, or closes out.

Our new President will really have the problems, but again, I say that if he and Congress cooperate, a great many can be solved.

December 18, 1992

Our new President so far has announced a number of men and women that will go into his Cabinet and to me, these are good people. Today, he has Les Aspin, the Chairman of the Armed Services Committee in the House in Little Rock talking about the assignment as Secretary of Defense. The two Members in the House that have received considerable discussion concerning this particular assignment are Les Aspin and Dave McGurdy of Oklahoma. If Les Aspin is selected, Ron Dellums, one of our more vigorous left-wingers in the House will become Chairman of the Armed Services Committee and this, of course, will not suit anyone on that Committee, but Les Aspin may be selected. If anyone calls me and asked me to advise the new President about this particular assignment, I would immediately advise that no one in the Congress, House or Senate be named as Secretary of Defense. I would go back to the days of President Eisenhower when during his campaign he said, as a five-star General, that conditions are so critical at the present time

From the standpoint of the world situation that no one in the military or connected by committee assignment to defense should be named as Secretary of Defense. He said that a successful, hard-working, honest businessman who loves and respects this country and has worked his way up to the top should be the one to be named as Secretary of Defense. - certainly agree that this would be the best recommendation for Bill Clinton at this time, but my guess is he will stay in the Congress for this particular assignment.

Years ago, Chuck Robb was a marine stationed at the White Horse and he and President Johnson's daughter fell in love and were soon married. This apparently pleased President Johnson and Lady Bird Johnson, but Chuck Robb is really in trouble now. The former Governor of Virginia and now a Member of the United States Senate, he is under serious consideration for indictment by virtue of participation in the wire-tapping of telephone lines and also in the results obtained which were passed around to too many people. The phone tap was to obtain information against Governor Wilder, the present black Governor of Virginia who was serving previously as Lieutenant Governor. After months of investigation, a grand jury sitting in Virginia spent many days receiving testimony as to Chuck Robb's part in this overall deal and when he learned that an indictment was imminent, his attorney succeeded in having the Justice Department notify the District Attorney and the Assistant U.S. Attorney in charge of the case that Robb should have the opportunity to appear a second time before the grand jury and clear up some of his previous statements which apparently resulted in an out party. It is said to Chuck Robb last night or television and as an old prosecutor and one who tried to do it right.

I am definitely of the opinion that if this second appearance stops the indictment, the people in Virginia will be up in arms about it and especially those that have gone through indictment procedures and business people who have been threatened from time to time with federal indictments. In fact, a general breakdown of law enforcement would be the result and I believe from what I have heard and read that an indictment will follow.

I have received several nice letters from our new President and in today's mail a nice congratulatory letter on my election as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. I hope that Governor Clinton makes an excellent President because the next four years are really going to be difficult ones and will mean that full cooperation of the Congress and the Executive Departments will be absolutely essential.

January 5, 1993

We convened the 103rd Congress today and for the first time since Jimmy Carter, we will have a Democrat President. The House, Senate and the Executive Branch of the government are all in the Democrat Party and as one of my old friends said the other day, this may be the four-year period that the Democrats later on will wish that they did not control. A great many promises were made during the campaign and some will be right difficult to carry out. Our Committee on Appropriations will, of course, experience considerable difficulty when we have no budget presented to us by President Bush as he leaves office.

The President is completing a trip abroad this week and during his travels signed an agreement with Russia concerning nuclear weapons, A meeting will also be held with the President of France and a

number of other agreements will be signed which the President hopes will help him establish a place in history. A defeated candidate in a loosely constructed treaty agreement with Russia, and the other thirteen independent states that originally composed the Soviet Union being on the outside the number of nuclear weapons and a great many other parts of such an agreement are really in doubt.

Since the November election President Bush has pardoned former Secretary of Defense Weinberger and five others. If he had stopped with Weinberger only, he would not have received the criticism that he is now subject to. Mr. Walsh, the Special Counsel, now says that such a pardon is a complete cover-up by the President and that he may subpoena him as a witness before it is over. President Bush acted 22 days before Weinberger was to have gone on trial on charges of concealing from Congressional investigators and prosecutors thousands of pages of his handwritten notes. In making the pardon, President Bush said that he believed that honor, decency, and fairness required such a pardon, but independent counsel Lawrence Walsh who had investigated the affair for six years at a cost of some \$40 million said Bush's action undermines the principle that no man is above the law.

I start this Congress as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and this comes after being a member of the Committee for 38 years. The 110 new Members as I have said before come with considerable experience on the legislative side, but a great many of them landed here with the hope that they could be elected Chairmen of the Appropriations, Ways & Means, or Rules Committees the first day. This, of course, does not happen and some are right disgruntled.

January 7, 1993

The amounts that some of our Members spent to be elected last November are absolutely amazing. The House freshman class still owes \$7.5 million in total campaign debts after their 1992 races and have indicated the amount of the debts on their final reports. Our Majority Leader, Dick Gephardt of Missouri, really has contests apparently every time he runs. This time, he spent the second largest amount to be re-elected and his amount was a little over \$3.2 million for his November campaign. At least 95 contests in the House cost over \$1 million each.

This is the reason why the people are absolutely disgusted and want to fix the terms of the Members of the House and the Senate. Fixed terms will come unless a change is made and made soon in the amounts that can be expended for House and Senate races. The \$20.16 that I spent for the November election which was mainly for stamps and registered mail is the lowest in the Congress. My opponent was 25 years of age and I never saw him during the campaign.

Yesterday the House on a roll call vote changed the rules of the House with delegates now having the right to cast ballots in the Committee of the Whole. We have five delegates now serving in the House and the Republicans, almost to a Member, fought this change in the Rules. During the battle, the Republican Minority Leader, Bob Michel of Illinois indicated that if the roll call vote permitted such voting, the Republican party would immediately file suit in federal court. This suit will be filed next week and then some Federal Judge will pass upon the change in the Rules with a decision interpreting the provisions of the Constitution. The right to vote in

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the Committee of the Whole has been requested on many occasions since I have been a Member and each time, with the exception of yesterday, it was defeated.

We now have a new letterhead for our Committee on Appropriations with my name appearing as Chairman of the Committee. It required 38 years and it seemed that it would never take place. The Chairmen that I have served with, Cannon, Mahon, and Whitten all had to serve for many years before they became Chairman. We are now underway on our Committee and certainly I will make every effort to be a good Chairman for the most powerful Committee in the Congress.

January 8, 1993

Everything is anything but perfect in Somalia at this time. U.S. attack helicopters, tanks and armored vehicles staged a very dramatic dawn raid on a fortified arsenal of one of Somalia's most powerful warlords yesterday the chief of U.S. forces in Somalia confirmed. A new phase of military relief operation is now in force and maybe this will settle the bandits and the warlords who are making some effort to prevent us from carrying into their country food and materials where there are thousands of people starving to death every day. Some of our people here in the Congress predicted this day would come because the warlords that are in charge of Somalia at this time have used a starvation system for years apparently to gain control of their section of the country or of the country in its entirety. You would think that such barbarianism was no longer in existence anywhere in the world but apparently it is in Somalia during the year of 1993.

In addition to the problems in Somalia, we are back in Iraq now with Saddam Hussein starting to be active again in his fight against those that dispute his rulership. We have notified Saddam that the "no-fly zone" is still in operation and that the U.S. still asserts its right to prevent the use of missiles by this man against those in disagreement at this time. We may have a little more trouble with him before President Bush leaves office on January 20.

January 12, 1993

This morning I had breakfast with the Secretary of Health & Human Services. Dr. Sullivan will go out now and is to return to Morehouse College where he was serving as President when he resigned to take the assignment in George Bush's cabinet. He has appeared before the Subcommittee that I am Chairman of on many occasions prior to his selection as Secretary and always made a good witness.

As I have said previously, most of President Clinton's cabinet members he has announced are excellent people and I do hope that all of them are not only confirmed, but will be outstanding public servants.

The next time a Secretary invites me down for breakfast, I will eat a little breakfast before I go because some of these health conscious Secretaries do not feed you very well. We had a bran muffin and a small bowl of fruit.

January 13, 1993

The grand jury in Virginia finally decided yesterday not to indict Senator Chuck Robb, the husband of Lynda Johnson.

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He announced immediately after the jury adjourned that he would be a candidate for re-election in 1994, and that the outcome was as he expected. Lynda Johnson Robt appeared on a number of television programs shortly thereafter exclaiming that they were "free at last." This was an unusual grand jury hearing because after Robt first appeared his attorney convinced the Justice Department that he should appear again to clear up some of the misunderstandings that apparently resulted from his first appearance. There are people in Virginia today who believe that this was a little unusual and that it did not apply to the ordinary citizen.

Leon Panetta, the new Director of the Office of Management and Budget and a good House Member from California really has his problems. On television programs this past weekend he very frankly said that the new President's promise to reduce the income tax for the middle income taxpayer could not take place and that taxing the rich as promised also would not produce the necessary revenue to bring the deficit down and further, taking medicare away from those with incomes over \$100,000 would be just a drop in the ocean. Our Committee on Appropriations will have to contend with a whole lot before we finally send our 13 appropriations bills to the Senate. The Budget Committee in the House will hold hearings and produce a Resolution that we all know now will really offer no solutions for the problems that I have just enumerated. After the Budget Resolution, of course, we will have our 602 (b) funding and then we will be ready to start the bills through the House.

Governor Clinton might be in a much better position if he just, in the very beginning, placed all of the entitlement

programs that consume almost 70% of the entire budget on the table along with a tax increase proposal and see just what reaction he would receive from the people. At least he could start in early and repair the damage as he went along.

Saddam Hussein hates George Bush. For days now he has sent his military forces into Kuwait and is bringing out of that country missiles and all kinds of equipment that he maintains belongs to his country and that he has a right to recover. President Bush may today, tomorrow, or any hour now, order another military strike against Iraq and I presume that he is simply trying to get all of the allies together before the strike takes place. The Arab countries are not in agreement on any proposed strike and this is the problem that he is confronted with at this hour.

January 14, 1993.

Yesterday at 1:15 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, thirty-five of our planes, along with a few from France and England struck a number of targets in Iraq. These locations were places where missiles and other war equipment was located and this was the equipment that Saddam Hussein had openly moved out of Kuwait in the last few weeks. Notwithstanding all of the rhetoric from Saddam Hussein, no resistance was brought forth and all 35 of our planes, together with the French and British planes safely landed back after some three hours of bombing and today all is quiet again. This man is really something because you would believe from his statements that any further bombing or military engagements against his country would be staunchly resisted but it does not take place and it makes you wonder why it is his people continue loyalty to him when he is nothing in the world but just a "paper tiger."

A number of editorials and stories have been written about the November elections in the newspapers throughout this country. Editorials about the big spenders and this really applies to our Majority Leader, Richard Gephardt of St. Louis, Missouri. He spent \$3,200,000 in the election and this is just absolutely disgusting. To think that you are Majority Leader and have spent this kind of money for a House seat is just beyond comprehension.

The Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Dan Rostenkowski, is still under investigation by a Federal grand jury and subpoenas have now been issued to his sister who apparently was leasing property that she owned to the government for a district office. Matters concerning the purchase of stamps and return of money, along with other use of campaign funds are under investigation. It appeared some two weeks ago that he would be indicted, but so far no indictments have been returned.

Some of the stories I see about my appointment as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee are somewhat amusing. Especially since our deficit will go to nearly \$400 billion for the Fiscal Year 1993. The latest AP story being carried in Kentucky is entitled "State's Congressional Delegation Increases Clout" and this story is as follows:

"Kentucky will pack more congressional clout this year than many states its size or even larger, despite two new members of the state's U.S. House delegation and the loss of one seat through redistricting.

That was the consensus of several political observers, who weighed the new positions of

power for some Kentucky lawmakers against losses of three incumbents.

'Overall, I think it looks good for Kentucky,' said Harvey Sloane, a former Louisville mayor who now heads the Washington-based Health Care for America advocacy group.

The rise of Rep. Bill Natcher, D-2nd District, to the helm of the House Appropriations Committee is perhaps gives Kentucky the biggest boost this year.

From the helm of that panel, which considers spending bills, Natcher will be in a prime position to help his home state as it battles others for funds from the ever-diminishing federal pot.

'I think the fact that Bill Natcher (is chairman) will offset any other losses,' said Rep. Jim Bunning, R-4th District. 'Without question, that's the plum.'

The state's senior senator, Wendell Ford, retains his spot as the No. 2 Democrat in the upper chamber, serving as majority whip. Ford also is chairman of the influential Rules Committee, the gateway for all legislation to reach the floor for a vote.

Bunning said that Kentucky's position will be bolstered by Rep. Harold Rogers, R-5th District, who is a high-ranking minority member of the House spending panel.

Because of retirements and election losses, Bunning has vaulted from 12th to seventh place in seniority on the House Ways and Means Committee, the pivotal tax-writing panel. That kind of a leap in power normally could take a decade.

'We haven't had anybody on that committee with as much power for about 20 years,' said Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, a former Kentucky governor and a now-retired Washington lobbyist for the Norfolk Southern Railroad.

Breathitt said Bunning will be well positioned to protect the state's horse, tobacco and distilling interests.

Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell also brings weight to bear for the state, particularly among his Republican colleagues, Breathitt and others said.

At the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, Kentucky should find a sympathetic ear as well. President-elect Clinton and Vice President-elect Al Gore both have reasons to be kind to the state, Breathitt and Sloane said.

Gov. Brereton Jones has had a long relationship with Clinton, and Jones was one of the first governors to endorse Clinton's candidacy. Kentucky is close to Gore's home state of Tennessee, and Kentucky backed Gore in primary balloting during his unsuccessful 1988 presidential campaign.

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A personal relationship with a president can be of tremendous importance, said Breathitt, who was an early supporter of President Lyndon Johnson. As a result, Johnson helped Kentucky in many ways, including by providing federal land for park land as well as money grants.

Breathitt said Ford's close relationship with Clinton also will help: 'I think both Wendell Ford and the governor will have great influence.'

But the loss of one of Kentucky's precious House seats translates not only into the reduction of votes from seven to six, but also in an accompanying loss of committee assignments and bargaining power.

The departure of three veteran legislators will prove to be the biggest negative for Kentucky in Congress this term, the observers said. Reps. Larry Hopkins, R-6th District, and Chris Perkins, D-7th, both retired. Rep. Carroll Hubbard, D-1st District, lost in the Democratic primary.

All three carried weight because of their accrued seniority in the House stature that will take years to regain.

Perkins was a strong voice for eastern Kentucky and mining issues. Hopkins was the senior GOP member of House Agriculture Committee's tobacco subcommittee.

Hubbard had clout on the barking panel.

Some of that power loss, at least on agriculture matters, can be recouped by Hopkins' new job as the top bureaucrat in the U.S. Department of Agriculture and by the naming of Kentucky's two freshman congressmen Rep. Scotty Baesler, D-6th, and Tom Barlow, D-1st, to the House agriculture panel.

But Bunning bemoaned the absence of any Kentuckians on the armed services panel where Hopkins had been a member at a time when defense cuts will be taking center stage. Fort Knox and Fort Campbell have proven attractive targets for defense budget-cutters in the past, Bunning said.

'I would expect they will come under extreme pressure within two to four years,' Bunning said. 'With someone on the committee, it would help in the fight.' "

January 15, 1993

After the raids in Iraq, it was then possible to take the photographs and compare with the targets that were to be hit. It seems that we missed quite a few of the targets and in one instance, a building was hit which was not intended to be and this caused damages to an apartment building near the target site. The President is just a little put out with questions about the number of misses insofar as the targets are concerned and the miss where the apartment building was located was the bad target sitting of a 2000-pound bomb. I watched the

President on television this morning and the questions concerning the misses in Iraq certainly were not well received. It seems that our old fighter planes did much better than our newer ones, but this may be a matter of pilot error more so than failure to hit targets.

With less than one week to go before the inauguration, President-elect Clinton found himself on the defensive yesterday trying to square his rhetoric during the campaign with his statements since the election on a range of domestic and foreign policy issues. At a press conference in Little Rock where the President announced his White House staff to be installed, he was asked a number of questions, not only about the new White House line up, but about some of the changes that he has apparently accepted since the election. The honeymoon that generally takes place between the new President and the media may be over even before it has really started. At this particular press conference, Bill Clinton found himself denying that he was reneging on a campaign promise to revamp the Bush Administration's program of forcible return of Haitian boat people without asylum hearings. Also in a right angry manner, he insisted that he had been misunderstood in a "New York Times" interview that suggested he might be open to normal relations with Saddam Hussein's regime. He explained also in answer to another question that the American people should judge him on his progress in achieving the big things and should not hold him responsible for backtracking on a campaign promise to enact a middle class tax cut. When the news conference was over, Clinton's newly announced White House communications director, George Staphanopoulos was besieged with more questions about reports that Attorney General--designate Zoe Baird had hired illegal aliens. The new Press

Secretary apparently was expecting this question because he gave a right good answer.

January 19, 1993

The inauguration of our new President, Governor Clinton of Arkansas, will be held tomorrow and judging from the number of people that are in town today, there could be over 200,000 to attend the ceremony. The weather prediction is good and apparently there are enough tickets for standing and seats to go around.

During the past ten days, our new President has said that his promise to reduce the income tax for the middle-income taxpayer must be set aside for the time-being and that he may have trouble reducing the White House staff and costs 25%. He maintains that the budget deficit increased \$160 billion from November 3 to January 3 and this increase, of course, was not anticipated during the campaign. Now, as far as the gay community is concerned in the Armed Services, our new President and his press secretary say that there will be a change in the present policy. They do not go as far as they did in the campaign in regard to eliminating the gay community from the Armed Services. As far as reducing the deficit by half during the four-year period, this, of course, will be difficult to handle and the new President says that the current deficit for 1993 of \$327.3 billion will be reduced \$22,400,000,000 or a sequester will take place under Gramm-Rudman. Our new President is still insisting upon a line item veto and this, of course, will be strongly contested.

January 21, 1993

Our 42nd President was inaugurated yesterday. Bill Clinton of Arkansas took

the Oath of Office and following this portion of the program, our Vice President Al Gore, Jr. of Tennessee was sworn in. The new President's speech was an excellent one--not too long, and to the point. The main gist of his speech concerned a change as far as our Country is concerned and elimination of the gridlock and drift is over. With a tremendous national debt and the deficit almost out of control, the President emphasized that the people in our Country must join with us at this time in correcting this situation and it will take not only cooperation, but a spirit of foregoing programs and demands that can be waived at the present time. More emphasis on education and health, and with us now the only superpower left in the world, our responsibility is considerably greater. The different balls and portions of the inaugural ceremony were all well-attended and appreciated by the people who arrived in Washington this week. By estimate, the D.C. Government says that there were between one million and 2 million visitors in the city during inaugural week.

Bill Clinton is a very bright man and has a nice personality. Last night rather late, he got a little impatient with his daughter and on television had to holler a few times at her to get her underway so that they could go from one ball to another.

I have just returned from a meeting of the Steering & Policy Committee and within the next two hours, our new President Bill Clinton will issue an Executive Order setting aside the \$22.5 billion which is over the budget summit agreement. The Republicans will hold press conferences all during the balance of the day in which they will take great pleasure in gloating over the fact that the new President is not in favor of reducing the national debt because if so,

he would let Gramm-Rudman sequester take place. The sequester would only apply to the 1994 budget but there would be that much of a reduction in the deficit which the President has said can be brought down from the present figure to half of that figure during his four-year term.

January 22, 1993

The Senate is now in the process of holding hearings on the Cabinet appointments for our new President. I believe four have been confirmed up to this time and early this morning, the President's appointment for Attorney General requested that her name be withdrawn. Senate backing for the confirmation of Attorney General-designate Zoe E. Baird began to crumble yesterday as the five moderate Democrats echoed by Republicans called for her to withdraw. These were Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and this was just enough to bring about the action. The lady had employed illegal aliens to take care of her son and had not informed immigration authorities, or paid anything into Social Security, or complied with necessary requirements. Just before the hearings started, she paid some \$12,000 or \$14,000 in, but this was not enough and her withdrawal was good.

Clinton had an open house at the White House yesterday and thousands accepted his invitation to attend. It was almost as bad as back during the days of Andrew Jackson and others who had open house and they almost tore up the White House. On one occasion, a tremendous table full of cheese and wine was placed out in the front yard of the White House and this enticed enough out of the building to keep them from completely destroying the White House.

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President Clinton is signing a number of Executive Orders today concerning matters that President Bush was against--fetal tissue research, the "gag" rule, and others will receive Executive Orders permitting and endorsing these programs.

The \$22.5 billion that would have triggered Gramm-Rudman since the amount at the present time has come up to \$327 billion was, by Executive Order, signed by the President yesterday, floating it over into the Fiscal Year of 1994. This prevented a sequester which would have brought about a reduction across-the-board.

The year of 1993 will be an unusual year in more ways than one. Bringing the deficit down and still fulfilling promises that were made during the campaign will be almost impossible. I still say that our new President is a bright man, but he will really have to stay alert in order to establish a record during his first term that will justify re-election for a second one.

January 25, 1993

Retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died yesterday. He was 84 years of age and had been retired from the court since June of 1991. Justice Marshall had been in failing health in recent months -- the first black justice and an appointee of Lyndon Johnson. He was born in Baltimore and after studying law, on many occasions represented the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He represented this organization and many others before the Supreme Court back during the days when the minorities needed a voice and especially the underprivileged. He served on the court for 24 years and he was replaced by a black Justice, Clarence Thomas who, after all kinds of problems

before the Judiciary Committee, was finally confirmed. He was a very gruff man in his old age but still well respected and a man who was good for this country.

A number of the new Cabinet members have appeared on Sunday television programs recently and this past Sunday, our new Secretary of the Treasury, Lloyd Bentsen of Texas appeared. According to Secretary Bentsen, the Clinton Administration is likely to impose new taxes on consumption of energy. This, he said, would encourage investment for the creation of new jobs in our country and would also serve as a conservation measure. Middle-income tax relief has been set aside for the time being, according to Bentsen and may not come again this year.

Today President Clinton will meet with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the question before the meeting will be the problem concerning homosexuals and lesbians in the military service. Yesterday on television, Les Aspin, our former Member in the House and now the new Secretary of Defense, said that President Clinton faces defeat in Congress on his pledge to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military, and he emphasized that he was in need of help from the Joint Chiefs of Staff for a plan that could be accepted and one that is broadly acceptable to the public. This statement comes before the meeting by the President and the Joint Chiefs and as I understand it, the Joint Chiefs are bitterly opposed to any change in the military system concerning homosexuals and lesbians.

The President in his Executive Orders the day following his inauguration concerning freedom of choice, the "gag" rule, and fetal tissue research has really disturbed the Catholics in this country, and the march on Friday, which contained some 70,000, clearly indicated their displeasure--

a hot issue and one that will continue on into the future.

Our Committee on Appropriations is now underway and we hope to complete our hearings and pass all 13 of our appropriation bills before the last day of June. This would be in the House and then send them all to the Senate.

The document entitled, "The Budget Baselines, Historical Data and Alternatives for the Future," which contains 562 pages, is certainly not sufficient so a complete budget which is now being prepared by the new administration is very much in order.

January 26, 1993

Our new President met with the Joint Chiefs of Staff yesterday and the matter discussed was the lifting of the gay ban. The President reiterated his intention to remove the ban against homosexuals in the military despite opposition outlined to him in an afternoon meeting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and warnings that a repeal could set off an early battle with Congress. During the two-hour White House meeting, General Colin L. Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and the other five members told President Clinton of their concern and difficulties with the President's efforts to quickly fulfill a major campaign pledge to lift the ban. Our new Secretary of Defense, Les Aspin, a former Member of the House, agrees that the Congress will not join with the President in his proposal concerning the gays.

In addition to meeting with the Joint Chiefs yesterday, our new President named his wife, Hillary Clinton, to lead six Cabinet Secretaries and a handful of senior White House advisors in tackling what is expected to be the most difficult domestic

issue of his Presidency and that is national health care overhaul. She will have an office in the West Wing and this is really a new innovation.

Another bit of news that is not good is the fact that Sears, Roebuck and Company yesterday announced dramatic steps to reverse a steady decline in its multi-billion dollar retail operation by eliminating 50,000 jobs and closing more than 100 unprofitable stores and shutting down its famed 97 year-old catalog operation. Long before I was born, the catalog business was a prosperous one, and people throughout this country still use this service.

January 27, 1993

Our new President is now in his first 100 days and so far, has maintained the same position that he supported during the Presidential election in regard to a number of major matters. After the matter of the gays in the military service, he held a meeting with the leadership in the House and the Senate on both sides and today the White House has called to request that some of the Chairmen come to the White House for a meeting with the President. A number of years ago I wrote a letter to my grandchildren stating that when such meetings were called and I was invited, I always drove my four-door 1968 Chevrolet Impala to the White House and onto the White House grounds, parking it along with cadillacs, jaguars, and other expensive automobiles. This improved the social standing, I believe, of my automobile but at times I had trouble parking since so many were driving down from the Hill.

Our full Committee on Appropriations meets today and we will adopt the rules for the operation of the Committee for the 103rd Congress. along with the jurisdiction of the

thirteen Subcommittees. So far, we have had no problems and we are now ready to adopt the necessary rules and get all of our hearings underway so that all of our bills will be out of the house by the last day of June and in the Senate.

January 29, 1993

Our new President called a meeting of the Chairmen of the Appropriations, Ways & Means and Energy & Commerce Committees for 6 pm at the White House on Wednesday. As the new Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I accepted the invitation and then the time was changed from 6 p.m. to 2 p.m. We had a full Committee meeting scheduled for 2 p.m. to adopt the rules of the Committee for the 103rd Congress and the jurisdiction of the Subcommittees. This simply meant that I could not attend the White House meeting, but judging from what transpired at that meeting, I missed nothing. The President talked mainly about his commitment to lift the ban on gays and lesbians in the military and also stressed the fact that the deficit must be lowered as soon as possible and an incentive package should be placed before the Congress which will produce some new jobs. The amount discussed for the incentive package is \$15 billion which would come in the nature of a supplemental and would come out of the current 1993 fiscal year budget. The media is really following carefully every move the new President makes since he had to back up on two or three of his commitments and the Republicans in the Senate, after succeeding in forcing the nominee for Attorney General to withdraw, are really on the warpath and apparently the honeymoon is over.

Yesterday, the Democrats held their annual retreat and this, each two years, is mainly for the new Members. The retreat

is being held at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. For the first time since I have been a Member of Congress, I attended the first day's meeting and along with the 55 new Members on our side, had lunch and dinner, with speeches from Al Gore, Jr. and Lloyd Bentsen, our new Secretary of the Treasury. Meetings were held in between the two dinner programs and the new Members all were indicating their wishes and wants, but mainly their fears as far as the future is concerned. I have never heard new Members talk about promises they made that must be carried out on subjects such as Social Security, the lifting of the ban on homosexuals in the military, bringing down the deficit, and providing more jobs immediately. Some said very frankly that unless this was done, and all of these matters were taken care of real soon, they would have no chance for re-election. They are simply scared to death as far as the future is concerned and I was surprised because a great many of them have had legislative experience back in their home states.

Thurgood Marshall's funeral was held yesterday and the President and Vice President attended the funeral. He will be buried today in Arlington National Cemetery. He was born in 1908 and on television not too long ago upon being interviewed said that Martin Luther King's statement that everything had changed as far as the blacks were concerned certainly never has taken place and as far as segregation and failure to take care of the minorities, it is just as bad today as it was back during the days of Martin Luther King. Marshall established an outstanding record as a defending attorney back in the days of civil rights and the elimination of equal facilities regardless of race, but all during his lifetime he was gruff and just simply unhappy.

February 1, 1993

I have just returned from the Board of Directors meeting at the Smithsonian Institution. As Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I am now, under the law a member of the Board of Regents. Our Speaker, Tom Foley, named me as a Board Member to take the place of my friend, Jamie L. Whitten, the former Chairman of the Appropriations Committee who no longer serves on the Board. My appointment comes under the revised statute 20 USC.42-43.

The Speaker named me, Norman Mineta, (D-Cal.) and Joe McDade (R-Pa). Mineta and McDade have previously served on the Board. The Senate has as its members on this Board Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York; James M. Sasser of Tennessee, and John Warner of Virginia. There are three vacancies on the citizens section of the Board that are now in the process of being filled in the House and in the Senate. The Secretary of the Smithsonian at this time is Robert McCormack Adams, a descendant of the McCormack family of Chicago, Illinois. He is a very distinguished looking man and a man that I believe is filling his assignment with distinction and honor. The meeting was held in the old Smithsonian Building on Independence Avenue. This building was constructed shortly after the Civil War and is one of the beautiful old buildings in this city. The windows are quaint in design and the columns and the structures inside are simply magnificent. In going into this building you feel like you are almost into another world where old buildings are loved and well maintained. The meeting this morning consumed about two hours and we meet again during the month of May. During the meeting the question of additional funds for the Institution of course were raised and since I am the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee in the House

one of the board members really stressed the necessity of obtaining additional funds. One of our thirteen Subcommittee Chairmen in our full Committee is Sid Yates of Chicago and he has jurisdiction in his Interior Subcommittee over the Smithsonian Institution. There is no better friend in this country than Sid Yates as far as the Smithsonian is concerned, and I feel sure that he is recommending adequate funds for this Institution.

The President has completed his weekend at Camp David and I hope that agreements were reached that will help us not only with the media, who by the way have really been plucking at the new President, but with the Congress. I presume that we will have to wait now until the State of the Union message which will come on February 17 before we really understand what the President has in mind from the standpoint of an economic package and just what he intends to do about holding down the deficit.

Leon Panetta, our former House Member and the new Director of the Office of Management and Budget, has an appointment to see me this afternoon and I presume he will want to talk about a proposed supplemental that may come up before too long.

February 2, 1993

In an article in today's "Washington Post" concerning the deficit, the reporter quotes me as having said that "deficit reduction absolutely comes first." He described me as a "superhawk" on this matter and he describes me correctly. If we fail to bring the deficit down and controllable during this four-year period, we are absolutely in for a long era of trouble.

The Governors are having their annual winter meeting here in Washington at this.....

time and our new President is meeting with them again today. Health care reform is one of the major topics under discussion with the Governors and sometime this year, I hope they bring out a vehicle that starts a good health care program underway--not a finished product, but just a vehicle which can be added to and corrected over the next two or three years. One that will hold up and be as successful as Social Security has been all down through the years.

When I first became Chairman of the Subcommittee that appropriates the money for the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services and Education, one of the Secretaries of Labor back in those days was Secretary Schultz. In his memoirs which were released this week, he emphatically stated that President Bush and President Reagan both knew all about the Iran arms deal with the hostages and this absolutely repudiated President Bush's denial that he knew anything about the deal. Here on Capitol Hill, the great majority of the Members believe that Bush knew all about the transaction. This man Schultz always impressed me as being a truthful man.

One of our Senators John C. Danforth (R-Mo.), a 56-year-old lawyer and clergyman announced yesterday that he would not seek reelection in 1994. He was a sponsor of Clarence Thomas, the new black Member on the Supreme Court and all during the days of the Anita Hill controversy, he backed Thomas from beginning to end and I presume that he has discovered that there are a whole lot of ladies in the State of Missouri who are just waiting on him and hoping that the year of 1994 comes real soon.

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February 3, 1993

Our new President apparently is a little disturbed at our Members of Congress and he indicated as much at the leadership meeting yesterday. According to our Speaker, the new President said that he hoped Congress would give him a chance to get started because every time he reads the paper he sees different opinions concerning his stand on abortion, homosexuals in the military service, and several other matters. George Bush was pro-life all the way and our new President is pro-choice. In addition, Mr. Clinton says that the ban should be lifted as far as gays and lesbians in the military service and that they should not be barred from serving. This is in direct disagreement with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the majority of the Members in the House. If this matter comes to a vote, my guess is the Congress will stay with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In today's Washington Post there is a picture on the front page of our new President and George Mitchell, the Majority Leader in the Senate, and apparently this picture was taken at the wrong time because you can tell by the expression on both faces that there was anything but agreement in the matter under discussion.

February 4, 1993

President Clinton attended a whip meeting in the House today and this, of course, is right unusual. He just wanted to talk to those who notified the Members of the legislative program and the order of business each day. Here again, he had an opportunity to say to them that he hoped that in passing the word about the legislative program they would stress the fact

that he, as the new President, would have an opportunity to first outline his program in his State of the Union message before too many judgments were rendered.

The President is now in the process of selecting another nominee for Attorney General. Those on the short list at this time are an attorney here in Washington by the name of Wood, another attorney also in Washington, and former Governor of Virginia Gerald Baliles. This, of course, is a real important assignment and I hope he gets a good one.

February 5, 1993

We were here last night until about midnight. We finally approved and sent to President Clinton a long-delayed bill to give millions of workers time off for family and medical needs in what Democrats heralded as a major break in a decade-long deadlock between the White House and Congress over major social legislation. The bill finally cleared both houses after the Senate ended an impasse of a Republican proposal to reinstate the ban on homosexuals in the military that was partially lifted by Clinton this week. The Leave bill passed in the House 247 to 152. Later it cleared in the Senate on a vote of 71 to 27. The bill provides for twelve weeks without pay if the employee has to be off for illness in the family or for the birth of a child. Their job is safe and can be reclaimed with the legislation excluding businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

Finally an amendment was adopted in the Senate that provided for a study to be made and a final report returned within six months on the policy concerning homosexuals in the military service before a final decision is to be made.

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February 16, 1993

Yesterday, President Clinton invited a number of us to the White House for the purpose of discussing some of the major matters that he will present to the Congress in his State of the Union message tomorrow night. Some 33 Members, with about half of them new Members, attended the 1:30 afternoon meeting but prior to this meeting, they called me from the White House and asked that I meet with the President at 12:15 p.m. I met him in the Oval Office and we talked for about 30 minutes and then I went on to the Chief of Staff's office and read the newspaper until the 1:30 p.m. meeting. In substance, I said to those at the 1:30 meeting that I had served with nine Presidents and I wanted him to be the best President I had ever served with. Understanding full well that now we must bite the bullet and make some move that will really bring the deficit down and control federal spending, we have reached the point where our country comes ahead of party. This is the best example that I can give you at the present time and just why the statement is true. The President is very much concerned about his budget which will come up to the Congress on March 23. He wants it to arrive and be received and not turned back immediately with an indication that it is "dead on arrival." Several of his assistants said this to me prior to the 1:30 pm meeting and I knew exactly what they were talking about.

In speaking of my Chairmanship of the Appropriations Committee at the breakfast club this morning where we all sit down and tell big tales, they kidded me somewhat about waiting for 18 years to be Chairman and now Senator Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kansas) has for the third year, introduced a bill that will do away with the Senate Appropriations Committee. She and Bob Byrd apparently do not agree on the day of the week or the time

of day and this partly comes as a result of the many projects that he has written into Appropriations bills since he has been Chairman which then went on to West Virginia. Such as the fingerprint laboratory of the FBI for instance, with hundreds of people uprooted and with a great many Members of the Senate objecting to his move, but failing to muster enough votes to stop him. The Senate Appropriations Committee, of course, will not be deleted and neither will the House Appropriations Committee, but the Budget Committee is in danger in both Houses and also the Chairmen of the Committees. I received word this weekend from one of the Members of the Hamilton Commission which is the committee now holding hearings that every effort will be made to do away with one Committee entirely and that is the Budget Committee. Very few Members in the House will object to this move and maybe we then can get by an impasse that occurs almost annually when we are trying to hold hearings on our Committee and finally adjourn at a responsible time and month. Some of the President's proposals that he will make in his State of the Union message tomorrow night will be right controversial and several pertain to the energy tax that he will propose and also the additional income tax on those who make over \$100,000 in income.

February 17, 1993

This morning I received a book of pictures beautifully bound from Dr. Bernadine Healy, the Director of the National Institutes of Health. Along with the book is a little note from Dr. Healy which reads as follows:

"Dear Mr. Watcher,

On behalf of the National Institutes of Health staff, I am

pleased to send you this collection of memorable photos of the ground-breaking ceremony. It was a wonderful day, and we were proud to be a part of it.

Thank you for your continuing leadership and support of the NIH.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Bernadine

Bernadine Healy, M.D.
Director

Enclosure

The building is coming along nicely!

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This ceremony on my birthday, September 11, 1992 was one of the happiest days of my life. All of my family was present, the weather was wonderful and there were over 1500 people at the ground-breaking ceremony.

The Policy Committee selected by the Speaker holds its first meeting today and all thirteen of our Subcommittees, with the exception of the District of Columbia are now holding hearings. We are moving along and I do hope, and I say again, that our new President makes the best President I have served with during my membership in the Congress.

Articles are now appearing in all of the papers and especially today since this is the day the President delivers his State

of the Union message. Headlines such as-- "Families Earning Over \$30,000 to See Tax Rise; Clinton Vows No Raw Pain," and directly under this story another one entitled "Stock Market Falls Sharply" and another on the same page is entitled "Lobbyists in Full Swing on Tax Plan" appeared in today's newspaper.

This will really be an unusual year, but one that will long be remembered.

February 18, 1993

Last night President Clinton in his State of the Union message called upon the American people to face the cold, hard facts and to join together with him and all of those public officials to turn this Country around with control of the deficit, federal spending and a reduction in some 140 programs. I have never seen as many standing ovations during a speech in the House Chamber since I have been a Member of Congress. There were twice as many as any other President I have served with and I have now served with nine Presidents. This speech was probably witnessed by more people in this Country than any other speech made by a President. Instead of some 45 or 46 million people, there probably were at least 100 million people watching this speech to find out what the new President had to offer. During the speech he set forth a number of programs that he believed could be reduced and he said that there would be a federal pay freeze of all federal employees and this, of course, does not sit too well with a great many people and he also said that REA could go directly to the banking institutions now and borrow their money. A number of other recommendations were made that will make it a little difficult for the Members of Congress, but I predict that a number of Members will vote for programs and changes because something has to take place to bring down the federal debt

totaling \$4,300,000,000,000 and the present deficit for 1993 of \$327 billion. I do agree with the President that unless some move along this line is made the deficit will soon increase to \$650 billion a year.

February 22, 1993

This weekend a Circuit Court of Appeals Judge died and his eulogy was quite lengthy. The title of the eulogy is "David L. Bazelon Dies: Headed Appeals Court." It is two columns and right complimentary with one little paragraph in the second column which said that for thirteen of his most productive years on the Court, Judge Bazelon sat on the same Appellate bench as Warren E. Burger who in 1969 became Chief Justice of the United States. The two were always proper and correct toward each other in the courtroom, but privately the liberal Judge Bazelon and the Conservative Judge Burger became bitter antagonists. This statement is a part of the obituary and just barely touches the surface. Back during the days of the fight here in the City of Washington over the subway system and the construction of the rapid transit system, I received a message from Chief Justice Burger concerning the appeal from Bazelon's decision on the Circuit Court of Appeals here in the District. This is all recorded in my Journal back a number of years ago. The mystery was finally solved when we found out who Bazelon sold his home to.

President Clinton is now in California and all of his Cabinet have traveled this past week--selling his program and right successfully. Every place that President Clinton has visited he has requested that the people write to their Congressman and their Senators, urging that his emergency package be accepted and that the tax portion, when it comes also receive approval. It has produced good psychological affects all around the Country and this has turned a number of non-members

and old ones too in such a manner that they will now almost be forced to vote for the Appropriations bill when I bring it out in the House. This is for \$16.151 million and is under the caps, and is to be expended for programs that are well known and well liked in this Country. Programs such as the Summer Youth Employment Programs for boys and girls in the cities; additional money for Head Start and other programs that are right well funded at the present time.

February 26, 1993

We are now conducting our hearings on the bill that appropriates the money for the Departments of Labor, Health & Human Services and Education. Since the Bush Administration left us no budget we are hearing outside witnesses and conducting overview hearings until the new Administration prepares and sends us up a budget. The first announcement said the budget would come on the 23rd day of March and yesterday, the date was changed to April 5.

In our hearings today with outside witnesses, one of our witnesses was the black football player Kenny Walker who has been deaf since he was two years of age. He is a defensive end on the Denver Broncos and is 25 years of age. He is a former All-American at the University of Nebraska. The quarterback and the players give him the proper signals by signing and so far, he has been right successful. He is about 6'6" tall and weighs at least 280 pounds. He is a tremendous man and if he hit you square away, you would probably be paralyzed for life. He made a good witness and the interpreter with him repeated for us his statement. He has all kinds of difficulty with speaking.

This week we also had Len Dawson, the former Quarterback who is now in the Hall of Fame. He too is a great big man, but really

alert and still in good health. His testimony pertained to additional funding for cancer of the prostate gland. He has a lovely wife and she demanded that he take the necessary tests and so far has had no further trouble with a cancerous prostate gland. The operation apparently was successful.

As Chairman of this Subcommittee, I meet unusual people from time to time and one of them is Dr. Bernadine Healy, the present Director of the National Institutes of Health. Her husband is a researcher and has his own clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Healy is a scientist researcher and a graduate of Harvard medical college. She has 3 or 4 sisters and they all graduated from Vassar and later went on to Harvard and other institutions of higher learning obtaining professional degrees. She is the 7th Director of the National Institutes of Health that I have served with and started out with me on the building that was named after me at the National Institutes of Health. She is a beautiful woman and is one of the most photogenic people that I have ever seen in my life. She is a strong Republican and has indicated as much on many occasions. In fact, Ferot, who started out and finally ran for President on the Independent ticket asked her to join him and be his candidate for Vice President. Her answer was to the effect that she was not interested and that she was for George Bush and was a solid Republican. In fact, she should have just said "no" because this long answer hurt her here in Washington.

I have wondered now for several weeks as to whether or not she would be asked to resign since her position is one that is sought after by a great many men and women in this Country. Of course, they have to be well-qualified and Dr. Healy has been right controversial since she assumed the position

as Director of the National Institutes of Health. Yesterday afternoon she called me and said confidentially that she would resign today as Director. This morning at 11 a.m. she did and the following "News Release" was issued:

"Healy Resigning as Head of NIH"

WASHINGTON (AP) Dr. Bernadine P. Healy is resigning as director of the National Institutes of Health, effective June 30, her office said today. Healy, 48, was the chair of the Research Institute of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation before her appointment as NIH director in March 1991. She had been one of the few Bush administration appointees held over at the Department of Health and Human Services on a temporary basis. She was holding a news conference on NIH's Bethesda, Md., campus later today to announce her resignation. President Clinton has not nominated a successor. Healy, 48, a cardiologist, was chair of the Research Institutes of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation before taking the Bush administration health post. She made research into women's health problems a priority at NIH, where she presided over a \$10.3 billion budget and 19,000 employees. She angered some Democrats by supporting the Bush policy opposing federal funded fetal tissue research, which was immediately overturned when Clinton took office last month. She also clashed last year with James D. Watson, the Nobel Prize winner who resigned last year as first director of NIH's National Center for Human Genome Research after Healy voiced concerns about

his personal investments in biotechnology companies. Healy is a graduate of Vassar College and Harvard Medical School. Her immediately plans were not known."

March 1, 1993

The terrific explosion which occurred in New York City last week at the World Trade Center where five people were killed, two are missing and over 1,000 injured was finally announced as a dynamite blast. Some 2,000 cars are parked in the tower where the blast took place and in one of the cars that was driven in, or a truck, hundreds of pounds of dynamite were triggered to go off and this set off the blast. The twin towers of the World Trade Center house over 100,000 workers and in the tower where the blast took place there were some 55,000 of these people working each day. A terrific amount of damage took place in the garage section of the tower and it goes up several stories. The smoke and excitement almost took the lives of hundreds. Shortly before the blast took place a call was received by one of the managers of the center which indicated that those interested in what was taking place in Yugoslavia were responsible for the blast and that it would go off shortly. This was about 15 minutes before the blast took place. The FBI and the Secret Service are now on the case, along with the police and state police in New York State. An automobile which is bullet proof was kept in the basement of the tower and used by the Presidents of the United States when they visit New York City. A number of other vehicles were used and housed and under the control of the Secret Service.

The President's program is having its problems. Shortly after being sworn in, President Clinton said that he would have over a four-year period, new spending proposals totaling \$189 billion and new taxes

totaling \$246 billion. There would be a \$21 billion tax increase on social security benefits. This statement has really upset the Senate and the Majority Leader George Mitchell of Maine says that the Senate will not be able to accept the President's proposal.

When I met with the President in the Oval Office on the Monday holiday recently, he emphasized the fact with me that it was all important that his emergency supplemental bill be passed as quickly as possible. I then called the other twelve Subcommittee Chairmen together and we agreed unanimously to take about three days of hearings and bring the bill out in the exact amount requested by the President which was \$16.262 billion. We did this and were ready to go to full Committee when Speaker Foley called a meeting of four or five of us and said that the White House was a little reluctant to take the emergency supplemental through ahead of the Budget Resolution which carries the proposed cuts to be offered by the President. We had trouble receiving the final papers on the supplemental from one of the President's assistants and that indicated to me a change of heart, but finally it came up late one afternoon and we were ready then to go the following Tuesday to full Committee, the Rules Committee the next day, and the House chamber the following day. The word passed all around that we had no trouble in going along with the President and since he had just started out we believed that we should help him as much as possible.

Here in the City of Washington we have a reporter by the name of David Broder who writes for "The Washington Post" and his column goes around the country to a number of other newspapers. One is the Lexington, Kentucky "Herald-Leader." In the February 21, 1993 issue of this newspaper there is a Broder column entitled "Clinton can but beg ofatcher et al." This column is as follows:

"It was 10 hours before Bill Clinton would step into the chamber of the House of Representatives to deliver his first presidential State of the Union address. The atmosphere in Room 2358 of the Rayburn House Office Building, just across Independence Avenue from the Capitol, had none of the excitement, anticipation and theatrics of the state occasion that would come later.

Where Clinton spoke of the urgent need for 'change' and 'new direction,' everything in Room 2358 proclaimed tradition and continuity. The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education was conducting its first hearing of the year on the spending plans of the gigantic Department of Health and Human Services, whose \$591 billion in outlays in the current year are double the size of the next largest department, the Pentagon.

For all the drama and publicity that attended Clinton's address, in the end he can only propose. The people in Room 2358 symbolized the much larger, less visible power of government -- the long-time members of Congress and career bureaucrats who ultimately decide what gets done in Washington. It is their inertia that Clinton must try to overcome with his invocation of America's 'youthful energy and daring spirit.'

No TV cameras were in the room. A single print reporter listened. The remaining chairs were filled by representatives of organizations dependent on HHS.

An atmosphere of insider clubbiness prevailed. At the center of the committee table sat Rep. William Natcher of Kentucky, gray-haired and sharp-nosed; virtually unknown to the public, but probably more powerful than a president when it comes to spending decisions.

Natcher, 83, is chairman of both the full Appropriations Committee and of its most powerful subcommittee. He has been in Congress 40 years -- long enough, he said, to see the budget of the National Institutes of Health increase from \$73 million to \$10.3 billion. His philosophy of spending is straightforward: 'We believe on this subcommittee that if there is any peace dividend from the end of the Cold War, this is where it should come.'

Next to him was the subcommittee's ranking Republican, Rep. John Edward Porter of Illinois. Partisanship is frowned upon in Appropriations; and after six terms, Porter, like Natcher, is a member in good standing of permanent government.

At the witness table sat Dennis P. Williams, a baldish man with a bristling gray moustache, who carries the title of HHS deputy assistant secretary for budget. But to members of the subcommittee, he was simply 'Dennis.' Like

his three colleagues also testifying this day, he is a career government employee. (Clinton's few HHS political appointees, a subcommittee veteran whispered, do not know their briefs well enough yet to come before the appropriators.) His biography recapitulates the history of liberal government -- Peace Corps in the mid-'60s; anti-poverty Office of Economic Opportunity after that; and then, a series of increasingly responsible budget jobs at HHS, capped by nine years in his current post.

Unintentionally, but inextricably, Williams and his colleagues showed why it will be so hard for Clinton -- or anyone else -- to tame the federal budget.

With pointer and charts, Williams reminded members of what they already knew -- only a tiny 6 percent slice of HHS's huge budget can be cut or increased at the discretion of the committee. The rest goes to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and other required entitlements.

In his address that night, Clinton would talk about steps to trim waste and improve efficiency. But Williams noted that in the past 12 years, despite an increasing caseload, manpower in HHS had already been cut 20 percent. And another witness, HHS's principal deputy inspector general, Bryan S. Mitchell (27 years in the Marines and 25 years at HHS), spoke with weary resignation.

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'There are long-standing problems in reconciling the Internal Revenue Service's and the Social Security Administration's data' on something as basic as the amount individuals have paid into Social Security, he said. 'But I'm not sure we're going to get that solved.'

And so it went. Clinton was to offer a variety of proposals to lift the burden of poverty from the nation's youth. But Howard L. Rolston, director of policy and evaluation in HHS's administration for children and families, offered the stark reminder that illegitimacy is what really traps children into poverty. While 30 percent of children in two-parent families will never be poor, 61 percent of those born out of wedlock will live in poverty at least seven of their first 10 years, he said. And Clinton offered no solution for the moral and social dilemma of increasing illegitimacy.

The message from Room 2358 to the new president was clear: When the last echo of your speech has faded, the permanent government will still be here. And so will some intractable problems."

Shortly after that column and on Sunday of this past week in "The Washington Post" Broder has another column entitled, "Shared Political Stakes." This column is as follows:

"The voters got their first payback last week for their decision to give one party a chance to govern. It was a small thing in itself, but it portends bigger, more substantial rewards down the line.

What happened was this: On the first weekend after President Clinton had offered his economic program, congressional Democrats touring their home districts found that the voters -- who are nothing if not smart -- already had sniffed out the weak points in the president's ambitious and complex plan.

Contrary to the 'expert' opinion in Washington, they were not angry at the prospect of higher taxes and, for the most part, welcomed the prospect of additional investment in preschool health and education programs and jobs for the unemployed.

But they wanted reassurance that the spending cuts were real and that they would be enforced, so that the taxes would go to reducing the deficit, not increasing the size of government.

On Monday evening, when the first of the lawmakers got back to Washington, the tone of the conversations back in their districts was relayed to Speaker Thomas S. Foley (D-Wash.) and his lieutenants. By the time the members of the big freshman class of Democrats caucused late Tuesday afternoon to exchange views, the party leadership was already moving to revise the timetable and put the vote on long-term

spending cuts and deficit reduction ahead of the vote on the short-term economic stimulus package, which will temporarily boost red-ink spending. The freshmen sent the message, as Rep. Tom Barlow (D-Ky.) said in an interview, that the vote on long-term deficit reduction 'has to be binding' to be credible to their constituents.

All this was communicated quickly to the White House, and legislative strategy was revised accordingly. Howard Paster, Clinton's top lobbyist, tells me that the White House had been thinking along those lines itself. But the public impression and the expectation of such key legislators as House Appropriations Committee Chairman William Natcher (D-Ky.) was that Clinton wanted the economic stimulus (which is politically painless) to move first and fast, and the more painful tax hikes and deficit reduction to come along weeks or even months later.

Whatever the case, by Wednesday everyone in the Democratic chain of command agreed that the deficit-reduction pact would have to precede the stimulus spending -- or else the voters would not believe that the budget mess would really be helped by the higher taxes they would pay.

The point that needs to be underlined is that this important adjustment could not have been made, except for the fact that Clinton, the congressional leaders

and the big majority of the freshman are all Democrats, who have a clear common political interest in trying to make this economic package a success.

A Republican president would not have been the beneficiary of a similar course correction. Just contrast last week's smooth and almost effortless maneuver by the Democrats with the painful and protracted, on-again, off-again months of bickering and negotiating that preceded the budget agreement between President Bush and the congressional Democrats in 1990.

That was a serious deficit-reduction measure. But the politics of the inter-party squabbling was so fierce that Bush was later forced to repudiate his own handiwork.

What happened last week illustrates a point made by the Brookings Institution's Thomas Mann at a conference on gridlock in government cosponsored by Brookings and the Committee on the Constitutional System. Arguing that there is 'more of a sense of shared political stakes between the president and congress,' now that both are controlled by the Democrats, Mann said he thought 'there is a reasonable chance of improving the program' as it moves along 'through a coalition of conservative Democrats and fiscally responsible Republicans.'

My hunch is that he is exactly right. Congressional Democrats are about to teach Clinton something he should have learned from Paul Tsongas in last year's Democratic primaries and from Ross Perot in the general election: The voters don't want palliatives; they want serious and substantial action on the deficit.

As Barlow put it, the freshmen Democrats believe 'it would be a national tragedy of the highest order if two years from now we'd raised taxes and provided economic stimulus and still were looking at a \$300 billion deficit.'

Rep. Tim Penny (D-Minn.), head of an informal caucus of some 50 Democratic budget hawks, said his group is preparing a menu of further reductions for Clinton's consideration. Their belief, he said, is that 'if we're going to cast a tough vote, we should do more to get the problem behind us.'

House Republicans are writing their own budget alternative, which their ranking Budget Committee member, Rep. John Kasich (R-Ohio) vows will more than match the deficit-reduction goals Clinton has set. And Senate Republicans, behind Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.) will likely call for a more serious attack on entitlement spending for the affluent than Clinton has proposed.

The dynamic is entirely different this year. And the main

reason for the improvement is that last November, the voters decided to end divided government."

March 2, 1993

Along with the bombing in New York City, we have had a shootout in Texas where members of the Branch Davidian's religious cult is enclosed in a large building with machine guns and an arsenal of all kinds of equipment killing and shooting members of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Agency. Yesterday with four federal agents dead and sixteen others wounded the AFT officials said they had little choice but to launch the raid given the alarming intelligence that has been compiled by investigators. This final raid is underway and maybe this terrible uprising will be solved. This carries us back to the days of the Reverend Jim Jones and this Waco, Texas event is just about as serious.

March 5, 1993

Finally a man was arrested in the World Trade Center bombing in New York City. Federal agents charged Mohamad A. Sahsalameh, a Jordanian-born man living in Jersey City with involvement in last Friday's bombing of the World Trade Center. It seems that the man had rented a van and went back to the company to report the van stolen in order to obtain back his \$200 deposit. The van was discovered in the wreckage, but not completely destroyed by any means. The size of the blast should have just absolutely destroyed all of the van it seems to me. The papers he was returning to get his deposit back contained a chemical substance that is a part of the bombing material used according to the FBI. Several New York area locations

have been searched and in one certain equipment was found that can be used to make and set off bombs.

Just for excitement, the Waco, Texas standoff is underway and this religious sect now has refused to come out of the premises and apparently there are still bodies inside of those killed during the first eight or ten hours after the raid started. The leader of this religious group claims to be the Messiah, says he was shot three or four times, but has survived.

The President's pledge to reduce the White House staff by 25% will be met by October 1 according to White House officials. The staff at the present time is about 12% below the size of President Bush's White House staff on election day. The President is still unable to fill a number of major assignments in the departments and this is holding up hearings on a considerable amount of legislation.

While President Bush was serving, one of his sons was under investigation from time to time in the banking and savings and loan turnover and apparently now Secretary Lloyd Bentsen's son, Lan Bentsen is under investigation from the standpoint of determining as to whether or not he violated the Resolution Trust Corporation contracting rules. The children of a great many families who decide to accept federal assignments and live in the fishbowl are under attack from time to time and this is one of the main reasons why it is almost impossible to obtain good people for the Federal Government.

I still believe that our new President should be given every possible assistance during this period of his Administration. This is the beginning and he needs help and I certainly have done everything as Chairman of the

Appropriations Committee to be on that side. Yesterday the phone rang and I was advised that the President was on the line. He said that he just wanted to thank me for helping him and that he knew what was going on on the bill and that what I was doing was of great assistance to him and he just wanted to call to say so. A nice gesture---and one that is certainly appreciated.

March 8, 1993

Tuesday of this week will be the first real test for the new Administration. The Economic Emergency Supplemental Bill containing some \$16,262,000,000 will be presented and then our Republican friends on the full Committee on Appropriations will start offering amendments. They maintain that since the gross domestic product has increased this past quarter by 4.8% no emergency supplemental is necessary. The fact is that nothing has changed as far as unemployment is concerned regardless of the recent figure that was released showing that it was 7%. There are still over ten million unemployed in this country and something must be done about it.

The Ways & Means Committee is working on a bill in Committee that takes care of those who employ baby sitters and casual labor such as raking leaves in the front and back yard. Under the original social security law if as much as \$50 is paid out in any one quarter, social security tax must be paid and the amounts reported. There are millions and millions of people in this country who violate this law every day and most of them do not know that for a baby sitter a listing must be turned in and taxes paid. The bill will provide that the amount will go up in the neighborhood of \$300 a quarter and that instead of having to list each time, you can do so on your annual income tax report. This was one of the major issues in the refusal to

confirm President Clinton's first choice for Attorney General.

The "closure" list for military installations in this country and abroad will be released this week by the Chairmen of the Armed Services Committees in the House and the Senate. For several months now we have had meetings and fortified our position right well in regard to the Louisville Naval Ordnance plant. Since I am now in Jefferson County with 52,000 people, I have participated in all of these meetings and in the last meeting we were informed that the odds were against any move to close this particular installation. The list submitted to the Armed Services Committee does not contain any closures for Kentucky. In Kentucky we had the Bluegrass Army Depot in Lexington which was on the list and closed several years ago. This leaves us with Fort Knox and Fort Campbell and the Louisville Naval Ordnance Station. We will be exceedingly fortunate if we can keep the Louisville Station off of future closure lists.

In one of the stories this weekend about the Department of Defense it was discussed that Les Aspin has no assistants by way of Secretaries or otherwise other than the five or six people he brought from Capitol Hill to the Pentagon when he was named as Secretary of Defense. These are employees only and are not vested with any authority to hold meetings or to make any decisions. The Clinton Administration is still way behind in naming the people to the different departments and this applies to Assistant Secretaries and Under Secretaries. This morning early on television, one of the Clinton people said that it was unfortunate but true that there is a real delay due to the fact that since the Attorney General episode and one or two others, such careful checks must be made that it simply requires an unusual amount of time.

March 10, 1993

The bombing case in New York City is still a long way from being solved. The FBI and the Secret Service people were being pushed somewhat and you would assume from the statements last week that the arrest of the one Muslim was just about the end of the line. Finally this week, the FBI has admitted that they do not have the case solved, but they have a few leads.

Two criminal cases are underway at this time that really have attracted a lot of attention in this Country and one is the second trial of Harold Ford, the black Congressman from Memphis who is charged with accepting bribes and the other is the police officers case in California where some four or five officers are charged with beating a black man almost to death. There was an acquittal in the first case and the Federal Government stepped in and indicted the officers again charging them with violating the civil rights of the black man. This time they may get the police officers.

We reported out of the full Committee on Appropriations yesterday the Urgent Economic Supplemental Bill which totals slightly less than \$16,262,000,000. The Republicans on our Committee offered a great many amendments and we won on every vote. I do hope now that our new President will not let the ultra-conservatives and others convince him that this bill should not go forward. Additional cuts were agreed to in the budget yesterday by President Clinton and today the President says that if demands are made for more cuts approval could stall the recovery of our economic situation in this Country. The President has been right agreeable so far in agreeing to a great many cuts, but I do hope that he now stands firm and forces the Congress to vote the Urgent Supplemental Bill or down

During the hearings this morning, Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, President-Emeritus of Notre Dame appeared as a witness. This man has been good for our Country and for a period of about six years he and I served together on the Board of Visitors at West Point. I believe that he has received more Honorary Degrees than any man or woman in this Country. During the time that we served on the Board of Visitors at West Point we succeeded in having constructed the new cadet union building, the new library, the MacArthur Museum and we repaired the barracks and the hospital.

March 15, 1993

The snow, sleet and rain finally subsided yesterday leaving behind some 10" to 14" of snow and a real mess here in the District of Columbia. According to the records, this is the worst snow storm of this Century. It is all up and down the East Coast and starts with Florida. Atlanta, Georgia had about 10" of snow and Birmingham, Alabama about the same amount. Some 107 people lost their lives during this snow storm and stranded thousands of travelers in airports and on highways and prompted dramatic rescues of hikers and motorists all up and down the Atlantic Coast.

On Thursday morning of last week, I appeared before the Hamilton Commission in my capacity as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. A story appeared in the "Roll Call" newspaper which is known as "the newspaper of Capitol Hill." This story is as follows:

"Resisting calls for change to the current budget process, the new House appropriations Committee chairman, Rep. William Archer (D-Ky), told the Joint

Committee on the Organization of Congress Thursday that he remains committed to the current three-step budget system as 'the best process we have to control spending.'

Natcher also rejected such proposed reforms as the line-item veto, a modified version of which is supported by President Clinton and House Speaker Tom Foley (D-Wash), and multi-year authorizations.

Natcher did, however, call for 'tighter rules and procedures designed to shift more mandatory spending to the discretionary spending category' -- a move that would give lawmakers greater power to cut entitlement programs. The chairman also said he would like authorization bills to have a fixed time frame, so that all federal spending programs come under periodic review by Congressional committees.

'If I had my way,' Natcher said, 'we'd never pass another bill through the Congress of the United States that didn't have a sunset provision on it.'

Natcher's testimony was part of a series of hearings being held by the Joint Committee on proposed reforms of the budget process. The 21-term Kentucky Congressman, who took control of the Appropriations Committee last year after then-Chairman Jamie Whitten (D-Miss) fell ill, defended the role of his panel.

The records show that the annual appropriations process is the best process we have to control spending,' Natcher said in his opening statement. 'The record has been consistently good, whether there were budget resolutions to set overall ceilings or there were not.'

At least one Joint Committee member, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan), has proposed eliminating the Appropriations Committees and giving spending power to the various authorizing committees. In her questioning of Natcher on Thursday, however, Kassebaum focused instead on the idea of a two-year budget process -- rather than the current system, in which money is authorized and appropriated every year.

Natcher said he didn't support two-year budgeting and pointed out that 'those states that have a two-year budget, they have all kinds of trouble. They have special sessions of the legislature to decide this and decide that' because of spending needs that arise during the two-year cycle.

With her allotted time expired, Kassebaum said she had one more question to ask Natcher about 'reorganization' -- presumably her idea to eliminate the Appropriations Committees. But she decided not to ask it.

'I have a feeling I know what the Chairman would say,' Kassebaum

said, provoking laughter in the hearing room.

The next questioner, Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev), who sits on Senate Appropriations, pointed out that the last time spending power was given to authorizing committees, in the late 1800s, fiscal disaster ensued.

'You think the country is bankrupt now,' Reid said, 'you should have seen it back then when the authorizing committees had no limits.'

Kassebaum, the ranking Republican on the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, is scheduled to testify at tomorrow's Joint Committee hearing, when she and other chairmen and ranking members of authorizing panels will present their sides of the story.

For his part, Natcher said if a step is to be eliminated from the budget process, perhaps it should be the Budget Committee itself.

'At certain times I believed that maybe we didn't need the Budget Committee,' Natcher said. But 'until a better system is perfected, proposed, and adopted, we'd better just let it stay like it is.'

Asked repeatedly why he opposed the line-item veto and its various offspring, Natcher said

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that 'if President Clinton would serve as president for the next ten or 15 years, I might be for the line-item veto,' but since he didn't know who would be the next president, he wouldn't take the risk of supporting it.

That remark prompted the vice chairman of the Joint Committee, Rep. David Dreier (R-Calif), to quip, 'President Clinton is going to be president for another three years,' to which Natcher responded, 'I'd hate to run against him, I'll tell you.'

Asked by Kassebaum about a proposal to replace the Budget Committees with a panel made up of committee chairmen and members of the leadership, Natcher joked, 'Some of [the chairmen] would have a little more influence than I'd want them to have.'

Several Members on Thursday called for stricter enforcement of House rules prohibiting the addition of legislative provisions to the appropriations bills. Natcher has been adamant about not allowing authorizing language on spending bills reported by the Appropriations subcommittee he chairs, Labor, Health and Human Services and Education.

The Chairman said he has received assurances from House Speaker Tom Foley (D-Wash) that there would be no legislating on House appropriations bills."

March 18, 1993

Theater's first lady died yesterday. She, of course, is Helen Hayes, known as the "First Lady" of the American theater. She was a resident of Nyack, New York and she died at home at the age of 92. She had been in the hospital for several days with congestive heart failure, but she had returned home and died at her home. During her long and distinguished acting career, Helen Hayes starred in movies and on television. She was a fixture on radio for many decades and she wrote several books. First and foremost, of course, she was a creature of the theater. She won a number of awards during her career and in 1980 she was one of ten American artists selected to be commemorated on gold medallions issued by the Treasury Department. In the year 1981, she was awarded the Kennedy Center Honors for lifetime achievement. She, by the way, was born on October 10, 1900 in Washington, D.C. She started out as a child actress and during her career won two oscars. She was a lovely lady and always respected by the people in this country.

We are back on the Budget Resolution and the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill. General debate was concluded late last night on the Budget Resolution and this followed general debate on the bill that I am Chairman of that appropriates the \$16,287,453,000 for the programs requested by the President. During the night, the Rules Committee met and issued a Rule on my bill which applies to the reading of the bill and the Rule states that I as the Chairman of the Committee have the right to offer an amendment or a series of amendments which are not subject to amendment. The Minority Leader in the House, Bob Michel of Peoria, Illinois, under the Rule is permitted to offer a motion to recommit and one hour of debate time will be set aside

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For this notion. Nothing else is provided and this comes as a real surprise to the Republicans in the House who in the main are fighting bitterly to defeat the request for the Supplemental made by President Clinton.

The situation in the former Soviet Union is again serious since Yeltsin has almost been stripped of all of his power by the parliament. Our President and the President of France during the past four days have made every effort to indicate to the world that they are still backing Yeltsin. If not Yeltsin, some of the old bulls in the Communist Party may try, through the military, to take over again.

March 22, 1993

All kinds of stories have been written now about our success in passing the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill and one is the following Associated Press story:

"Rep. William Natcher, D-KY., was successful in the first major rest of his reign as chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee with the approval of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1993.

'I'm a brand new chairman. I've only been chairman since December. It worked out good,' Natcher said at 12:30 a.m. Friday just after the vote board showed 235 for and 190 opposed.

The measure, providing some \$16.2 billion for unemployment benefits, summer jobs, mass transit projects and other stimulus spending, was a

major component of President Clinton's economic recovery plan. It also served as a major test of the Democratic leadership's ability to control the varied interests of the majority party.

Majority Leader Richard Gephardt also was glowing as he shook Natcher's hand. Natcher, 83, was clad, as usual, in a three-piece suit with his tie still knotted firmly at his neck despite the late hour.

For the young Clinton administration, a defeat or delay of the legislation would have been a crippling blow. For Natcher, a former Bowling Green lawyer who had wanted to be chairman since he joined the committee 38 years ago, it would have been a severe personal and political embarrassment.

President Clinton, who was 7 years old when Natcher was first elected to the House in 1953, called him to the Oval Office last month just before unveiling his economic plan.

At the private meeting, Natcher said the president told him how important the bill was to the administration, and then invited him to make a pep talk to a group of House Democrats who had been called in for a briefing.

Natcher's longevity and rectitude have given him unusual standing among his colleagues. Clinton also has been impressed, judging by a comment that Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson says Clinton made to him recently.

The president, Abramson said, called Natcher 'the finest person I've ever met' or words to that effect.

Friday morning, after not many hours of sleep, Natcher was again at the White House this time for a victory breakfast.

Invitations went to all House Democrats who had voted either for the stimulus bill or for the companion budget resolution also approved Thursday night. But the seats of honor on the platform in the East room went to Speaker Tom Foley and the other leaders who had worked hardest, including Natcher. Clinton thanked Natcher by name.

Clinton posed for photographs with his guests, and at his turn, Natcher said, 'I told him I had served with nine presidents, and I hoped he would be the best one.' "

March 23, 1993

Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White announced on Friday of last week that he will retire this summer after 31 years on the Supreme Court. This will give President Clinton an early chance to reverse the Court's conservative direction with the first appointment by a Democrat President in a generation.

White, 75 years of age, was named to the bench by President John F. Kennedy in 1962 after serving in the Justice Department and was the last remaining Democrat appointed on a court that saw five new Justices during the Reagan-Bush years. Known as "Whizzer" White he was a famous football player and has made an outstanding Justice on the Supreme Court.

March 24, 1993

Yeltsin is still hanging on the ropes and the courts in Russia have ruled Yeltsin's order violates the Russian Constitution. The court has held that he has no right to claim special powers set forth in the decree that he issued. President Clinton in his first press conference yesterday again strongly backed Yeltsin and at the same time keeps our U.S. policy options open just in case a change in the leadership takes place.

On the front page of the local papers there are stories to the effect that our new President may agree to gay job limits. Supporters and opponents of President Clinton's plan to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military quickly condemned the President yesterday by saying he might agree to job restrictions on gay service personnel contending that such a step would create serious morale problems. Advocates of homosexual rights said barring gays and lesbians from combat and other military assignments would create a separate, but unequal, career path for them. So apparently neither side is satisfied at this time and this is one problem that our new President should simply solve by accepting the recommendations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

March 26, 1993

The situation in Russia is still no better. The religious leader of Russia who has his church in Moscow has called upon all of the people including the military to follow Yeltsin and not have any impeachment or ouster proceedings. This does not control, but it may be just enough to save Yeltsin.

Yesterday the Senate endorsed Clinton's budget which was the budget we passed in the House bringing, over a five-year period, the deficit down \$510 billion, reductions in federal spending \$264 billion and additional revenue from new taxes \$246 billion. The Senate is still on the Urgent Economic Supplemental and it will really take some doing for them to bring it out today. There are too many on the Democrat side that want to make changes and bring the overall amount down \$11 billion or \$12 billion.

The poor old "New York Post" is still slowly, but surely, going under and this newspaper has lost millions of dollars every year for many years. Murdoch, the Englishman may come back into the picture and if so, could save this newspaper.

We are all waiting on Capitol Hill for the budget which is to come up on April 5 and this is the controlling budget for the Fiscal Year 1994. According to my information there will be about a 3% increase in discretionary spending which is just about a cost of living increase and what we would call a freeze at the last year's level.

March 29, 1993

Yeltsin survived an impeachment vote this weekend, but he is a long way from being safe at this time. The conservative Russian

Congress fell some 72 ballots short of ouster. Considerable pressure is now being placed on our new President as to what he will do if they oust Yeltsin and just how far he will go in the summit meeting with Yeltsin which takes place next month in Canada. There are still some 25,000 to 30,000 nuclear weapons scattered all around the old Soviet Union and really no accurate count as to where most of them are. Of course, this bothers us in Congress and it does our new President.

Our new Attorney General issued an order that all District Attorneys in the states and territories immediately submit their resignation. Here in the City of Washington, Rostenkowski, the Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee has been under investigation in Federal Court for well over a year and the District Attorney here issued a statement immediately that he was just about ready to return the indictment against Rostenkowski when the order came down for his resignation. Like a lot of other people and the media generally regardless of the charge, this District Attorney has had months and months to do something about it and now cries foul because he has to go out.

In Kentucky the Speaker of the House of Representatives is under indictment in Federal Court and also several others. The resignation of the District Attorneys in Kentucky who are both Republicans could bring about a considerable change in the trial of those under indictment.

March 30, 1993

The Russian Congress has set the date for a vote and the Yeltsin backers are very much concerned about the manner in which the

vote will be held. This man may survive, but it will cost billions of dollars to keep him in power. President Clinton has recently said that in the budget for Fiscal Year 1995 he will request \$1 billion in additional money in foreign aid which will be used for Russia. This will be hard to get and the President may have to go back to the days when we, along with one or two other free countries, contacted the International Monetary Fund requesting that loans be made, and each of the countries requesting that the move take place would in turn pay in additional money over a period of years to take care of the amount of the loans. The additional money paid in was the indicator that the loan would never be repaid but that something had to take place to save a country.

Hearings are now being held from place to place in this country by a health care panel hoping to obtain information which will be of assistance in structuring and passing finally a health care bill. Long-term health care is essential and with over 35 million people in this country with no health care, we will have to pass some sort of legislation to take care of this problem. Mrs. Clinton's father has suffered from a stroke in Arkansas and she has had to drop out for a few days with Vice President Al Gore taking her place at the hearings. In the clearest indication yet that the Administration is considering price controls on the health care industry, Vice President Gore last night said that we have a very strong national interest in trying to ease sharp increases in health spending while the Administration puts its nationwide overhaul in place. At the first public meeting of the President's task force on national health care reform, Gore during a discussion on price controls said that the prediction that unrestrained health care spending will consume more and more of the national income

each year clearly convinces the Administration that it is worth considering even though price controls might cause considerable trouble. Price controls at the hearing were criticized as being unworkable and negative by the business and provider groups. This hearing turned into a marathon 13-hour meeting at George Washington University.

The Senate Committee on Armed Services began hearings yesterday on the question of homosexuals and lesbians in the military service. It seems that the Committee will recommend a sort of moratorium for a few months and then will insist that we go back to the usual standards that homosexuals and lesbians are not welcome in the armed services in this country.

April 2, 1993

The Senate is still unable to pass the President's Emergency Supplemental bill and especially since 41 of the Republican Senators still maintain that cloture will not be voted and that their demands for a \$7 to \$8 billion reduction be approved. Taking \$7 billion to \$8 billion out of the total that we passed in the House of \$16 billion plus simply means that there will be no 30,000 new jobs and that in fact, if such a sizeable reduction is made the bill should be just voted down. The President wants to maintain the full amount in the bill and has indicated as much and also realizes more every hour what a wonderful job was performed on the House side. I watched my old friend Bob Byrd, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee last night defend the bill and plead for passage. He stated time after time that if they wanted a scapegoat he would be the scapegoat for them but at least they should give him an opportunity to pass this bill in the same amounts that were approved in the House. The President

is off traveling again today and instead of recessing tonight for the Easter recess period we may be here a few days.

Today on the House side we will take up the rescissions legislation which is somewhat of a substitute for the demands for a total line item veto bill. Our Committee on Appropriations is really tossed around in this legislation and we are not treated very good. We are the best friends the leadership has and the same for the new President, so I guess that after this episode is over they will then come back home. It will be adopted and sent on to the Senate where it will have considerably more trouble, but at least we are still some distance away from a total item veto bill.

April 5, 1993

The summit meeting between our new President and Yeltsin ended yesterday in Vancouver, British Columbia. Under the agreement, Yeltsin will receive \$1.6 billion in U.S. aid. Most of this will be in food aid and credits and all of it will be money from accounts Congress has already approved. Clinton and Heltsin responded to suggestions that the aid was old wine in new pitchers and both described the differences from prior packages as primarily in availability to Russians and immediate implementation. This does not require new Congressional approval and the aid can be spent immediately. I hope this is enough to save Yeltsin, but time will only tell as to whether or not his people really want him to continue serving.

Five weeks after the powerful explosive demolished the underground parking garage beneath the World Trade Center, officials believe they have arrested the basic group of conspirators and discovered how the bombing was carried out. Despite the dramatic arrests

and the and the publication of a letter that claims an anti-Israeli rationale for the attack, informed officials say they are still uncertain about the genesis of perhaps the most devastating act of domestic terrorism in U.S. history. They are seeking, according to one senior official, a clarity of motive. This may be hard to obtain and decipher and I still say they have a long way to go.

April 21, 1993

During the Easter recess period, I spent nearly two weeks in Kentucky. After arriving and being there only about two days, my great nephew James Frank Natcher, Jr. was killed. A driver of another vehicle, after almost colliding with two cars and knocking down several mailboxes suddenly moved over the center line of the road and hit the car that Jimmy Natcher was driving. Seventeen years of age and a beautiful child, James was killed instantly, and the boy riding on the front seat had a broken back. Hours of operation in the local hospital followed and this boy will be able to walk, but probably never run again during his lifetime. The third boy in the car with Jimmy Natcher riding in the back seat received only bruises and scratches. The driver of the other vehicle received scratches around his neck and that is all. He had no insurance, no operator's license, and recently was probated from the penitentiary with the excuse that he had a massive seizure and was not driving under the influence of intoxicating beverages. The funeral was one of the largest ever held in Bowling Green, with the entire school James Natcher attended being present and this was nearly 500 students. We are a big family and our family was in attendance.

When I returned to Kentucky I had a very serious stomach virus and had been

sick for several weeks. As the new Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and carrying on with all of my duties, it was just too much. In fact, I almost missed a roll call vote a couple days before I left Washington and after running for several blocks, finally made the vote and again discovered how sick I really was. I went to the mortuary to attend Jimmy's funeral and was so sick that I decided that it would be better, rather than to be sick during the funeral, to just go to the hospital. I had never spent a day or a night in a hospital in my life and have completed 40 years serving in the Congress in Washington. I was in the hospital from Tuesday to Sunday and then returned to Washington. I am back carrying out my duties, a little on the tottering side, but still able to go.

During this past week, the seventeen children in Waco, Texas were burned to death along with other Members of their cult after the new Attorney General recommended that military tanks be used to tear down the large buildings housing these people and that after nearly two months action be taken. The President accepted the recommendation of his Attorney General and from one end to the other the buildings went up in smoke and fire. In addition to the seventeen children burned to death, some 35 to 40 adults were also burned alive. The newspapers, television and radio are still going on and on and will, for days I believe, about whether or not this was a good decision. The loss of the children has completely stunned a great many people in this country. People just can't talk about the matter and they are just absolutely heart broken. The President has issued a statement that he followed the recommendation of his new Attorney General and that he still believed her recommendation was correct. Hearings will

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begin before the Judiciary Committee in the House and the Senate on Wednesday of next week and will continue probably for months. In fact, it is so important on the House side that Jack Brooks of Texas, the Chairman of the Committee has decided to preside as Chairman of the whole Committee instead of permitting the Subcommittee of jurisdiction on such matters to take over. The President also says that an investigation is in order and that he did not have a four or five-hour detailed briefing from the FBI. He went on to say that he did not go over every strategic part of it and that it was a decision for which he takes full responsibility. He went on to say that he is President of the United States and he signed off on the general decision and gave the Attorney General the authority to make the last call. He said that when he talked to her on Sunday some time had elapsed and she might have changed her mind, but that he supported her decision and continues to do so.

The situation is no better in the former Yugoslavia and killing and raping continues. China is not acting like it should and North Korea is still threatening.

In a penitentiary in Ohio just outside of Columbus, there has been a standoff and several killed during the past three weeks. A tremendous funeral was held yesterday for one of the guards who was killed and this has caused considerable publicity throughout the Country.

The Senate is still in a filibuster position over the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill and one vote will be taken today and another tomorrow to decide if the bill is dead. How the Senate could do this at this time is beyond comprehension. We passed the bill since I have been the new Chairman in less than an hour on the House

side and as I said then and still say, there are times that you rise above your party and cast your vote for your Country.

April 23, 1993

I am now on Volume 55 of my Journal and during the 40 years that I have been a Member of Congress, keeping this Journal was one of the best moves that I have made. Of course, some parts of this Journal will be controversial because I do not change the facts and simply place it in my Journal as it took place. On a number of occasions I have talked to the new Members about keeping a Journal and as I have said previously, some started keeping one and then after a few months, simply quit. Journals, memorabilia, letters and papers are real important and in some instances, families of Members who have made agreements for the storage of their memorabilia have tried to change their mind and take possession of the papers. For several years now, the family of Martin Luther King, Jr. has been in court in Massachusetts making every effort possible to have his papers removed from Boston University to some University in the south. Before he died, he directed a letter to Boston University naming the Boston University Library as the depository of his papers and saying that he intended to give some of them each year as an outright gift to the University. Further, he said in the letter that in the event of his death all such material deposited with the University which begins from that date on was the absolute property of Boston University. Coretta Scott King, the widow of Martin Luther King, Jr. employed an attorney by the name of Rudolph Pierce who filed suit seeking to remove the papers and memorabilia from Boston University to another University in the south. To begin with, Martin Luther King was a graduate and received

his Doctorate in Theology in 1955 from Boston University. Pierce in his suit and in the skirmish to take back the papers, maintains that there was no place in Atlanta with facilities in 1964 to really take care of and protect the memorabilia and papers, and this is the reason why Martin Luther King, Jr. prepared and directed his letter to the University. Pierce also maintains that King was fearful for the safety of the papers because of threats against him and firebombings in the south. He also maintains that in 1966 with the encouragement of his wife, Dr. King changed his mind and wanted the papers transferred to another University. The attorney for the University said that King never personally asked for the papers to be returned. Boston University's Martin Luther King, Jr. collection is made up of some 83,000 documents including letters he received and others he wrote, the manuscript of a book, as well as transcripts of speeches. Not nearly as much of a collection as you might think and when you say 83,000 documents, that is something that every Member of Congress in the House and Senate could match in their storage rooms.

Opening arguments under the lawsuit now pending began on Wednesday of this week and the director of special collections at the University testified that he received a letter in 1967 from Mrs. King that indicated there might be some wish to move the papers. The director of special collections said that King did not turn any papers over to the school after 1965 despite his letter saying he would deposit some each year. The question is where are the rest of the papers if there are any, and just how valuable are these papers? The trial in superior court in Massachusetts could last three weeks and Mrs. King, along with the President of the University, John Silber, are expected to testify

Sometimes depositories and families are very controversial and especially if at any time in the future it appears that the papers really have some value. With all of Martin Luther King's travels, speeches and publicity, you would think that his collection would be at least three times larger than anything that we have read about.

Yesterday in the House we adopted a resolution approving of the \$4 billion unemployment trust fund money and the urgent supplemental bill is now dead. The Senate completely failed and was unable to pass the bill and according to the media today, some of the Democrats are blaming some of the Democrats, and a number of Democrats are blaming the Republican Leadership. Regardless of where the blame really lies, this was a dismal failure on the part of the Senate and the leadership in the House and the Appropriations leadership in the Senate should be severely criticized for a terrific failure at the beginning of a new President's term. Efforts will be made now in the next few months to bring back some parts of this emergency supplemental for passage, but the chances in the Senate, in my opinion, will be no better than they were this week and all of those in charge who apparently had the ability and experience to see this legislation through simply rolled over and played dead.

April 30, 1993

Our President is in New Orleans this morning meeting with a high school class, and this afternoon will appear before a college in that same city. This week we have had health care legislation proposals all up and down Pennsylvania Avenue and on Wednesday night which was a conflict with the dinner in my honor as a new Chairman, a dinner was held at the White House and

several of the Chairmen on the House side had to attend. This morning our new Secretary of Health & Human Services, Dr. Shalala of Wisconsin met with me and during our conversation her main question pertained to my thoughts as to whether or not health care legislation should be enacted this year. I am one of those who believes that more time should be spent on this legislation and that if it does not come until 1994, this will be soon enough.

May 4, 1993

Today, just a little after 12 Noon, the President called and said he just wanted to thank me for assisting him with his new program before the Congress, and he further said that at times those who should be thanked the most just seem to be forgotten to a certain extent. That's about all he wanted to say and with a man like this, I often wonder why we can't all help him get started and see just where we go.

We are holding hearings on all thirteen of our appropriation bills and we are on schedule.

May 7, 1993

Mrs. Coretta Scott King lost her suit against Boston University. In attempting to have all of Martin Luther King's papers removed from the University and placed in the King Center in Atlanta, the jury very carefully, they said, considered all of the evidence and decided that Martin Luther King's "letter of instruction" was sufficient for the University to hold and keep the papers permanently. Mrs. King is now considering an appeal. The outcome does not surprise me because in a great many instances when suits have been filed to either sell manuscripts or to keep it, the universities and colleges seem to always win.

The situation in the former Yugoslavia appeared to be real good during the middle part of this week, but there was a sudden change when the announcement was made that the Bosnian-Serb Assembly's failure to approve of the peace plan with the suggestion that a Serb held referendum take place on May 15 and 16 really upset all of the plans concerning a final peace settlement. We, and our allies now will have to take another look because the situation apparently is no better and the Serbian government announced last night that it is cutting all supplies except food and medicine to the Bosnian Serb allies. I have my doubts that it will be sufficient.

Kentucky, according to the "Roll Call" newspaper here on Capitol Hill is now among the ten top states from the standpoint of clout. The amount of money going into the states, those who are in positions on committees from the states and the ability to accomplish proposals for each state were all considered by this newspaper and Kentucky is now number ten out of the 50. The statement concerning my succession to the Chairmanship of the Appropriations Committee was nice and sometimes I like the "Roll Call" newspaper. This doesn't mean every day by any means.

May 10, 1993

It seems that every time we on Capitol Hill make a move to improve the appearance of our buildings and structures, generally we always have trouble. After 130 years of steadfast duty atop the Capitol dome, the Statue of Freedom was gently lowered by helicopter to a new temporary perch on the East Plaza where workmen will make repairs to the statue. Thousands appeared early in the morning Sunday to see the sky crane bring her down and since she had been there since

1863 it was quite an event. The 14,985-pound 19½-foot State of Freedom was placed on the dome with her back to the city. In 1863, it was presumed that the city would go in the other direction as far as the future was concerned, but instead they missed it. I am just condering now as to whether not the Architect of the Capitol George White will direct that when she is repaired and placed back on the dome by this tremendously large helicopter, she be faced correctly. I still remember Louis Rabaut's speeches when he was Chairman of the D.C. Budget Subcommittee calling attention to the fact that the city had become so corrupt and with its classification as the murder capital of the world he referred from time to time in the House Chamber to the fact that even the Statue of Freedom had turned her back on the City.

During the week it was developed that in Kuwait and Iraq a plan was underway to assassinate former President Bush when he traveled into the country this past week. This was quite a startling announcement and an occurrence that did not take place. If it had, we would of course have had to go back into Iraq and straighten up Saddam Hussein once again.

The situation in the former Yugoslavia is no better or closer to a solution than it was several days ago. Bosnia's Muslim-led government appeared this past week to be caught between crises, squeezed by the powerful Serbs in the east and north, and the newly aggressive Croat forces moving to control the territory west and south of Sarajevo. The people are somewhat divided in this Country as to what our move should be at this time, and I hope that it does not require bombing or sending in of troops.

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May 14, 1993

A great many commencement speeches are made during the months of May and June each year, and our boys and girls who are graduating from the colleges and universities are more concerned now than at any time in the past 20 years since jobs are exceedingly difficult to obtain and competition is all around us. We are the only superpower left in the world and our responsibilities are tremendous.

When I started out, every boy and girl in this country who had a good education had the opportunity to obtain a job or to be a member of some profession. There was a real opportunity in the future for success if you proceeded to do it right. There was considerable more hope then than there is now because then we did not have competition on a daily basis from countries such as Japan, Germany, South Korea and the European Community. We were able to move out of the Industrial Age into the Space Age with ease, and the accomplishments achieved proved we had the ability to do so -- 12 men on the moon and all returned successfully, along with millions of our people engaged on a daily basis with good jobs and positions, and with homes built and sold for a start in life. There was not nearly as much competition as there is today.

With over 10 million people unemployed in this country, and our national debt a little over \$4,300,000,000,000, which divides up to almost \$16,000 per person in the country, the economy generally is a major factor with us as far as the future is concerned. A lot of people believe that the minor recession that we are now still in could be with us for a long time to come. They know that change must take place and take place fast if we are to conquer our many problems which our young college

graduates must confront the day after they receive their diplomas.

For many years, we established more industries and plants to take care of our demands, and especially from all around the world. The question now is do we have too many with the competition we are confronted with almost daily. We may be confronted with a permanent jobs recession unless we can change our national policies. Recently we lost 1,600,000 jobs and we have only replaced 598,000 of the jobs lost. We may be confronted at this time with an economy whose growth depends not on expansion of its labor force, but on its contraction. We may be confronted today in our country with an excess production capacity in most of our industries. Here we have the automobile, computer and television industries and many others clearly demonstrating that even though we are the only superpower left, we really have competition from around the world. We live in a global economy now, and not one that just affects us, Japan or Germany. We cannot depend on the industrial countries around the world to help us with our overproduction. Countries like Mexico and China have successfully used low-skilled, low-wage jobs to place them in a position to be in real competition with us.

A great many of our people in this country are being replaced by modernized equipment which is operated to a certain extent by a series of buttons and levers. Almost on a daily basis, newspapers carried ads calling for qualified men and women for certain jobs and assignments, and the need was not only healthy, but necessary. So far at this time, there is no surge in hiring in sight and newspapers can tell you that the number of ads placed calling for employment positions available is considerably less than at any time in the past 20 years. Our middle class working people

who pay the taxes and, to a great extent, operate our country, recognize that only radical change will provide long-term economic security. Only a financially sound government with lower deficits and debt service can free up the money to pay for productivity that is necessary for the people.

Increasing taxes for years was considered political suicide, but today our people may be adjusted to a change which will agree to increased taxes, providing the amounts received are used to reduce the deficit and place our financial institutions in a sound condition and available to help the young people get started in life. Today our people are demanding reductions in federal expenditures, but at the same time, a great many want the programs they are interested in increased financially.

At one time Pope John XXIII said that you should see everything, overlook a great deal and correct a little. Think this statement over carefully because even though it contains only a few words, the meaning is right important.

In the rotation of the earth, no longer can Great Britain claim that its colonies and territories are never out from under the rays of the sun.

We must continue taking care of the health of our people and educating our children -- and when I say educate the children, I mean every child should have the opportunity in this country for a good education. We must adjust according to the world situation and learn to protect our country financially and economically more than at any time since the adoption of our Constitution.

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May 17, 1993

This past weekend a vote was taken in Yugoslavia concerning the peace proposal and it was overwhelmingly defeated. The president and the leader of the Serbs said that under no circumstances would an agreement be reached whereby the United States could move inland by ground troops or bombing from the air and that if this action would take place, the Serbs would bomb London, England. This threat was made several days ago and, of course, Great Britain then had to move in another direction. It may be months before this matter is settled and I hope our new President does not make a mistake.

In this country today we have a doctor known as the "suicide" doctor and he is Dr. Jack Kevorkian. He has been arrested a number of times after advising with and being present when patients with cancer and other diseases that are incurable decide to commit suicide. This has taken place in a number of states and Dr. Kevorkian is proceeding at his own risk according to the prosecutors in a number of states with one in particular being Missouri. A law was passed in Missouri recently which has not been signed by the Governor that would place Kevorkian in the penitentiary if he continues. This past weekend a 54-year-old man committed suicide in Kevorkian's presence at a real estate office by breathing carbon monoxide through a mask. The man was suffering from lung and bone cancer and was the 16th person to die in Kevorkian's presence in the last three years. The State of California suspended Kevorkian's license on April 27 which means he cannot practice medicine anywhere in the United States. His license to practice in Michigan was suspended in 1991.

This past weekend a nice ceremony was held at the National Institutes of Health

and I received the first National Institutes of Health Alumni Biomedical Research Award. It is a beautiful award and the ceremony was held in the old Catholic nunnery which is one of the most beautiful buildings inside anywhere in the metropolitan area.

May 20, 1993

President Clinton appeared before a Democratic Caucus yesterday and answered a great many questions. The Caucus generally was good, but it really showed how much confusion we have at the present time in the White House.

The regular supplemental that was to be called up on Wednesday of this week that requires no rule has been postponed. The leadership has made up its mind that the reconciliation bill must pass next week or there will be no Memorial Day recess. This supplemental would sail through the House and I am not requesting a rule. Another proposal is now to be considered by our Committee on Appropriations calling for a few jobs bills that the Senate turned back several weeks ago. Offsets will have to take place in the 1993 budget to take care of the funding and I do not know today as to whether or not if approved such a bill would come first or second next week when our Committee is called upon for the Supplemental. It is clear that the Speaker has made up his mind to hold the first one as a hostage from the standpoint of the more liberal and more conservative Members of the House.

May 24, 1993

Release of a certain portion of the Nixon papers and tapes recently, of course, brought about some excitement and this happens when you have anything as important

as a resignation of a President and a Vice President. Following the death of Thurgood Marshall, his papers and memorabilia were turned over to the Library of Congress and in his pencilled notes and memorabilia, he divulged somewhat just how certain decisions are arrived at by way of communications from judge to judge. Nothing in violation of the rules, but just unusual procedures that take place which show just how strong personalities can enter into cases at times. This past weekend several newspapers published lengthy columns concerning his tenure on the Court and today, "The Washington Post" continues with the Marshall files. The title of the article in today's paper is "How an Era Ended in Civil Rights Law." The article is right interesting and shows just how changes in the conservative group lead to a prolonged political struggle and eventually was reversed by Congress in the Civil Rights Act of 1991. The article goes on to state that for three decades since the liberal activism of the Warren Era took root, the court had broadly interpreted the Constitution and federal law to protect minorities and the disadvantaged. The 1988-1989 term marked the end of that era as the justices limited affirmative action and made it harder for workers to prove discrimination and cut back the money remedies for those who could prove discrimination.

The President has invited the Committee Chairmen in the House to attend a meeting at the White House tomorrow night and I presume that we will again, in a nice discussion talk about the President's program and why portions of it have failed up to this time. Also, I understand the President is adamant in his belief that the Democrats in the House and especially the senior Members should not place themselves in a position where portions of his program are admittedly failing and have

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no chance of passage when called up. I received a nice letter from the President this past week thanking me for attending the Caucus in the House Chamber when he appeared.

Another new Member from Florida said she also had received a letter from the President in which he stated that he was disappointed that she did not attend the Caucus. This is an unusual type of letter to be received by a Member, but these are right unusual days on Capitol Hill.

May 25, 1993

The newspapers are carrying front page stories about the different confidential notes and papers in the Thurgood Marshall collection. Immediately after the papers were delivered to the Library of Congress they were open for inspection and use and now an attorney representing the Thurgood Marshall Estate is making every attempt to close access to the papers at this time. He maintains that use of the confidential notes and papers generally will hurt the Supreme Court, the Thurgood Marshall family and the judicial system. Those in charge of the papers are now preparing documentation for review by the Librarian of Congress, James H. Billington who personally met with Marshall in October of 1991 to discuss the donation. The headline of one story in today's paper is "First Black Justice Unyielding in Rights Crusade" and there are several notes back and forth from the Justices to Marshall hoping to get his vote on this particular case. This is one of the problems that occur from time to time when papers and memorabilia are turned over and there are no real restrictions as to use.

We reported out our 502(b) allocation funding yesterday for all thirteen Subcommittees, along with the second Supplemental

Appropriations Bill. Several amendments were offered to the second bill but none that seriously affected the outcome and the only change is that it will be \$200 million smaller in amount than the \$1.04 billion total when first presented. We will take up both Supplemental bills this week and I presume the leadership will obtain a rule for the second one which was the one we presented and reported out yesterday. The Reconciliation Bill is causing problems due to the tax portion of the bill and it seems that now the leadership on our side believes that enough votes will finally be mustered to pass the bill so it will be called up this week before we take the Memorial Day recess period. The tax portion pertains to the increase on energy--BTU.

From time to time, diaries are discovered that cause considerable publicity. This past week Moscow announced that the diary of Grigori Rasputin, the Siberian mystic whose influence over Czarina Alexandra led to his murder by a group of noblemen, was found and will shortly be published. The diary provides first-hand information on the life of the court of Czar Nicholas II which was overthrown by the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution. The text was scrawled in an ordinary school notebook and the handwriting is that of an uneducated man according to the State Historical Archive in St. Petersburg. Rasputin lacked a formal education but was supposed to have possessed hypnotic powers and claimed to be able to work miracles. Alexandra was drawn to him out of concern for her son, Alexei, a hemophiliac. His influence on the Czarina was great and she consulted him on various state matters, including the appointments and dismissals of high-ranking government officials. In 1916, a group of right-wing patriots worried about Rasputin's influence lured him to a mansion where they

poisoned him with tainted pastries. When he did not die they shot him and threw his body into an icy river. Of course, we know that the czar and his family were executed by the Bolsheviks in 1918.

May 27, 1993

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist directed a letter to the Librarian of the Library of Congress yesterday calling attention to the bad judgment of the Librarian in making public the files of the late Justice Thurgood Marshall and in this warning letter said that other Supreme Court Justices might not give their papers to the Library unless there is some presently unknown basis for the Librarian's action in permitting immediate use of the Marshall papers. The Library still maintains that it is carrying out Marshall's wishes in opening the papers immediately and had no comment on the Chief Justice's letter.

The Chief Justice now joins the attorney for the family of Marshall in demanding that the papers be closed at this time and that no further memos or handwritten notes should be released at any time.

The President continues backing up from time to time and in firing the travel group in the White House for failure to carry out the prescribed duties in regard to the press and reservations for those to fly around the country, the President decided to reinstate five of those fired and to ask now for an investigation which may clear all five or could go so far as to clear the long-time workers in the travel office who still say they were just simply carrying out their duties. This back up, along with the \$200-haircut by virtue of Air Force One revved up and on the runway while the haircut took place are just two

instances this week of why the President is having some of his problems.

Late yesterday afternoon the fourteen House Committee Chairmen were called to the White House and we were there promptly at the 6:30 p.m. designated hour. The President was late 40 minutes and his excuse was that Walter Cronkite had just happened to stop by the White House and wanted a quick interview. Walter Cronkite retired several years ago and this interview could be more important probably than the vote that is to take place on Thursday of this week on the Reconciliation Bill which increases taxes over a five-year period by \$275 billion. This Reconciliation Bill is 25 or 30 votes short on passage but the leadership in the House still maintains that on Thursday the votes will be there and it will pass.

Yesterday in talking with the President in the Roosevelt Room we could see without any question that he was upset after meeting with 62 new Democrats elected to the 103rd Congress and with only a very few of them indicating that they were now ready to vote for this bill. He seemed more ruffled and upset than at any time since I have been around him and clearly shows that the White House staff is way behind from the standpoint of knowing what to do and he still has too many down there who know nothing whatsoever about politics as far as the Congress is concerned. He himself has stressed the fact on several occasions after talking to some of us that this is all-important, but so far no move has been made to correct the situation.

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June 1, 1993

Yesterday, President Clinton spoke at the Vietnam Memorial and was booed. He said that we should continue to disagree, if we must, about the war, but let us not let it divide us as a people any longer. He was booed by some, but cheered by others as he arrived and took his seat on the dais filled with generals, colonels, decorated war veterans and the relatives of men and women killed in Vietnam. His comments were punctuated by shouts from hecklers who chanted -- Where was Bill? -- and held signs that said -- Slick Willie, the Artful Dodger. This was a right embarrassing experience to be confronted with on Memorial Day, but President Clinton made up his mind that he would attend, knowing that this would take place. I agree that his decision was correct.

Back in January, when I had an opportunity to speak with the President at the White House, I told him of our experience on one occasion with President Carter when my Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, George Mahon of Texas, advised him to get someone with a whole lot of political experience and a great deal of horse sense to occupy one of the rooms at the White House to advise the Carter staff on a great many matters. This advice was not accepted by President Carter, and after any number of mistakes, President Clinton has decided to select David Gergen as one of his counselors. Gergen is from North Carolina and is from one of the wealthy families there. During his time he has served as an advisor to Richard Nixon, Jerry Ford and Ronald Reagan. He is a Republican and remained with Reagan up until 1984. In the meantime he has served as one of the

editors of U.S. News & World Report. Two weeks ago an editorial appeared in this magazine, written by Mr. Gergen, in which he enumerated many changes President Clinton has made in his program up to the present time, and especially compared these with his promises during the campaign. The second editorial that appeared only last week in the magazine was written around the title of only 100 days in office and this one was a plea for more time for the President since he has only been in office less than four months. Mr. Gergen said he should have more time and more support with his program. This was a right conciliatory editorial and somewhat different from his first one.

I thought at the time that something was a little unusual as here we have a strong Republican and a man who has spent a number of years in the White House dwelling on actions in the White House, and especially such as abortion, homosexuals in the military and the reconciliation bill which only passed by six votes.

On Friday of last week, President Clinton announced that David Gergen has been selected as a counselor and would move into the White House immediately. Gergen, upon being interviewed by the press, said he would remain a Republican and never turn against his Party, but he would serve the new President diligently and would make every effort to be of assistance.

President Clinton needs someone to assist him, but, of course, the Republicans will say that he had to select a Republican to do the job, especially since this man has filled this capacity for several Presidents.

Over the weekend it appeared that the Senate has refused to accept the reconciliation bill that we passed in the House by a vote of 219-213, and a great many changes would be made. If so, a number of our new Members will really get hurt politically and it will be another example of bad procedure as far as the Democratic Party in the Congress is concerned. This is one of the most important bills that has been presented up to this time, and it is one that will cause trouble politically. I would hope that our Speaker would notify the Majority Leader in the Senate that if major changes are made that it might go down when the conference report is brought for approval.

June 3, 1993

The two editorials written by David Gergen which round out the final employment offer are as follows:

"Give Clinton A Chance"

"Whoosshhh!! To paraphrase Ross Perot, that sucking sound you hear is the air rushing out of Bill Clinton's balloon as he ends an orgy of harsh assessments, enemies and friends alike have been sticking in so many pins that his presidency is losing altitude at an alarming rate.

Clinton brought many of these troubles on himself. By pledging to have 'the most productive 100-day period in modern history,' he guaranteed a sence of letdown. After running the best Democratic campaign of modern times, his team has also made a surprising number of mistakes in the White House:

lurching to the left too often, emphasizing tax increases over spending cuts, treating adversaries with arrogant disdain and gradually losing a central thrust to its leadership. Clinton needs to refocus attention on his economic plan, especially on the creation of jobs, and postpone his health care proposals until fall. Otherwise, he risks loss of both.

Whatever Clinton's sins, however, they hardly merit the extraordinary denunciations that have issued from so many quarters in recent days. Voters express their disappointment that he hasn't brought more change and grade his performance at little more than a gentleman's C. Republicans along with Ross Perot razz him as a liar. Pundits in the press -- or the commentariat, as one newspaper calls it -- have acted as if he is an utter failure and probably shot his mother when no one was looking. One incident blown out of proportion, for example, was his failure to accept responsibility for Waco in the first hours after the tragedy occurred; in fact, he three times suggested to the staff that day that he speak up and was urged to wait until the facts were clear.

Politicians in his own party have been equally critical. Carefully speaking anonymously, they worry to the press that he is another Jimmy Carter. Every misstep seems to be magnified, every misdemeanor treated as a capital offense. Leon Panetta, his budget director and a former creature of the Hill, added to the frenzy last

week with ill-chosen words to the press that his boss was in trouble and Congress might reject his key proposals. Watching his friends pile on, Clinton might have recalled Lyndon Johnson's remark at a vexatious moment in the 1960s: 'The difference between cannibals and liberals,' he said, is that 'cannibals eat only their enemies.'

One might dismiss today's caterwauling as just another outbreak of low jinks or the Potomac were something serious not at stake. But something serious is at risk. Over the past 30 years, America has had a series of broken presidencies: Five of the past six occupants have been driven from the Oval Office in defeat or despair. Only Ronald Reagan survived for two terms, and he too was running out of steam before it was over.

With so much to do at home, American cannot afford the destruction of another presidency. But that is where we are headed unless we regain our sensibility. We are making politics a spectator sport in which our only duty is to vote somebody into office and then retire to the grandstands. When our hero first arrives, we stand and cheer. But when we see he has feet of clay -- and they all do -- it's 'Throw the bum out.' No democracy can succeed as an entertainment.

We owe each other more. The press should show us Clinton's warts, but what about the rest of him? Will his proposal for a national service corps -- a fine idea

that has been strengthened by his staff -- receive as much attention this week as, say, Panetta's remarks last week? When Education Secretary Richard Riley issued a major initiative for overhauling schools recently, it wound up on page A-28 of the Washington Post. Is that balance?

Republicans should indeed stand up against Clinton proposals that violate their philosophy. But where is an alternative Republican agenda that offers positive ideas for change? Where, too, is Ross Perot's real program? He is still maddeningly vague. As for Democrats, they ought to wake up: Voters have put them in charge, at least for now, and rightly expect them to stop complaining and get on with things.

Bill Clinton has had the courage to focus the nation on its major needs of better jobs, better education and better health care, and he is trying to fix them. If he doesn't have all the right answers, we should stop jeering, get off the sidelines and help him find them. For the next 1,300 days, he is the only president we have."

"Looking for More Backbone"

"The question now lies heavily upon the public mind. Listening to Americans around the country, one hears it repeatedly: 'Is Bill Clinton tough enough for the job?' While most people are aching for him to succeed -- they desperately want the nation to pull itself up --

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they grow increasingly worried as his presidency still flounders in troubled waters.

All of us should give him more of a chance, as we have argued in this space in the past, but it is Clinton who must take charge of his own rescue. In recent weeks, his public standing has continued to slide; after losing his focus, people think he is now losing his compass. On issue after issue, they see him caving in under pressure.

Consider the evidence from last week alone:

°In the wake of the Senate's defeat of his initial stimulus package, he gave the impression he would fight for a new jobs bill, but last week he capitulated. The administration is now talking with Congress about a trivial package that is about one eighteenth the size of the original; kids in inner cities can forget about many summer jobs.

°A second centerpiece of Clinton-omics is long-term public investment; last week, he quietly began to scale back and delay large chunks of his plan.

°On the tax front, he made still further compromises on his energy proposal. His concessions helped his budget plan win approval in the House Ways and Means Committee -- a significant victory -- but fueled charges by Democratic Sen. Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey that the administration is in 'a position of

retreat and repair.'

The wobbly quality of Clinton's domestic program is now infecting foreign policy, too. For months, Clinton has issued a string of pronouncements that the genocide in the Balkans must stop. Last August, as candidate, he bashed George Bush for inaction and called for U.S. air power to be used in conjunction with the United Nations. 'History has shown that you can't allow the mass extermination of people and just sit by and watch it happen,' Clinton said. Two weeks ago, the press reported he intended to use air power and help arm the Muslims. On May 6, he called for swift, decisive action. Last week, facing resistance from Congress and feckless European leaders, he backed away. The West fiddles while Bosnia burns.

All this comes from a president who promised tax cuts in a campaign and is now pursuing one of the biggest tax increases in history; a president who said welfare recipients should be required to work and whose administration last week sought a two-year delay in that approach; a president who promised to be a 'New Democrat' but is now accepting quotas in federal appointments and even 'race norming' in schools.

Where will Clinton draw the line? What are his inner convictions? A president who won't fight for something eventually earns a reputation for believing in nothing. He loses his sense of authority. Friend and foe alike think he can be rolled. Sadly, those perceptions are now

creeping in about Clinton -- one of the most gifted, dedicated men ever to serve in the Oval Office. He has a wonderful head and a big heart, but people are looking for more backbone.

The giants of politics start from a core of personal principles and build upward. The bet here is Clinton feels most comfortable with the principles he espoused as a founder and leader of the Democratic Leadership Council, a moderate-to-conservative group that believes the party must move away from a tax-and-spend, big-government philosophy. Empower people, not government, DLC leaders say. Before he became president, Clinton suggested that there can't be a program for every problem -- and that individuals must show more responsibility. If he will return to those roots and stick to them, he will not only restore himself as a New Democrat -- he will also find an enthusiastic public.

The history of recent years shows a clear pattern. What Americans most admire is a politics of conviction. They often disagreed with Ronald Reagan on policy, but they admired him for sitting straight in the saddle. Margaret Thatcher, Carlos Salinas, Ross Perot: All have a similar appeal. Maybe Janet Reno made a mistake on Waco, but we forgave her and now rush to celebrate her because she speaks from an inner core. Bill Clinton can still join that charmed circle."

In going back to the papers of Thurgood Marshall, today I received the following letter from the Librarian for the Library of Congress. This letter is dated May 27 and is as follows:

"As your librarian, I want to respond to concerns raised in some quarters over the Library's opening of the papers of the late Justice Thurgood Marshall. My full statement on this subject is enclosed.

I am confident that we are honoring his explicit intent as set forth in his meeting with me and two other Library professionals on October 7, 1991, and in the October 24, 1991, Instrument of Gift, which authorized access upon his death without restriction to 'researchers or scholars.'

The Library followed standard archival practice in adhering strictly to the donor's instructions and in not putting any restriction on access not specified by Justice Marshall himself. As to the matter of access for researchers and scholars, the Library, like other comparable institutions, has always considered journalists, lawyers, and others besides academic scholars to be researchers."

The President has ended up with a right weak Cabinet and this is one of his major problems today. The President that I believe had the best Cabinet since I have been a Member of Congress was President Eisenhower. With one or two exceptions, all of his Cabinet were qualified to be President of the United States just in case the consti-

tutional provision needed to be used and it ever happened. I don't know of a single person in President Clinton's cabinet that is qualified to be on the Supreme Court and he is now in the position of selecting a name to send to the Senate for confirmation to take Thurgood Marshall's place. There is a Judge in Tennessee who I understand is on the short list and who at the present time is Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Appeals for that section of the country who is really qualified to be on the Supreme Court. He is a man, I understand who would not walk across the street to obtain political influence to put him on the Court, but he is a man who would really make a good Judge if selected.

The White House is still shuffling around and apparently there are not enough rooms even after the 25% reduction in staff for those who will be close enough to the President to advise with him about urgent matters. Our old friend, Brian Mulroney, the former Prime Minister of Canada was visiting in our Country this week and he apparently is very much puzzled over the fact that President Clinton is concerned about the polls placing him below the 50% mark for popularity and ability to rule. He said that 35% would be good considering those that are contacted in such polls and that he never worried about polls during his Administration.

There is a drive on throughout the country now to stop television programs that are violent in nature and the kind that boys and girls sit by the hour and watch. In addition, whiskey and beer ads are being severely criticized and the Food and Drug Administration this week said that there will be a ban on over-the-counter smoking deterrents because this organization maintains the products do not work as the

manufacturers claim. Smoking ads, of course, have to carry the notation that the health of the individual can be severely affected.

June 8, 1993

Here in Washington we have the Haft family with the head of the family being Herbert H. Haft. He is a very wealthy man and a very aristocratic man who has a son who looks exactly like him; and, in fact, operates in the same manner. The family is now fueding and Haft has ousted his wife and son from the board of the family holding company which is the Dart Group Corporation. The 72-year-old family patriarch and majority shareholder of Dart, the multi-million dollar company that controls Crown Books, Trak Auto and Shoppers Food Warehouse retail chains has really fallen out with the members of his family. He controls 57% of the Dart voting stock so still is the boss. This Haft family reminds me of one or two families in the distilling business in Kentucky who, down through the years, have fallen out with one, the father-son combination in one of our bourbon distilleries.

At times we have Generals and Admirals who really stick their foot in their mouth. This week a two-star Air Force General by the name of Harold N. Campbell while on duty in the Netherlands made a speech at an award ceremony for Air Force maintenance workers stationed in the Netherlands and in his speech said that President Clinton was a gay-loving, pot-smoking, draft-dodging, and womanizing Commander in Chief. This past weekend a three-star General in the Air Force was sent to investigate and it looks very much like General Campbell has violated military law which prohibits contemptuous comments by officers about our civilian leaders.

The President is now up again on an appointment which may cause him trouble, and this is the Supreme Court appointment to take Justice White's place. The present Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt was being considered and right at the top of the list for several days, but now it appears that he has gambled, according to some of the media, in the gambling establishments in this country on more than one occasion and this, even somewhat known when he was confirmed as Secretary of Interior several weeks ago, was not considered. Maybe Judge Merritt, the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of Appeals at Nashville, Tennessee may come to the front.

We mark up our Labor-Health & Human Services Appropriations bill today and if we can work out the abortion matter and complaints about some of the reductions in spending, we will be able to bring out a fairly good bill.

June 14, 1993

The Governor of Pennsylvania, Robert P. Casey is in one of the Pennsylvania hospitals today undergoing a heart-liver transplant, and Senator Arlen Specter was operated on today in the same state for a benign brain tumor. Specter is one of the able Senators in the United States Senate and his wife also an attorney, is well known in Philadelphia. At times in conference with Specter across the table, I could tell there was something wrong with him and I was not too surprised today to hear this operation is taking place. He would seem to become nervous and then almost like he was going to spring, and then he would get up, go out of the room, and return in a few minutes.

I met a pretty little Page today in the House and she is Eddie Boland's daughter.

Eddie Boland was 60 years old when he got married and he has four children. He retired from Congress about six years ago and since he and I were elected to the Appropriations Committee on the same date with his name starting with a "B" he sat just ahead of me. In those days we went on the Committee alphabetically and if he had stayed in the House, he would be Chairman today instead of me. I remember back during the days when John McCormack was Speaker of the House and the state convention in Massachusetts was held by the Democrat party to nominate a Democrat to the United States Senate. John McCormack's nephew Edward McCormack was supposed to be the winning candidate and was expected to be nominated by the convention. At the last minute, Ted Kennedy decided to enter the nominating process. Eddie Boland, a very close friend of John McCormack, placed Ted Kennedy's name in nomination, and this was really a surprise at the convention and the shouting took place all over the floor "Shame on you Eddie-- Shame on you Eddie." John McCormack, to the very last, never got over the fact that Eddie Boland would leave his nephew and place Ted Kennedy's name in nomination.

June 15, 1993

The President has surprised all of us again with his announcement that Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg's name will be submitted for Supreme Court Justice and if approved, she will take the seat now occupied by "Whizzer" White. For days it appeared that the President would send in the name of Judge Stephen G. Breyer of the First U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. Judge Ginsburg has served on the Circuit Court of Appeals here in the District of Columbia for the past twelve years and according to the White House, she was selected over Breyer because she will serve as a "healer" for the Supreme Court.

If confirmed, she will be the first Jewish Justice since the late Justice Abe Fortas resigned in 1969. She is also the first nominated by a Democrat President since Lyndon B. Johnson selected the late Justice Thurgood Marshall in 1967. During his announcement ceremony yesterday at the White House, one of the reporters asked him a question about his wavering back and forth on appointments and especially with this one between Breyer and Ginsburg, and the President just about exploded. It was very obvious in watching him that he was as mad as he could be.

I hope the Senate confirms this lady and she will then join Judge Sandra Day O'Connor, making two ladies on the Supreme Court.

Ginsburg was appointed to the Circuit Court of appeals in 1980 by President Jimmy Carter. She was born in Brooklyn, New York and educated at Cornell, Harvard Law School and Columbia University. She taught at Rutgers University School of Law and at Columbia School of Law. She has received a number of awards and I hope is the best Jewish member since the days of Brandeis and Frankfurter. During my lifetime, men like Learned Hand of New York, and a great many others never made the final call and I was hoping this time that the outstanding lawyer and Judge in this country would be offered this assignment. I do not know who this would be, but they are out there and it would have really helped our new President if he would have made this kind of a selection.

June 16, 1993

The picture which appears on the front pages of the Washington newspaper today of Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg makes her look like a little grandmother or an elderly clerk at Macy's. Dressed in a little slip-

over sweater and a white skirt and her hair pulled back in a tight bun, she certainly does not look the part; but, judging from all of the information contained in the papers recently, her 13 years on the Circuit Court here in the District of Columbia qualifies her for this position. The President has requested the Senate Judiciary Committee to speed up hearings on this nomination and a number of the Senators have agreed to do so.

The President is still in a battle somewhat with the media and this week, really hollered back at them. Yesterday, in a surprise White House press conference the President plugged both his economic program and his proposals to change campaign finance laws. In addition, he said that there was no wavering on his part about his decision-making and he counted his accomplishments on his watch--an unemployment rate under 7%, 755,000 new jobs, a 20-year low in interest rates, a stabilizing of a low inflation rate and an improving trade balance. On foreign policy the President quickly dismissed criticism that his failure to act on his threat of force in Bosnia had made him look uncertain or weak. He answered that assertion yesterday with the statement that he had made his decision that the United Nations controls what happens in Bosnia and that he certainly would not change his mind.

Our old friend John B. Connolly, Jr. the dynamic former Texas Governor and Treasury Secretary who became known as the man who was riding with John F. Kennedy when the President was assassinated in Dallas in November of 1963, died yesterday in Houston. He was 76 years of age and prior to his death had changed parties from the Democrat to the Republican side and in addition, had lost all of his fortune which consisted of millions of dollars. Some said he was on the

comeback trail financially at the time of his death but in closing him out in bankruptcy, the antiques in his beautiful home were sold to the high bidder.

June 21, 1993

Last month an asteroid streaked within 90,000 miles of earth without being detected and this was the closest encounter on record astronomers said over the weekend. The rock which was estimated to be 30 feet in diameter was spotted by an astronomer in Arizona only after it had passed earth and receded, disappearing into space on its orbit around the sun. Scientists estimated the asteroid's mass at 6,000 tons which is about the same size as a Navy destroyer.

Maybe this is telling us something because those in power up above may not like the way we are handling the earth and especially during the first five months of the Clinton Administration.

This past week the President seemed to have a much better week because the Senate finally brought out a budget reconciliation bill and at least one that can be resolved in conference. In addition, the economy is a little better and his last appointment of Judge Ginsburg to the Supreme Court has been well received.

Another event that occurred this past weekend that was really enjoyed by our new President was the visit to the White House to receive the National Sports Awards of five of our greatest all-time athletes. Arnold Palmer, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali, track and field Olympic gold medalist Wilma Rudolph and Ted Williams, baseball's only .400 hitter, were all honored, and the President really enjoyed the occasion.

Another event that occurred this past week that was not recognized too much by the President was the release of the news item that President Clinton has a half-brother, eight years his senior. It seems that a birth certificate was obtained by "The Washington Post" which names Clinton's father, W.J. Blythe who died before Clinton was born, as the father of Henry Leon Blythe, born in 1938. Henry Blythe changed his surname to Ritzenthaler after his mother remarried. He lives in Paradise, California and several years ago wrote to the President, but received no answer. Mack McLarty, Clinton's childhood friend and now Chief of Staff, from Arkansas, acknowledged yesterday that there have been rumors of another half-brother, but added, "To the best of my knowledge, it was not true."

When the Government is almost broke, we finally, each year, see a list of the billionaires around the world and in this Country. The Japanese hotel and railroad magnate Yoshiaki Tsutsumi is worth at least \$9 billion and possibly as much as \$22.5 billion, and is the world's richest individual, according to the July 5 issue of "Forbes" magazine. America's Walton family which is the Wal-Mart interest is the world's richest family with some \$25.3 billion. Bill Gates in this country who is known as the Microsoft Wunderkind is called the United States' richest individual and he is worth \$7.5 billion. Other Americans who made the top ten are the Mars family with \$9.2 billion; the duPont family with \$8.6 billion; Donald and Samuel Newhouse, Jr. with \$7 billion, and Bass brothers with \$6.8 billion, and Warren Buffett with \$6.6 billion.

In speaking of events, tomorrow, and I expected it to come today, will be the day when I cast my 18,000th vote. In today's horoscope under Virgo which is where I

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fall, it says-"Suddenly events transpire in your favor as if a magic wand was waved. Circumstances relate to your efforts, ultimate goals. You win popularity contest, you'll succeed in finance and romance."

June 22, 1993

Today is the day that I will probably cast my 18,000th vote in the Congress. This is the all-time record in the history of the Congress and I am positive I could not do it again.

An article appeared in today's issue of "Congressional Monitor" entitled "Natcher May Cast 18,000th Vote Today." This article is as follows:

"Forget about Baltimore Orioles star Cal Ripkin's consecutive game streak, Rep. Bill Natcher, D-Ky., is the real iron man in the Washington area. In his 40 years in the House, Natcher has never missed a vote, and today he is likely to cast his 18,000th straight.

The 83-year-old Natcher is five away from that magic number, and with a busy floor schedule today seems sure to get it.

Natcher's perfect voting record has won him notoriety, including a place in the GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS. But it has come at a price: Natcher is constantly checking the floor, making sure he knows when another vote is coming up.

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It has also required him to go to great lengths to keep the streak alive. 'There have been lots of close calls,' said Natcher. Like taking a cab from Louisville to Washington because bad weather had grounded all the planes. When his wife was ill, Natcher took daily trips back and forth from Washington to Kentucky to be at her side and keep the vote streak going.

Natcher also once nearly forgot to vote when he was presiding over the House. As he was reading the vote tally, a colleague ran up and reminded Natcher that he had not voted.

'When I miss a vote I don't want to be in the chair,' he said last week. 'I want to be in Paris, France.'

Although the vote streak would seem tough to keep up, it's all part of Natcher's personality. The Appropriations Committee Chairman writes weekly letters to each of his seven grandchildren--1,598 in all since 1965. He also makes daily entries into a journal he has kept since coming to the House in 1953. There are now 54 bound volumes of his journal, and he is working on number 55.

After he casts his 18,000th vote, a ceremony will be held on the floor to mark the event. Natcher says that he will tell his colleagues what he always does: 'Miss a vote and get it over with. This record is not worth it.'"

June 28, 1993

On Saturday afternoon late I received a call, as the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, informing me that a raid with missiles was used against Iraq and several of their buildings were hit. Those struck were the ones used by Iraq's intelligence section and according to our information, the planners are at least cooperators with those who were plotting to assassinate former President Bush on his visit to Kuwait. Some 24 missiles were fired from ships offshore and some of the missiles did not hit the target and went into a private residential area. From 6 to 8 people were killed, but the people in this country generally feel that President Clinton gave the right order to retaliate because terrorism in this country is really serious at this time. The bombing in New York city and other planned bombings that have been discovered in time in our country are really dangerous and at least we are alerted that there might be more to come. U.S. officials yesterday pronounced Saturday's surprise missile attack against the Iraq intelligence service a qualified success. They expressed satisfaction in the near destruction of Baghdad's facilities leadership wing, but regretted the civilian casualties when three of the missiles they say went astray. Baghdad's official damage assessments show that 20 of the 23 Tomahawk missiles landed inside the intelligence service compound, wrecking the two top floors of the six-story headquarters building, and causing heavy damage to adjacent communications compounds and conference facilities.

We have seven of our appropriations bills on the floor this week and when they are passed, all 13 will be in the Senate and only Defense remains on our side. Late sessions will have to be held at least two

nights this week in order to get all seven passed, but at least when we leave here for the July Fourth recess period I hope that the 12 will have passed and if so, this will be the first time in years that this has happened before the Fourth of July.

July 12, 1993

During the past week I was in Kentucky and the weather was simply awful. The temperature every day almost was 100 degrees and with these general conditions existing all over the south. In Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa, the Mississippi is on the rampage and town after town has flooded for days now and the Mississippi will not crest until Tuesday of this week at Paducah. Corn, soybeans and other crops will be destroyed and so far, the damages in the far west are in the neighborhood of \$1 billion. The only way this kind of money can be raised to assist those who are suffering this damage will be for the President to declare an emergency and take the amount off budget. This can be done under the 1990 summit agreement and will then just go directly to the national debt.

The damages and floods are worse than at any time in the last 50 years. I think that the flood damage is almost as bad as it was in 1937 when a fish was caught in the lobby of the Brown Hotel on Broadway in Louisville, Kentucky. For many years this fish was mounted on a board and was right at the clerk's desk with the notation that it was caught in the lobby during the 1937 flood.

Our appropriations bills are now in the Senate with the exception of State, Justice, Commerce; Transportation; Interior, and Defense. When these four go over, all

thirteen of our bills will then be in the Senate, and I understand that they hope to pass eight of them by the August recess beginning date.

July 14, 1993

This morning I had a number of right interesting people visit me and especially since they were kind enough to leave me an award. On the last space shuttle flight Columbia STS-55 from April 26 to May 6, 1993 which was a successful flight of the German Space Lab D-2 mission, there were seven astronauts aboard. One was a German and one of my visitors this morning. They left with me a beautiful picture award which includes a small American flag and a crew patch that were flown on the mission. Since I served on the Select Committee on Astronautics and Space Exploration during the year of 1958 and I am the only Member of either the House or the Senate who is still serving, I was selected to receive this award. All of the thirteen Members who served on the Senate side are now dead, including Lyndon Johnson who was Chairman of the Select Committee and on the House side, only three of us are alive, Jerry Ford, Bernie Sisk, and I. Bernie Sisk retired from Congress a number of years ago and Jerry Ford, after serving as President, of course, retired from active politics.

We are still in the process of passing our appropriations bills and we will have another one on the floor today. This will be Interior and with three bills following this one, we will then have passed all 13 of our appropriations bills and be ready to go to conference with the Senate on each of them.

July 16, 1993

The Mississippi and several other rivers are still on the rampage which now

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brings about an emergency supplemental appropriations request for \$2.482 billion-- all flood related and money that is in the emergency category and will go directly to the national debt. Last night my telephone rang off and on with officials from three of the six states mainly involved at the present time calling about the hearings which will be held and their information was to the effect that we started today. We do not report this bill in the full Committee until Tuesday of next week and of course, the amount requested by the President is, according to some of the telephone calls I received, wholly inadequate. I intend to ask the other twelve Subcommittee Chairmen on the Appropriations Committee to hold the line and to consider only the amounts requested by the President and for the purposes listed. In this way, if we have to increase the size of the bill, it can be done at the proper time and that probably would be during the conference between the House and the Senate before the bill goes down to the President for his signature. The President was on Capitol Hill yesterday to meet with the leadership and with the committees involved over the emergency supplemental. He shook hands with me and was real nice in thanking me for helping him since he has been in office. He has another appointment that he sent up to the Hill yesterday that is in trouble. This is the nominee for Surgeon General who is the black lady from the State of Arkansas and has made several speeches and some of her speeches, for a doctor, are right unusual. The Republicans in the Senate and one or more of the Democrats on the Committee that has to pass upon this nomination are a little worried about it and here again, we may have more trouble with confirmation proceedings.

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July 19, 1993

This week we continue to have flood damage and uncontrolled rivers in the mid-west. The Mississippi and Missouri Rivers are still acting up, and in addition to the \$2.5 billion that we will request of the full Committee tomorrow, we will also have additional amounts to present, and still more at the time of the conference with the Senate. This is the all-time flood damage in this country during the 20th century.

The President has come up a little bit in the polls, and he apparently will do better as we go along. Some of his nominations for federal assignments are still in trouble, and I hope they are all resolved as quickly as possible. For instance, the Director of the FBI refuses to resign since he has a ten-year appointment. This past weekend, after attending a meeting with the Attorney General, where he was asked to resign, he then in leaving the building, slipped and fell and broke his right elbow. This man, William S. Sessions, is a former federal judge and he has assumed a very defiant stance which I believe will not be accepted by the President. Unless he makes a move this week or soon, the President will enter an order dismissing him as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

July 20, 1993

President Clinton fired FBI Director William S. Sessions yesterday ending a six-month drama during which the former Federal Judge refused repeated requests by administration officials to resign. After the President telephoned Sessions to inform him that he had been fired, he then called back several minutes later to remind him that the dismissal was

effective immediately. Now I understand that another Federal Judge, Louis J. Freeh, of Manhattan, a 43-year old former FBI agent and federal prosecutor, will be named to head the agency. A number of Members in the Congress feel sorry for Sessions because, under the circumstances, they do not believe that he was entitled to the treatment that he received as a result of the investigation that was made concerning some of his expenditures in travelling in this country.

Our former House Postmaster, Robert V. Rota, yesterday pleaded guilty to helping several Congressmen embezzle money from the House Post Office. Rota's guilty plea and agreement to cooperate with federal prosecutors represented a major breakthrough in the House Post Office investigation which here on the Hill was widely assumed to have completely come to a halt after two years of focusing on the misdeeds of House employees. Rota was forced to resign in March, 1992, and now will cooperate with the federal authorities. The two Members whose names appeared in the papers today as being the ones that Rota cooperated with are Rostenkowski of Illinois and Kolter, a former House Member from Pennsylvania.

We reported out the emergency supplemental for flood relief this morning and all of our recommendations were adopted. Probably more will follow as the damages are estimated and documented and still it is the worst flood damage of the 20th century.

July 21, 1993

The Ruth Bader Ginsburg nomination to the Supreme Court seems to be well under way and unless something develops that has

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not been publicized up to this time, she will be confirmed. This will make a second lady on the Supreme Court, when Ginsburg joins Justice O'Connor.

Several weeks ago, those in charge of the transportation requests at the White were suddenly all dismissed. The inference was that something was going on behind the scene that was not good, and a number of those dismissed were very much incensed over the accusations that were circulating. One of those in charge of the office, at least by way of supervisor, was a Clinton aide by the name of Vincent Foster, a former law partner of Hillary Clinton's in a law firm in Little Rock, Arkansas. This man was a friend of the President's for many years and yesterday he committed suicide. Mr. Foster came to Washington from the law firm to serve as the number two lawyer in the White House counsel's office, and his body was discovered at Fort Marcy Park overlooking the Potomac River off the George Washington Memorial Parkway in McLean, Virginia. A positive identification was made last night, and the President issued a statement that Foster was his good friend for over 40 years and his deepest hope was that whatever drew Vince Foster away from us, his soul would receive the grace and salvation that his good life and good works earned. Foster was only 48 years of age, and like the President, was from Hope, Arkansas.

William S. Sessions is now out as Director of the FBI, and the President's new Director, Lewis J. Freeh, was sworn in yesterday. The new Director is 43 years old, and was serving as a federal judge in New York at the time of his appointment. Freeh has spent six years with the FBI, mostly as a street agent in

New York, making him the first FBI Director to have such experience since Clarence Kelley retired in 1978. The Sessions case is very much still being discussed here on Capitol Hill, and I hope that it now is concluded and the new Director can start with a clean slate.

The emergency supplemental, which now totals \$2,982,855,000, will go to the House floor tomorrow. The Commodity Credit Corporation, which serves for reimbursement for crop losses, has the highest amount, which is \$1,150,000,000. FEMA is in for \$815 million and the Small Business Administration is in for \$300 million for disaster loans. Legal Services was added, and this makes the difference of \$300,000 over the President's request of \$2,982,555,000.

July 23, 1993

With all of the problems concerning the deficit and flood damages in the mid-west, the Senate's only African-American member really set the Senate on its head yesterday. A request was before the Senate from the United Daughters of the Confederacy on a bill which proposed to renew a design patent for the insignia and it featured the original flag of the Confederacy encased in a wreath. Only a few hours before the legislation was to be up for final passage, it seemed to meet with the approval of the Senate, and the Senate was all set to approve the legislation sponsored by Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) with the support of Senator Strom Thurmond (S-S.C.). The preliminary vote was 50 to 48, and then Senator Carol Moseley-Braun was recognized and she described the insignia very carefully and in a speech

bristling with outrage, argued that the issue was not the design patent, but the symbolism that the Confederate flag conveys, especially for the descendents of slaves. She went on to say that the issue is whether or not Americans such as herself who believe in the promise of this country will have to suffer the indignity of being reminded time and time again that at one time in this country's history we had slaves, and the slaves could be traded, bought and sold. She went on to say that this vote certainly was a vote about race, and the single most painful episode in American history. She turned the vote around, and the next vote turned down the request for the insignia as designed. With all of their problems, this little lady really led them up to the precipice and pushed them over.

The Ginsburg hearing continued and yesterday she deplored the bias in this country against gays. I hope that she is quickly confirmed because yesterday's hearing did not help her at all.

An investigation is underway concerning the death of the President's good friend, who apparently committed suicide. The funeral is today and the President will attend the funeral.

July 27, 1993

The President is a little disturbed and in a speech before an audience in Chicago yesterday, he said that Congressional delay and gridlock has stalled his economic package, along with the flood control emergency appropriation legislation and his new Surgeon General's appointment. He said Congress should vote and he did have to win them all, but at least

decisions should be made. Clinton's outburst against Congress was a little unusual since the Democrats control both Houses of Congress, along with the White House. A man jumped up in the audience and started yelling back to the President that he should not talk about gridlock when the Democrats have control of the Congress, and he himself should take some leadership. The President is right in regard to the emergency disaster relief legislation. The rule should have been adopted so that our Committee could bring out the bill. The rule will be before the House today that changes the time from one hour to 1½ hours, and they say they have enough votes, with the bill to follow.

One of our old World War II heroes, General Matthew B. Ridgway, died yesterday at the age of 98. He led the airborne troops into a great many battles in World War II and commanded an entire Army in the Korean War. He ended his career as Army Chief of Staff and was one of our great military leaders in this century.

July 28, 1993

Yesterday we passed the Urgent Emergency Supplemental bill that provided \$2,980,000,000 for flood relief on a roll call vote of 400 to 27. The size of the vote really surprised me and I understand that an additional request for \$1 billion will be made today and before it is all over, it could go up in the neighborhood of \$10 billion. Six of the Governors were here yesterday, requesting additional money from the President and we will hear from those requests soon.

July 30, 1993

Conferees on the House-Senate reconciliation budget conference last night settled on a 4.3 cents per gallon increase in the gasoline tax. This is the Senate version of the bill, and the BTU energy tax that was proposed by President Clinton, and approved by the House several months ago, was rejected. The gasoline tax will raise \$23 billion over five years, compared to \$72 billion in energy tax increases in the House bill. Forgoing the revenue from a larger gasoline tax will make it harder to meet Clinton's \$500 billion, five-year deficit-reduction goal while paying for business tax incentives, aid for the poor, and other programs that are high priorities with a great many Members on the Democrat side in the House. Regardless of the final outcome, there are a great many people in this country who will be unhappy and this will be a right difficult conference report to pass.

The President, this weekend, may make some decision about the use of military force in a last-ditch attempt to stop the Serb assault on Sarajevo and preserve the city as the capital of a Muslim state in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It seems that the White House is in constant touch with the French and British governments, urging the two to join with us in a final attempt to stop this assault. It seems that with all of our flood damage in the midwest and our problems concerning the deficit, we still have to set aside a part of each day to decide as to how many engagements we will be forced to get into in the different wars and troubles around the world.

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August 2, 1993

The Reconciliation Budget conference report should come before the House on Thursday of this week. This bill passed in the Senate 51 to 50 and in the House 218 to 216.

Republicans stand united against the package which combines about \$250 billion in tax increases with an equal amount of spending cuts. Negotiators have agreed to raise the top income tax rate from 31% to 36% and add a 39.6% rate for incomes above \$250,000. Under the plan agreed upon, the corporate tax rate will increase from 34% to 35% and a tax of 85% of Social Security benefits of wealthier recipients will take effect along with a reduction of \$54 billion in Medicare.

We will go to conference on the urgent emergency flood control legislation one day this week.

August 3, 1993

It now appears that the budget reconciliation bill may have enough votes in the Senate when it comes up on Thursday. It appeared last week that they were some three or four votes short, but a number of arms have been twisted and promises made so it appears it will now be approved. In the House, there are sufficient votes to pass this legislation but it still is not good legislation and will hurt the Democratic party more than anything else during the 103rd Congress.

In one of the Washington papers today, we have a picture of ex-Representative Larry Smith of Florida, who has pleaded guilty on income tax evasion and campaign reporting violations. He will receive three months to serve in jail and then

probation will start. He was a right controversial Member while he was with us in the House and one who left New York City moving to Florida selecting a congressional district and then coming to Washington.

On the same page next to the Smith article, we have an article concerning Rostenkowski's 35 year old daughter, who was charged with possession of cocaine after being stopped for running a stop sign in Chicago Sunday. She uses the name Gail Rosten and, along with two passengers in a car, was arrested late Sunday. Those in the car could face up to three years in prison if convicted. The article went on to state that in June 1990, Rosten was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to deliver. She pleaded guilty to a reduced drug charge and was sentenced to three years probation. Her father, the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, is still under investigation and has been now for over a year for allegedly turning in \$21,300 in official vouchers for stamps and then receiving back in cash and pocketing this amount.

Articles such as I have just described are some of the reasons why the Congress is really at a low ebb at the present time. I know that since the days of Abraham Lincoln this has applied, and he himself said on several occasions that Congress was held in disrepute by the people. Still this makes it much more difficult to serve as a Member of Congress.

August 4, 1993

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was confirmed in a 96 to 3 vote by the Senate yesterday as the 107th Justice and second woman to serve on the Supreme Court. Apparently

this little lady is well qualified to go on the Court, and I hope everything works well for her. When they select them from the Circuit Court of Appeals here in the District Court, it bothers me some because the Circuit Court here is known throughout the United States as the worst one of all. Her confirmation proceedings were expeditiously handled and the Committee in reporting her nomination to the Senate said that her qualifications as a lawyer, scholar and judge are indisputable. The report further went on to say that her record and style marked her as a balanced candidate, able to garner unanimous support from the Committee.

On Thursday of this week we will vote on the budget deficit reconciliation plan which, if adopted and carried out according to the legislation, would cut \$496 billion from the deficit over five years. In the House when we had the bill up before, the vote was 219 to 213, with 37 Democrats in opposition. In the Senate, Vice President Al Gore had to break a 49 to 49 tie, and six Democrat Senators voted against the bill. According to the whip check that is now underway in the House and Senate, it will be close this week, but I believe they finally have enough votes to pass it in both Houses.

The President is really taking his legislative proposals to the people. Last night in a televised speech to the nation, the President asked all Americans to challenge the guardians of gridlock who oppose a measure financed in part by retroactive income tax increases. He went on to say in this televised broadcast that he needed and wanted the people to say to their duly elected representatives that it is time to get on with the people's business, and they

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should contact their Representatives and Senators as soon as possible. Bob Dole, the Republican leader in the Senate from Kansas, says that the President's plan does not cut federal spending, but only slows its growth. Not a single Republican in the Senate will vote for the plan and the vote could go down to one or two Senators.

August 6, 1993

Democratic leaders and our new President, Bill Clinton, squeaked out a narrow victory in the House late last night when the budget reconciliation deficit package passed on a roll call vote of 218 to 216.

All of the Republicans voted against it, and this total was 175. Forty-one Democrats joined the Republicans.

At the last minute I believed that enough arms had been twisted to pass this bill, and guessed this would be by a majority of nine, which would help the President, but a majority of two means a great many new Members and some old Members will have fingers pointed at them, admonishing that their vote was the one that passed the bill. When you get down to two votes, you really have something. The Republican Campaign Committee announced that billboards will go up in the districts of the six Democrats who changed their votes and voted for the bill, and the billboards will point fingers at those particular Members. After the vote, I succeeded in obtaining unanimous consent to bring up the \$4.7 billion flood appropriation disaster bill today without a rule or going to conference. We will be first up this morning and should get a large majority.

August 30, 1993

During the August recess, I have been in Kentucky and the weather every day has been simply awful. The temperature has been up in the high 90's with little or no rain, and there have been floods out in the midwest section of our country. The seven states that have suffered so much in the past three months are still having trouble with rain and this morning in Des Moines, Iowa, the water is coming back up again.

During my time here in Kentucky I have had an opportunity to talk to a number of people all over my district and they are very much concerned about the deficit and federal spending and the health care legislation which will be rolled out by the President and Mrs. Clinton when we return to Washington. I have my doubts that any votes will take place on this proposed legislation during the calendar year of 1993, but at least the committees will have an opportunity to take a look at what is proposed and then we can start voting in January of next year. This, of course, is the most important legislation pending at this time and we must adopt some legislation which will take care of, as much as possible, the 35 million people in this country who have no health insurance.

Here in Kentucky, even though the Governor's race does not take place until 1995, it has started up full blast and three or four are announced candidates. Some are a little qualified and others are not too well qualified. With a shortage in the budget each year now of over \$300 million it takes considerably more movement to bring out a candidate who is willing to increase taxes and to just simply face the facts here in Kentucky. Unless this is done, of course, we will lose another Congressional seat in the year 2000.

September 8, 1993

In coming back on the plane to Washington on Sunday, I had an opportunity to talk with my old friend Al Gore, Sr. who sat across the aisle from me. He emphatically said that he had advised his son Al Gore, Jr. to be very careful about the task assigned to him by our new President, Bill Clinton which yesterday was entitled in a brochure as "Creating a Government that Works Better and Costs Less." The report was made by the Vice President, Al Gore, Jr. at a White House ceremony and this report required some six months to prepare. A great many recommendations are made and one pertains to a savings of some \$43 billion by a reduction of 252,000 federal workers. A great many rescissions and deletions are suggested with a great many of them very controversial. Congress, of course, will have to pass upon most of these recommendations and some, of course, will not be accepted.

We start again today with the defense authorization bill and then we will be ready to take up the Defense Appropriations bill from our Committee. In addition, I am hoping now that we will be able to work out the Transportation Appropriations Bill and then all thirteen will be in the Senate.

During the recess period some of my friends asked me to prepare a letter right much in detail about the old homes on East Main Street. I did so and really enjoyed the task. The first house on East Main where I live was constructed in the year 1840 and almost all of the old homes are in excellent condition, including the one I live in.

September 9, 1993

We will appoint conferees today for the Treasury, Postal Service Appropriations Bill. The bill has passed both Houses and on the Senate side, by voice vote, two amendments were adopted which are legislation on an appropriations bill. Very powerful issues, because each pertains to tobacco, one provides that there be no smoking in Federal buildings and the second amendment is worded in such a way that there can be no sale of cigarettes in vending machines in any Federal building. Regardless of the merits or demerits of the amendments, neither should be in the bill because both are legislation on an appropriations bill and should first have gone to the Public Works Committees in the House and in the Senate. If this procedure would be followed, both amendments in my opinion, would pass.

As Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I appeared yesterday before the Subcommittee Chairmen on the House and Senate side on this particular bill, requesting that both amendments be dropped. Not only from the standpoint of the importance of tobacco in Kentucky, but just from the standpoint of doing it right. I explained to them that I had been a member of the Committee now for 39 years and never a year passed that I did not receive requests and many of them to cut research funds which apply to tobacco. Under no circumstances would I have ever agreed to this and instead of cutting appropriations funds, I have played a very important part, I think, that the National Institutes of Health have come from \$73 million as a total when I first was elected, to the current day figure which is now over \$10,900,000,000. Smoking and health, as far as the Public Health Service is concerned, started at less than \$100,000 years ago and it is now up to \$141 million. The tobacco and smoking

section of the bill under the control of the Department of Health & Human Services started at less than \$100,000 and it is now up to \$21 million. This is the way it should be and at the same time, the reason five of the authorizing Committee Chairmen went to Sepaker Tom Foley demanding that our Committee on Appropriations stop its usual procedure of passing bills with legislative language in the bill and with earmarking of projects. If I was Chairman of an authorizing Committee, I would feel the same way and when I appeared before the Speaker shortly after being elected as Chairman, I agreed that every effort would be made to stop this procedure. I do not know what is going to happen on the Treasury, Postal Service Bill, but if the right move is made, the two amendments which are legislation on an appropriations bill will drop out and we will be back to where we should be as far as approval of the Members of Congress.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore had a nice Rose Garden meeting in presenting the "Creating a Government That Works Better and Costs Less" report. Over 800 proposals are made in this report and some are good. A few will be accepted by the Congress, but all have to go before the Committees of the Congress and no action will really take place until next year. The people generally will approve of a great many of the proposals made in the recommendations and from the standpoint of publicity, maybe the President and Vice President will receive praise for suggesting that 252,000 Federal employees be cut and so on down through the 800-odd proposals suggested. The report contains one item suggesting a two-year budget instead of a one-year budget. The AP stories carried shortly after the presentation of the report stated that the Budget Committee Chairman in the House Martin Sabo and the Appropria-

tions Committee Chairman in the House, Natcher of Kentucky, both were against a two-year budget and in favor of a one-year budget. There are many reasons for this and all good. For instance, programs and projects can be followed a lot closer each year when the money is requested than at the end of a two-year period when a whole lot of money has already been appropriated.

Next week we have Jewish Holidays and we hope to finish our last two bills, Transportation and Defense Appropriations. We are back in our usual stride now from the August recess period and if we stay on course, we have a good chance to get out, sine die, during the month of October. If not, we will be here way up during the latter part of November and even could go into the early part of December.

September 10, 1993

The headlines in the papers throughout this country today are to the affect that Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organization have reached an historic accord. Arafat, who pushed forward, has signed a preliminary agreement with Palestine and will officially sign here in Washington next week, has indicated that the Palestinians recognize Israel as a country and no longer are making dire predictions as to the fall of Israel and as to the fallacy of it even claiming to be a country. The Palestinians hope now to have a state of their own in maybe three years and less than one month ago most Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza strip would have scoffed at such a prediction. After 26 years of Israeli occupation, the idea of a state seemed a distant dream over the last 5½ years. Even the display of a Palestinian flag was considered an offense by Israel and soldiers

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marching through the refugee camps demanded often that young people take down the flags.

Jimmy Carter worked on this matter diligently while President and with Sadat and the Prime Minister of Israel meeting time after time, he wanted to reach the point that the peace conference has reached during the past two weeks. This mutual recognition of Israel and the Palestinians, which was agreed to officially yesterday now places the Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Rabin, in a position of recognizing the PLO as the representative of Palestine and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in the position of recognizing Israel and calling upon the Palestinians to cease their revolt in the occupied West Bank and Gaza strip. After many months of secret diplomacy and a final day of intense bargaining in a Paris hotel, both sides agreed on the language they would use to close one of the most bitterly fought chapters in the century-long conflict between Arabs and Jews. For three decades Israel waged a war against the PLO which it considered an army of terrorists while Arafat campaigned furiously with violent attacks and later diplomacy to force Israel to acknowledge the Palestinians as a people with a claim to the land.

I hope this agreement when final will work and that this now ends this long controversy which has cost our country billions of dollars and a controversy which has required real tight-rope walking on our part as well as their part. I have often wondered when the time would arrive when we would say to both the Palestinians and to Israel that there would be no more foreign aid money for either until an agreement was reached. Billions of dollars have been expended down through the years by our country to no effect as far as any agreement between the PLO and Israel is concerned. I presume

that money has had something to do with it and we will know a little more about this as we proceed along the way.

We are still struggling to bring out our two final appropriations bills and with the authorizing committees finally moving, we should soon have all 13 in the Senate.

September 14, 1993

Yesterday, before a crowd of 3,000 guests on the White House lawn, Prime Minister Rabin of Israel and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands. A Declaration of Principle for establishing Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho was signed. All eyes of those present were on the two leaders and all present were watching to see if they would shake hands. They did on several occasions before leaving the White House grounds and entering the White House with President Clinton. Of the 3,000 guests, many of whom had worked for peace in the Middle East for years, we had two former Presidents, Jimmy Carter and George Bush. The ceremony was followed by a number of official and unofficial meetings between Israelis and Arabs and sessions between Clinton and Israeli officials and Clinton and Arafat.

A number of Members of the Senate and House expressed their approval of this meeting and as Alan Simpson, one of the Republican Members of the Senate from Wyoming, said upon being questioned as to the meeting "it was like looking at both sides of the moon."

I hope now that Jordan and Syria will come along together with the Jewish organization in New York City that raises billions

of dollars a year for the Israeli government. A great many said that this was a giant leap of faith for a sacred land.

Yesterday we had one of our regular meetings of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian. During the meeting, Robert McC. Adams, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution for the past nine years announced that he plans to retire late next year. The decision comes at a time when the Smithsonian, the world's largest museum complex faces an uncertain financial future. Layoffs have started and buyouts will follow due to a shortage of funds. Dr. Adams will leave before the 150th Anniversary of the Smithsonian in 1996 or before the groundbreaking for the National Museum of the American Indian. He is 67 years of age and said that according to his age he might not be on hand for the 1996 celebration and that this will be a time when so many important changes take place, and will, according to his opinion, require someone who will take a long view to be prepared to provide leadership over an extended period. The complex has a budget of \$445.3 million and is the most visited museum in the country. It administers 15 other museums as well as a National Zoological Park and various research facilities. Some of the former officials of the Smithsonian believe that Adams has been somewhat detached and more interested in the prevailing winds of political pressure than making his decisions himself. McC Adams is an Anthropologist and has been Secretary since September, 1984. Prior to that he served as Provost at the University of Chicago and had been Director of the University's Oriental Institute. The presiding officer of the Board of Regents is Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and he issued a statement following

our meeting that said the Regents received the announcement of McC Adams retirement which will take place sometime during the latter part of next year with great regret and noted his leadership, intellect, imagination and integrity. During the meeting, it was announced that 54 positions were eliminated at a savings of \$3.4 million in salaries and benefits and has 23 unfilled positions which will save \$1.3 million. Beginning this summer there were 6,000 employees of the Smithsonian--some paid from its federal appropriations of \$344.3 million in Fiscal Year 1993 and others paid from its Trust Funds. The net income from its Trust Funds declined by 25% or \$10 million between 1991 and 1992.

As Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I am automatically a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian and we hold our meetings on the second floor in a beautiful room in the old red brick portion of the Smithsonian. You look around and feel that you are in the early part of the 19th Century. The Board of Regents is composed of outstanding men and women from civilian life as well as two Members of the House and two Members of the Senate.

This meeting conflicted somewhat with the White House ceremony, but all in all, yesterday was a wonderful day.

September 15, 1993

A criminal trial in Federal Court started here in Washington on Monday of this week and this is the one that charges Deborah Gore Dean, a former aid to former Secretary of HUD, Samuel Pierce, Jr. under President Reagan, with corruption and fraud benefiting herself and her family. The indictment was returned against her in July of 1992 and names Louie Nunn, the last

Republican Governor of Kentucky as an unindicted co-conspirator along with former Attorney General John Mitchell. The indictment alleges that Dean tried to facilitate the award of HUD apartment-rehab funding to Nunn and other consultants and developers who hired Mitchell to help them. Mitchell was very much in controversy after he resigned as Attorney General in 1988. Nunn, according to the Federal Government, got more than \$300,000 in consulting fees from a Florida developer that he aided in conjunction with Mitchell. Nunn has been subpoenaed to testify and confirmed in a telephone conversation with the media that he will testify in the trial under immunity from prosecution, but said he has no knowledge of wrongdoing by anyone involved in the case including Dean. He went on further to say that he would never testify before any federal agency without immunity for fear of getting caught up in a bind by some innocent misstatement, a possibility that now exists since he has recently had heart-related surgery and is recuperating. Nunn served as Governor from 1967 to 1971.

During his tenure as Governor he decided to bring out Republican opposition to each of us in the Congress from Kentucky on the Democrat side. In my hometown of Bowling Green, Kentucky there was a lawyer at that time practicing who still, by the way, lives in Bowling Green, by the name of Robert Simmons. He was very close to Nunn in many transactions and the one selected by Nunn to run against me for Congress. Nunn raised for him about \$100,000 and he, in his race in November only obtained a few votes. The Republican Party generally knew what was going on and my Republican friends were not in favor of this kind of a deal. At that time I had four Republican counties and two others that often went Republican in November. He made a poor showing in all

of these counties and I carried the Democrat counties almost solid. Nunn's son is now the State Representative that represents Barren County and a portion of two other counties. Nunn attended the funeral of a former President of Western Kentucky University several weeks ago and each time when I see him, you would think that at no time ever in the past did he make any political move to unseat me as a Member of Congress.

We are now in recess until after the Jewish Holiday and will start again on Tuesday of next week.

September 16, 1993

A portion of the Gore report entitled "Creating a Government that Works Better and Costs Less" contains a provision concerning the deletion of 252,000 Federal employees. In today's "Washington Post" on the Federal Page appears an article concerning this particular matter and the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.) who has proceeded to take a first major step toward reducing the size of the federal workforce. To demonstrate his support for the Clinton cutback, Byrd inserted an amendment into the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill approved by the Senate yesterday that would eliminate a mandated level of personnel for the Indian Health Service. This mandated level of personnel for this particular Service was placed in the bill on the House side by Sidney Yates of Chicago who is the Chairman of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The Chairman on the other side proceeds in one direction and the article clearly shows that his Subcommittee Chairmen are not following his lead. I am quoted as having said that I am studying Panetta's letter and

the request contained in the letter, but was unavailable for comment. This is true and a real direct quote because much consideration will have to be given with a number of the agencies if we are to operate this government in the manner in which it should be operated and this will mean that we cannot just have a blanket reduction. Some agencies need more and others less, but the article quotes Steny Hoyer and Byrd along one line and then the action of a Subcommittee is in direct contradiction. This article is entitled "Administration Asks Congress To Ease Way for Personnel Cuts" and is as follows:

"The Clinton administration, with the support of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee chairman, Robert C. Byrd (D-W.Va.), yesterday took its first major step toward reducing the size of the federal work force.

The administration has targeted 252,000 jobs for elimination over five years as part of its National Performance Review proposals for 'reinventing government,' and on Tuesday strongly urged Congress to alter spending bills for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 to make it easier to shrink departments and agencies.

To demonstrate his support for the Clinton cutback, Byrd inserted an amendment into the Interior and related agencies appropriations bill approved by the Senate yesterday that would eliminate a mandated level of personnel for the Indian Health Service.

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Byrd's show of support will help the administration surmount one of the obstacles to shrinking the government -- legislative mandates specifying the number of people that must be employed in certain departments and agencies.

In a letter Tuesday, Office of Management and Budget Director Leon E. Panetta pointed out to House and Senate appropriations leaders that one-third of the non-military civilian work force -- from the Indian Health Service to the Food and Drug Administration -- currently is immune to personnel reductions because of specifications written into spending laws.

'These provisions violate the intent of the National Performance Review and the president's executive order,' Panetta said in the letter, adding, 'I cannot emphasize enough the strong concerns the administration has with respect to these provisions.'

Byrd said yesterday he would cooperate with House appropriators in the next two weeks to try to facilitate the administration's goals.

'It is not my intention to thwart the goal of eliminating unneeded positions from the federal work force,' Byrd said.

Rep. Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md.), chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on the Treasury, Postal Service and general government,

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also said he believed House and Senate negotiators would cooperate with Panetta when they meet on pending appropriations bills.

'I think that we need to show the American people that we are prepared to run the federal government efficiently and economically,' Hoyer said. 'This is one of the early demonstrations that the congress is in agreement with the objectives' presented in the report by Vice President Gore's National Performance Review, Hoyer added.

House Appropriations Committee Chairman William H. Natcher (D-Ky.) was studying Panetta's request yesterday, but was unavailable for comment.

Congress is behind schedule in completing work on 13 separate spending bills, a problem noted by Panetta during an appearance on Capitol Hill earlier this week. His letter, urging that significant changes be made in a majority of those bills, will add to the difficulty of meeting the Oct. 1 deadline.

In his letter, Panetta noted that the administration had raised concerns about mandated personnel levels in previous correspondence with Congress. He cited examples of provisions that would obstruct the president's goals of federal work force reductions. They included:

°A section of the agriculture and rural development spending bill as passed by the House and Senate. It sets minimum full-time

equivalent floors for the Food and Drug Administration, Farmers Home Administration, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, Rural Electrification Administration and Soil Conservation Service.

° A section of the Senate version of the Treasury, Postal Service and related agencies spending bill. It would permit the Treasury secretary to exempt from reduction certain groups of workers employed in drug control, law enforcement, trade facilitation and other services. Another provision of the same bill would protect personnel in the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

° A Senate version of the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education spending bill that would establish 'statutory personnel floors' for all of the agencies receiving funding through the bill. This provision alone would remove approximately 157,000 'full-time equivalent' employees from consideration in reducing the federal work force.

A spokeswoman for Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee responsible for the Senate version, said 'his intention is to get rid of all personnel floors' when negotiators meet over the spending bills.

House-Senate negotiators, she said, can ensure that personnel requirements are fairly and

uniformly dropped, leaving no agency at risk of bearing a disproportionate share of any government-wide downsizing.

In his letter, Panetta said the examples cited, coupled with other provisions, would protect nearly 17 percent of the total civilian work force from proposed cutbacks.

In giving up its control over staffing levels at agencies, Congress will need to work with the administration to ensure that agencies have sufficient employees to do their work, Hoyer said.

Over the last decade, the Democratic-controlled Congress has used personnel levels as one way of enforcing its oversight authority, protecting agencies from cutbacks proposed by Republican administrations and bolstering agencies whose work is important to public safety, such as the FDA and programs aimed at illegal drugs.

'There's a history behind some of these [employment floors],' one House aide said. 'They weren't just done for the hell of it.'

An aide to the House Democratic leadership complained that the administration was unnecessarily pressuring Congress to act hastily on personnel issues.

'I'm not sure this is the way to do it,' the aide said.

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'You've got to give people time to look at what's in the recommendations. What's the rush?' "

September 17, 1993

Two more Senators have announced their retirements and emphatically stated yesterday that they would not run for re-election next year. These two are Dennis Deconcini (D-Ariz) and Dave Durenberger (R-MN). Both are scarred by scandals and plagued by formidable re-election problems. Durenberger is facing criminal charges that he defrauded the government and Deconcini has been wounded a number of times in the last five years and this includes an ethics committee review for his involvement with Savings & Loan Executive Charles H. Keating, Jr.

Three other long-term Senators John C. Danforth (R-Mo.), Howard M. Metzenbaum (D-Ohio) and Malcolm Wallop (R-Wyo) had already announced their decisions to retire next year. These three were faced with the kind of opposition that Durenberger and Deconcini would face if they decided to run for re-election.

The President is really traveling around now on health care reform, and also on NAFTA, which is the agreement worked out between Mexico, our Country and Canada. NAFTA is in serious trouble and probably will go down and health care reform legislation is a long way from enactment.

In going back to Yasser Arafat for just a moment--following the White House ceremony and before he left town, he appeared at the Press Club and after a short speech, answered questions. One of the questions was that the Jewish people had not felt they could trust "you to keep your word, and why has this changed and why should they trust you now"?

Immediately Arafat said that "many did not trust Jesus Christ in the beginning" and there was considerable applause.

September 21, 1993

From time to time a Member of the House or Senate will say something that is not good and the odds are that later on they regret such a statement. Our "big" league baseball player Jim Bunning who serves in the House with us from the Fourth District of Kentucky apparently is a little peeved at the new Administration over something because this past weekend in a speech up on the Ohio River, he got just a little carried away and said that "Bill Clinton is the most corrupt, the most amoral, and the most despicable person I have ever seen in the Presidency." Immediately after this speech the Democrat Party Headquarters in Frankfort, Kentucky called around to talk to us in the House and in the Senate about this speech and the statement that Bunning made. All of the Members commented by saying that he had made a mistake and in substance said about the same thing that I did when they called me. When asked about Bunning's statement I said that I had served with nine Presidents and had disagreed with some of them from time to time; but at the same time I liked all of them and under no circumstances would I have ever made any remarks that could be considered derogatory or personal. When Bunning was informed about the statements that we made, he then had to say something else, which he could have left unsaid. He simply said to "tell all of those good Democrats I understand their defending Bill Clinton as their President and he is my President also, but I don't have the respect for him that I had for the prior two members in the White House and when he earns my respect, I will give it to him."

The President will address a Joint Session of Congress tomorrow night at which time he will outline in detail his proposal concerning health care insurance and long-term health care proposals--a right controversial subject at this time and one that all of us must study carefully because it will be like the social security system when it goes on into the future.

September 27, 1993

Our Speaker Tom Foley has announced that we will be here until Thanksgiving. This, the First Session of the 103rd Congress, will then adjourn until sometime during the first ten days of January, 1994. A number of bills are to be considered before we leave here Thanksgiving. One is the crime bill and another is the campaign funding legislation. In addition, we have one more appropriations bill which is the Defense Appropriations Bill and then all thirteen will be in the Senate. The Senate has only passed three of the 13 and complained today about the Continuing Resolution which was to run until October 14. They maintain that additional time is necessary and under their plea, we have approved the time for the Continuing Resolution to be 21 days. This means from October 1 until October 21 and then all of the Conference Reports and bills should be through both Houses and on the President's desk. Each time we extend our Continuing Resolution time it works out just to the contrary and could mean that we will have to have another short Continuing Resolution before we adjourn along about Thanksgiving.

The health care legislation is now being discussed but nothing will come up for a vote during this calendar year. The question of how to fund this legislation is the major problem and again, waste and inefficiency will not produce the necessary money for the bill. When you consider that

14¢ out of every dollar spent in this country is for health care and there are some 35 million people who are not covered, you can see how important this type of legislation is at this time. A great many small businessmen are really concerned because they maintain even if there is an exception of those that employ less than 50 people, it will really be a burden.

The way the leadership on the House side is acting we will really have a close vote on NAFTA. The Majority Leader is against the bill and so is the Majority Whip. The Speaker says that these are just two votes and it will still pass. It will be exceedingly close and could go down. The way the Speaker is agreeing and being absolutely nice about all the requests concerning extensions of time makes you wonder as to whether or not he has made up his mind to remain a Member of Congress and continue on as Speaker. A number of articles have been published to the contrary and it may be that he and his wife have decided to abandon ship.

September 28, 1993

Our new Republican Senator from Texas, Kay Bailey Hutchinson was indicted yesterday on four felony counts of misusing government resources and tampering with evidence in her former job as State treasurer. A state grand jury in Travis County, Texas, which began reviewing evidence five days after Hutchinson won a landslide victory in June over Democratic appointed Senator Bob Krueger, indicted Hutchinson along with two political aides.

On the House side a number of Members are waiting to hear what is to be done to Dan Rostenkowski, the Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee.

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September 30, 1993

The President and all of those in the White House are now spending most of their time on either NAFTA or the health care reform proposal. Health Care will not come this year, but we will vote on NAFTA this year. In the House they are predicting today that there are 120 Republicans that will vote for NAFTA and they have about 75 Democrats on their side. This is not enough to pass it so every effort is being made to obtain more votes and they will have to do more work.

Yeltsin is still hanging on in Russia but just barely. He has troops surrounding the Parliament Building and unless they are all out by Monday, he has threatened to have those ousted that are trying to change the government. Our President has issued a statement endorsing Yeltsin's action and has indicated full support.

October 1, 1993

During the Ronald Reagan era of eight years and the George Bush four-year period, we heard every day that the Democrats were the big spenders and we would never be able to bring down the tremendous deficit each year. It now appears that federal spending is slowing down to the extent that outlays rose only 1.7%, which is the smallest increase in six years, during the fiscal year 1993 spending period. Federal spending has increased just 1% over the past three fiscal years which is the slowest of any three-year period since the 1950's. There is no question that we are seeing a substantial slowdown in spending.

We are now cleaning up the Thrift Savings and Loan disaster and the amount the

Federal Government will have to spend here is considerably less than anticipated in the beginning. At the time the President presented his fiscal year 1994 budget to the Congress, he predicted a record \$332 billion deficit for fiscal year 1993. Our Committee on Appropriations has worked hard and helped bring about a record which will show that instead of a \$332 billion deficit, it will be about \$260 billion. Smaller deficits will help us keep interest rates low and free funds for productivity enhancing private investment. If we continue at the present expenditure rates medicare and medicaid will consume 22¢ of every federal dollar in 1998 instead of 15¢ as it is today. The new health care reform legislation which will be submitted before too long will contain a reduction in medicare and medicaid over the next five-year period. Out of every federal dollar that is spent today 14¢ of it is for health care. When we started out with the 1993 fiscal year budget, OMB and the Congressional Budget Office both said that it would go over \$1.5 trillion. It now appears at the close of the fiscal year 1993 that the total will be nearer \$1.4 trillion.

This all indicates that federal spending under the Democrats is really coming down and this is the way it should be.

October 4, 1993

Military units that are loyal to President Yeltsin launched an attack on the rebel Parliament early this morning after thousands of armed anti-government demonstrators routed police, seizing key buildings in the capital and fighting a pitched battle with guards at the state television complex. This all took place shortly after dawn and in the area around the massive Parliament Building which is known there as the White House. The

dissidents in the Parliament that are causing Yeltsin trouble were supposed to be on either the fifth or sixth floor and with large shells and rockets ordered by Yeltsin to be used, the building at that section was on fire and tremendously large holes appeared in the building. The attack with the shells was launched after last-ditch negotiations between Yeltsin's aides and his opponents broke down following a Sunday of violence in Moscow. Yeltsin issued a statement to the affect that "today the fate of Russia and the fate of our children is being decided". He went on to say that the forces of civil war will not succeed.

President Clinton is in California today selling his health care proposal and upon being interviewed said that he was standing firm with Yeltsin and that Yeltsin may have waited a little too long in what is a take-over of the White House and the television station building, but he believed that he would survive. I have had my doubts about Yeltsin ever since the Joint Session of Congress at which he appeared and according to those who know, his proposal is the best for Russia at this time and I hope he is able to remain as President and to be in control of his country.

October 6, 1993

Bob Michel of Peoria, Illinois, who is serving his nineteenth term in the Congress and who, by the way, is the Minority Leader on the Republican side, announced yesterday that he will not run for re-election next year. Year after year in the minority, never a chairman of a sub-committee or of a full committee and no hope to ever be Speaker, of course, entered into his decision not to run next year. He certainly will be missed because he is one of the good Members of the House.

The Somalia situation is certainly much worse and several of our boys have been killed and with one stripped almost completely naked, tied to the back of a truck and dragged through the streets. This is a horrible thing to have happen to any of our people when we are sending food and drugs over there to help them when they have thousands of people starving every day. The question the President will have to decide today is what we should be doing at the present time either by way of sending more troops over or pulling out completely from Somalia.

Yeltsin, after takeover of the "White House" which is the building occupied by his Parliament, and arresting several hundred members of Parliament, is still in control. The method he used to keep control after he had issued orders for the call of an election and for other matters that would improve the economy of Russia, is still treading on very thin ice. He may be there next year and he may not.

Our former House Sergeant-at-Arms Jack Russ who started out in the telephone room and then was promoted up the line to the Office of Sergeant-at-Arms, has admitted stealing \$75,300 from the little House bank that closed several months ago, and he will be sentenced within the next few days.

October 8, 1993

From time to time as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee I have requests from Members of our Committee to travel abroad. The requests must be a written request and then I either approve or disapprove, in writing. If approved, then the proper letter must go to the Department that concerns the Member in order for transportation to be provided. The day before

yesterday John Murtha of Pennsylvania, who said from the very beginning that we should not send any of our boys into Somalia, and every time when interviewed has said that they ought to be returned immediately, in writing requested he go to Somalia this weekend. I approved of his request by letter and signed the necessary letter to the Department of Defense for transportation for he and his chief clerk of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations. My approval was then forwarded to the White House since the question of Somalia is so controversial at the present time and the President, himself, said that Murtha's request must be denied. Murtha is really fit to be hung and I hope this weekend he cools off.

October 13, 1993

One of the largest mergers ever to take place in this country will do so this week. Bell Atlantic Corporation that will link up with cable television powerhouse Telecommunications, Inc. making this the largest company to date in the cable and telecommunications business had assets exceeding \$41 billion and 1992 sales of more than \$15.6 billion--really a large company and maybe too large from the standpoint of the people in our Country.

We have made commitments down through the years to assist Haiti and especially to restore to office the duly-elected President who is in exile. This past week we sent down a Navy ship carrying American and Canadian troops to assist the local authorities in maintaining order. Thousands of Haitians, armed with pistols with the sanction of the local military authorities, stormed down to the beach and said they would kill anyone leaving the ship. President Clinton denounced the Haitian's refusal to permit the

entrance of our troops, but then decided yesterday to move the ship away from Haiti and let matters cool down somewhat before taking part again in restoring the exiled President. Right or wrong, there are a lot of people in this Country that believe we are interceding too much in the affairs of too many other countries..

The Speaker announced yesterday that we would vote on NAFTA on November 17, and adjourn sine die on November 22. He maintains that if we come back after Thanksgiving we will be here well up into December and that we could run almost up until Christmas Day. We will see if this takes place and at the same time, our Committee on Appropriations is bitterly opposed to any Continuing Resolution that goes into the next calendar year. The supercollider project which will cost billions and was overwhelmingly turned down by the House and barely passed by the Senate will be the magnet to bring about a Continuing Resolution for energy and public works. Bennett Johnston, one of the Senators from Louisiana, believes that a Continuing Resolution carrying this project over into the next year will keep it alive when it is as dead as it can be in the House. We are against this procedure and from the standpoint of the President and the Congress, there should never be a Continuing Resolution over into the next calendar year.

October 14, 1993

Several weeks ago a famous stamp collection was sold at Christie's in New York City and it brought \$9.5 million. This was one of the more famous collections and you would think that it would have brought considerably more. The owner of this collection is a Japanese Chairman of a large Japanese bank and according to the price of the yen at the time of the purchase of the stamps

and the yen at the time of the sale of the stamps, the banker lost about 30%. In other words, it figures out that he paid about 150 yen for each dollar's worth of stamps and this made the collection cost him 1,425,000,000 yen. When he cashes in his \$9.5 million he will find that he has a 30% loss because he will only get back 997,500,000 yen. In addition, he had to pay Christie's commission to sell the stamps. There is a real lesson here in the sale of this stamp collection because back during the days when the Japanese were in this Country buying large buildings and large farms throughout the U.S., a great many people complained, maintaining that our government should stop the Japanese from investing all of this money in our country and taking over some of our more valuable property. Over a period of a few years the complaints stopped and the purchases stopped because the yen and the dollar comparison was just too much for further investments in valuable property in this Country. Back in the year of 1987 when purchases were really being made, interest rates were up and down. The lesson to be learned here over the sale of this stamp collection is that nobody really knows for sure what will happen as far as the future of the value of the yen and the dollar are concerned except for one certainty and that is prices fluctuate and exchange rates change regardless of what governments do to try to alter events. I presume that the old gentleman who sold his stamp collection really enjoyed it as he said he did during the time he owned it and maybe in the write-off of taxes he will be able to take his loss without too much trouble.

October 18, 1993

The Clinton Administration will, within the next few days, release a blueprint for reducing greenhouse gases that rely on wide

voluntary participation by private industries, including many that have voiced skepticism about the dangers of the greenhouse effect. According to my information, the plan to be announced by the White House on tomorrow targets major sources of emission of gases such as carbon dioxide from automobiles to landfills, and proposes ways for gradually cutting back on their outflow so that by the turn of the century the level of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States will be the levels that prevailed in 1990. In other words an overall reduction of at least 100 million tons of greenhouse gases by the year 2000, which is an 8% reduction. This is the field that my friend Al Gore campaigned in for several years before being elected Vice President and he and the President in the campaign last year stressed the fact that this is an important program and one that must be taken care of. I still believe in our new President and just hope that he would stop one week or another bringing out controversial issues which just seem to clutter up the deck and with Somalia, Haiti, NAFTA and others, we just may have too many confronting us at one time.

October 21, 1993

Our Continuing Resolution expires tonight at midnight so we had to obtain a seven-day extension. This now runs us up to October 28, 1993. All of our Appropriations Bills have passed the House and the Senate with the exception of the Defense Appropriations bill which is now in the Senate. All thirteen bills, of course, have to go to conference and we are now in the process today of finishing the conferences on all of them with the exception of Defense and the District of Columbia. The abortion matter is in the District of Columbia bill.

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