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To Betty and Jerry Ford

November 4, 1994

While there have been big headlines about the trips Rosalynn and I made to North Korea and Haiti this year, they reflect only part of our involvement in Carter Center programs. We continue to be deeply committed to The Atlanta Project and are eager to talk with you about its progress and other initiatives we have worked on over recent months.

Each of the past two years Rosalynn and I have spent a long weekend in the Colorado Rockies with friends to benefit The Atlanta Project. Unfortunately, you were unable to attend last time, but you asked us to give you enough advance notice about the 1995 event so that you would not miss out on the Annual Winter Weekend. Those plans are now in place, so we are hoping that you will be able to join us this winter at the Crested Butte Mountain Resort, February 1 through 5, 1995.

Of all the things that we do during the year, this holiday lasting four full days provides Rosalynn and me with the best opportunity to relax and enjoy the fellowship of good friends.

We are keeping the cost and basic format of the event the same as for our two previous Crested Butte holidays: $2,500 per person. The package includes airfare, hotel, meals, a wonderful gift package, ski lessons with excellent instructors, equipment rental, lift tickets, an auction with outstanding values and one-of-a-kind collectors items, and, overall, a great weekend for you, your family, and friends. Even if you do not ski, there are many other activities available. In the past, our guests have enjoyed snowmobiling, snowcat rides, cross-country skiing, and other winter activities.

The 1993 and 1994 events provided significant funds for Atlanta Project programs, and last year we almost doubled the contributions from the preceding year. The proceeds from this year's event will be placed in a special grants fund for carefully selected projects at the neighborhood level.

While the entire event lasts from February 1 through 5, you may want to join us only for the weekend or to come on Thursday or Friday and stay until Monday or Tuesday. We will be happy to assist you with arrangements that fit your schedule.

Even if you could not come along, the package would make a unique and wonderful holiday gift for family members and other loved ones, including children.

JIMMY CARTER

THE CARTER CENTER - ONE COPENHILL - ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30307
A reply form is enclosed for your convenience in reserving your weekend with us. Once we have your commitment to attend, the Center will facilitate your reservations and other arrangements through Crested Butte. If you would like us to send personal invitations to others, please call Tim McDaniel at (404) 420-5109 with the names, and we will invite them immediately.

Please return your reply form as soon as possible, as flight availability to Crested Butte is limited, and we want to ensure that you will have the most convenient travel arrangements possible.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and to being with you in February.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

P.S. I have had time to look at the beautiful album of personal birthday greetings to which you contributed. Thank you for your warm and thoughtful message.

The Honorable and Mrs. Gerald Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
TO: Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter  
FROM: The Honorable and Mrs. Gerald Ford  
Post Office Box 927  
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Please count on us to join you this year at Crested Butte on February 1 through 5, 1995.

Please find my check in the amount of $_________ to reserve places at $2,500 per person as payment in full for the following persons:

1) ____________________________________________
2) ____________________________________________
3) ____________________________________________
4) ____________________________________________

Please find enclosed my deposit check of $_______ to reserve places at $500 per person and send me a statement later for the balance.

Please send a letter of invitation to the following individuals and/or companies:

NAME: _______________________________________
ADDRESS: _____________________________________
PHONE: ________________________________________

I would like to help recruit other participants, please have someone call me at ( ) ____________ so that we can coordinate our efforts.

While we will be unable to attend this year, please accept the following contribution for The Atlanta Project, in the amount of $_________.

PRESIDENT & MRS. CARTER’S

CRESTED BUTTE

WINTER WEEKEND

BENEFITING THE ATLANTA PROJECT

A TRULY UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

President and Mrs. Carter’s Crested Butte Winter Weekend is set in the majestic beauty of one of Colorado’s finest resorts. This weekend offers four days of first class skiing and incomparable activities. This is an unsurpassed opportunity for business entertainment or a family vacation. The $2,500 per person package includes everything needed to guarantee a superb Rocky Mountain winter holiday. And much more...

CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT

Crested Butte stands out among America’s top winter resorts for its natural beauty, laid-back style, and Old West history and charm. Lift lines are short and slopes are uncrowded. The 1880s mining town, is a marvelously well-preserved example of charming Victorian architecture and a living link to the 19th century past. Visitors find a wide choice of shops, galleries, and night spots, plus the largest number of fine restaurants per capita in the United States.

A MOOD LIKE NO OTHER

Guests will share meals and participate together in ski lessons, races, a private evening of entertainment, an exciting benefit auction with outstanding items for bidding, and a presidential town hall meeting. All of this is enjoyed together with Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. One of last year’s participants made this comment, “The Crested Butte outing was an amazing experience! The Carters really impressed me with the amount of time and energy spent with guests. They were right in the middle of every activity - skiing, parties, the meals - and were very gracious hosts.”

THE WEEKEND BENEFITS THE ATLANTA PROJECT

The Crested Butte Winter Weekend is a major source of funding for The Carter Center’s Atlanta Project. Each benefit package purchased and the auction translates into significant proceeds going directly to initiatives that address the worst problems afflicting our urban communities. Every dollar raised is an investment in the future of our country’s cities. The guests of the Winter Weekend are twenty young people from The Atlanta Project’s target neighborhoods. These young people added energy and optimism to the event through their interaction with the participants. One of the corporate participants stated, “I’ve hosted numerous outings of this type, and I can say without reservation that this one was of the best I’ve ever experienced. The opportunity to share President and Mrs. Carter’s enthusiasm for and leadership of The Atlanta Project was both exciting and inspirational.”

EXCITING ACTIVITIES

President and Mrs. Carter will lead a Town Hall meeting. Items for discussion will include recent world-changing activities of The Carter Center and the role that The Atlanta Project plays in addressing community-wide needs.

Fund Raising Auction - No donations will be solicited during the weekend; however, an exciting auction will be held to benefit The Atlanta Project. Among items for bid are a 1995 Saab automobile, domestic and international vacation packages, extraordinary one-of-a-kind personal items donated by the Carters, and much more...

Skiing is outstanding at Crested Butte. Participants will have a package of ski lessons included. There is a ski race and a most memorable torchlight parade which descends from atop of the mountain to the lodge for a delightful evening.

President and Mrs. Carter will be available for photo opportunities during the weekend.
WHAT'S INCLUDED? ... EVERYTHING!

This event has been used by corporations to reward key clients and personnel. Many of the participants utilize this weekend as a family getaway—children are welcome, as there are special activities and facilities just for them. Also many participants invite friends to join them.

TRAVEL
- Roundtrip coach airfare on Delta Air Lines from any Delta city in the continental U.S. to Gunnison, CO
- All ground transfers

FOOD AND ACCOMMODATIONS
- Four nights lodging (double occupancy) at the four-star Grande Butte Hotel
- Four breakfasts, four lunches, and three dinners

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
- Four Cocktail Receptions
- Torchlight Ski Parade and Fireworks
- President and Mrs. Carter's Town Hall Meeting
- A Fantastic Fund Raising Auction
- A Complimentary Gift Bag for each participant

SKIING
- All Ski Rental Equipment
- All Lift Tickets
- Four Hours of Ski Instruction
- Participation in ski races

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAM

Wednesday
- Lunch at Roaring Elk Restaurant
- Skiing instruction, if desired
- Welcome reception
- Dinner at one of Crested Butte's fine restaurants

Thursday
- Skiing, Ski Instruction, other activities
- Mountain Barbecue Lunch
- Cocktail reception and Dinner
- Fireworks and Torchlight Parade
- Presidential Town Hall meeting

Friday
- Skiing, Ski Instruction and other activities
- Lunch "On The Slopes"
- Cocktail Reception and Dinner
- Entertainment

Saturday
- Skiing, Ski Instruction and other activities
- Lunch and Ski Races
- Cocktail Reception and Dinner
- Live Auction

Sunday
- Farewell Breakfast
- Airport Shuttle departs to connect with Delta flight
- More Skiing for those who stay
May 9, 1997

To Gerald Ford

I very much appreciate your full participation in our conference last week on "An Agenda for the Americas for the 21st Century." I am especially grateful for the vital role you played as co-chair of the conference and for your remarks at both of the dinners. As always, I enjoyed working together with you, and I am appreciative of our friendship.

As you know, our final statement calls for some very important initiatives, including a more cooperative multilateral approach to the drug war, fast-track authorization by the U.S. Congress for President Clinton to begin negotiations for a Free Trade Area of the Americas by 2005, and resolution of the remaining border disputes in the hemisphere. It also urges all governments in the region to ratify the Inter-American Anti-Corruption Convention before the 1998 Summit in Santiago. I believe that the statement reflects the extremely fruitful discussions which we had with participating leaders and with the representatives from the U.S. Congress and administration.

I am especially pleased that you are one of the first signatories on the call for a two-year moratorium on the purchase and supply of advanced weapons systems, to allow for a breathing space for regional leaders to explore a conventional arms restraint agreement. With few exceptions, this has been a voluntary policy among buyers and suppliers in this hemisphere for the past two decades, but there are indications that the proliferation of sophisticated aircraft might now be impending.
On behalf of the Council, I am writing letters to all the presidents and prime ministers in the hemisphere asking them to publicly support the moratorium idea, or express their support in a letter to me. In this regard, I would like to ask if you could use your influence with the leaders in our country, and perhaps with leaders in other countries in the region, in support of our proposal. I believe this initiative could have far-reaching consequences for the region, but time is of the essence, and we must act quickly.

I would also like your help in seeking support for our call for all governments in the region to ratify the Inter-American Anti-Corruption Convention before the 1998 Summit in Santiago.

Finally, I would welcome any specific suggestions you might have for other actions we can take both collectively and individually to follow up on any of the topics discussed at our Consultation.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald Ford
P.O. Box 927
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

Enclosure: Final Declaration, Agenda for the Americas for the 21st Century
We, the members of the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government, have met in Atlanta, Georgia on April 28-29, 1997 to assess the state of western hemispheric relations and to offer our views and recommendations on ways to help achieve the goals that we share - the pursuit of peace; the end of illegal drug trafficking; the reinforcement, deepening, and extension of democracy; the promotion of a free trade area of the Americas; and social justice.

The Council was established at The Carter Center after a Consultation on "Reinforcing Democracy in the Americas" in November 1986 by many of us. Since then, within the western hemisphere, we have worked to reinforce democracy at critical moments, including by monitoring and mediating 15 electoral processes in nine countries in the Americas. We have lent our support to freer trade, including by urging the U.S. Congress to approve the North American Free Trade Agreement. We have worked hard to reduce the region's debt and bring peace to Central America.

For these past two days, we have reviewed a wide agenda confronting the nations of the hemisphere - trade, drug trafficking, poverty, and issues related to security and democracy. Our Council of 29 current and former Presidents and Prime Ministers of most of the nations of the Western Hemisphere bring diverging perspectives to the table, which we found sometimes helps us to consider different approaches to an issue.

We found ourselves in agreement on the basic goals, many of which were enunciated by the Western Hemisphere leaders in the Declaration of the Summit of the Americas in December 1994.

-- The Americas should conclude a Free Trade Area of the Americas by the year 2005 while making sure that the benefits of freer trade are shared by all the peoples of the hemisphere.

-- We should seek to eliminate the scourge of illegal drugs.
The remaining territorial disputes of the hemisphere should be resolved soon.
We should curb the purchase and sale of arms.

The benefits of democracy should be extended to all the nations of the hemisphere, and we should deepen democracy, protect press freedom, and eliminate corruption and the disproportionate influence of money in the politics of all our nations.

While we are committed to those goals, we have to express our great disappointment at the lack of progress in achieving them, and so we concentrated most of our time on how to translate those general statements into concrete steps forward. Let us identify, now, with greater precision what it is that we hope the leaders of the hemisphere should strive to achieve.

First, some general principles:
- The issues on the agenda require cooperation and partnership, not unilateral dictation and paternalism.
- Most of the difficult issues on the agenda have two sides - supply and demand on drugs, commodities, arms, bribery -- and an effective strategy requires dealing with both sides.
- The moral basis of the new community of the Americas is democracy. Freer trade will enhance the ties between our democratic nations.

1. Trade, Integration, and Poverty

We support the Summit Declaration to reach a Free Trade Area of the Americas by the year 2005. There has been great progress on negotiating bilateral and sub-regional free trade agreements, but thus far, little progress toward the Summit goal of an FTAA. 

To attain that goal, the governments will need to move more quickly than they have during the past two years.

All of our nations will benefit from freer trade, but that doesn't mean that everyone will benefit. The best defense of those people who suffer the increased competition of freer trade is not protectionism, but rather additional mechanisms to ensure that the benefits of freer trade are more widely shared and that those who lose the competition can be helped to adjust.

1. Fast-Track: It is vitally important that the U.S. government obtains fast-track negotiating authority as soon as
possible in order to begin serious trade negotiations. We were very encouraged in our discussions with U.S. leaders that there seems to be grounds for a workable compromise. The AFL-CIO wants adequate protections for workers and the environment in the trade agreement. In our intensive discussions with Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, the Speaker told us that he would support rapid passage of fast-track negotiating authority which included provisions for protecting labor rights and the environment, provided they are trade-related. We view this as a significant development that potentially goes beyond the existing NAFTA and hope Congress and President Clinton reach agreement on this as soon as possible.

2. Caribbean Basin Enhancement: It is vitally important that a Caribbean Basin Enhancement law is passed by Congress as early as possible to grant wider access to the U.S. market by the smaller and more vulnerable nations in the Caribbean Basin. These provisions will permit these countries to make the adjustment over an extended period of time to enter a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). ("Caribbean Basin" includes Central America and the Caribbean.)

3. Paths to FTAA: We explored several different ideas as to the best way to pursue an FTAA. Some believe that the U.S. and other countries should negotiate bilaterally; others would like for negotiations to proceed between sub-regional groups. We propose an alternative: the nations of the hemisphere should define clear and specific criteria through their talks within the 11 working groups set up at the Denver Ministerial, and nations or groups would become members of a growing FTAA as they meet these criteria. Special transitional provisions might have to be made for the smaller economies. Governments should encourage their private organizations to participate in this process.

4. Caribbean Basin Commodities: Several small Caribbean Basin nations are very dependent on a few commodities, such as bananas and sugar, whose markets are restricted. We urge the United States and Europe to expand market access to these products.

5. Reducing Poverty and Inequality: It is urgent to reduce poverty and injustice through development strategies and investments that contribute to social, economic, and fiscal justice and also through health, education, job training, housing, and support for small and medium enterprises.
Inasmuch as trade promotes growth, expanding trade can reduce poverty and inequalities as has been seen in Chile and the East Asian countries. But additional steps are necessary in order to compensate those who are hurt by the increased competition that comes from trade. Such steps would include increased productivity, technological transfer, and increasing annual rate of growth to more than 3% per capita by generating more savings. Governments should also promote universal elementary education, improve the quality and equity of education at all levels, and remove barriers to poor people's access to credit, land and education.

2. A New Hemispheric Approach to Illegal Drug Trafficking

The hemisphere needs a new cooperative approach to combat illegal drug trade because so many of our countries are both producers and consumers of illegal drugs. Mutually recriminatory approaches distract from the real enemy: illegal drugs. If we recognize this, our efforts to fight the enemy can become a unifying rather than a divisive force. It is time to change the relationship from an adversarial one to a partnership.

The 1994 Miami Summit made explicit a new hemispheric-wide recognition of the seriousness of the drug problem and the shared responsibility among consumer, trafficker, and producer countries. We applaud the ratification at the 1994 Summit of three existing agreements against drug trafficking and money laundering, but these lack time schedules for implementation and meaningful enforcement measures. The political will to combat illegal drugs clearly exists, but political capacity is weak in many countries. The U.S. has filled the enforcement vacuum with its certification policy.

With respect to the existing method of U.S. certification, the process should entail prior notification to the responsible authority within each foreign capital as to any concerns that have arisen and permit the opportunity of meaningful dialogue before the final assessment is made. There should be close coordination among U.S. officials in dealing with other nations.

It is now time to replace the unilateral certification policy with a multilateral strategy which includes monitoring and enforcement of efforts to reduce demand as well as supply. We were very encouraged by our conversation with Speaker Newt Gingrich, Senator Paul Coverdell, General Barry McCaffrey, and Chairman of the House International Relations Committee Benjamin
Gilman -- all recognized the need for a new approach to this issue.

Speaker Gingrich described the certification policy as "offensive and senseless" and urged its replacement with a hemispheric-wide approach to the issue. He called for a dialogue among the nations of the Americas to develop a plan for a drug-free Western Hemisphere. We propose a multilateral forum, either through the OAS (CICAD) or a new blue-ribbon commission, that would devise a hemispheric-wide plan and strategies for each country. In addition, the group needs to develop standards (what constitutes success?) and measures of performance and assess each country's performance. The group could use standards developed in the 1988 UN Convention. The group could be modeled on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which is widely respected and competent.

The plan should pursue each link in the drug-trafficking chain: production, processing, transportation, consumption, and money-laundering. The U.S. Administration should give more attention and resources to the treatment and education (demand) side of the problem because that is the most cost-effective way to attack the problem.

The work of this group would be separate from the decisions made by the U.S. on aid, although we hope that the certification policy would be phased out as this group comes into being.

The illicit traffic in arms, ammunition, explosives, and other dangerous materials is a concomitant of the illegal trade in drugs. Effective measures, requiring meaningful collaboration between nations of the hemisphere, will be required to combat this menace.

We discussed the possible relationships to global efforts to control money-laundering and drug trafficking; specifically, coordinating with the UN's Drug Control Program and participating in a Global Narcotic's Conference. We also discussed the idea of a regional court of the Americas that could handle drug, arms trafficking, money-laundering, and other transnational crimes. Appeals from such a court could be sent to the Hague.

We discussed the need to strengthen alternative development strategies based on trade reciprocity agreements for the Caribbean Basin and enhanced capacity of the IFIs to replace bilateral aid programs. Drug policy should not become a non-tariff barrier that will impede the continuing opening of markets and borders.
3. Resolving the Region's Territorial Disputes

We agreed that although some of the long-standing border disputes have been dormant for long periods, they still remain a source of tension and a rationale for an unaffordable arms race. And, in some cases, they can erupt into conflict. The movement toward democracy and the end of the Cold War has diminished tensions in the region, and we do not mean to imply that the region is in turmoil. Quite the opposite. Democracy and peace is the norm, and we also believe that regional economic integration is a useful instrument for reducing security tensions.

Still, territorial disputes remain potential problems. We therefore believe that the time has arrived to try to resolve definitively these territorial disputes. We discussed a number of strategies for accomplishing that, and rather than recommend a single strategy, we thought it would be far more useful to propose several ideas.

The first question is who should mediate these disputes? The options are: (1) third-country governments; (2) institutions outside the hemisphere, like the Pope or the King of Spain; (3) the OAS; (4) a Commission of Mediators or Facilitators made up of a group of senior statesmen; or (5) The Carter Center or the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government. Still, another alternative would be for the Hague Court to arbitrate the dispute.

The second question is how should such mediators gain legitimacy for pursuing these issues. The options are: (1) the disputed states could invite; (2) the OAS could pass an "umbrella resolution" that would require all states with disputes to submit them to some mediation that could be chosen by the states; (3) the Presidents of the Americas could address this issue at the Summit of the Americas in Santiago in March 1998; or (4) the OAS or UN Secretary General could designate senior statesmen to undertake an assessment and feasibility mission to determine whether the governments were ready to settle the dispute - a kind of pre-negotiation session.

Whichever of these options are chosen, we recommend the OAS Secretary General and other leaders in the region become much more actively engaged into trying to resolve these problems.

4. A Regime to Restrain Arms Sales and Purchases
Although Latin America spends relatively less on defense than most other regions, expenditures on expensive weapons systems divert scarce foreign exchange from more effective investments, including for education. They also compel neighbors to spend more on defense and, by doing so, generate international tensions.

Moreover, we are concerned about the possibility of an arms race in Latin America, and we urge the governments in the region to pause before embarking on major arms purchases. Latin America has served as a model for nuclear non-proliferation with the Treaty of Tlatelolco, and we believe that it ought to embark on a conventional arms restraint agreement. The agreement needs to be multilateral - not unilateral, and it should involve purchasers as well as sellers.

We recommend, as a first step, that the governments of Latin America pledge to accept a moratorium of two years before purchasing any sophisticated weapons. During that time, they should explore ideas to restrain such arms. We encourage them to look at the recent accord between Brazil and Argentina, which called for a region free of an arms race. At the same time, we call on the U.S. and other governments that sell arms to affirm their support for such a moratorium.

Time is of the essence. Delay would be very costly to all of our nations. We urge the nations of the region to move quickly to implement a moratorium and to begin serious negotiations on ways to translate a moratorium into an agreement.

In considering future agreements, governments should consider making a distinction between modernization and acquisition of new weaponry. We also suggest studies on banning land mines from the region and better regulations on the trade in firearms.

We also urge hemispheric governments to sign a regional and an international Code of Conduct on Arms Transfers, which prohibits or restricts sale and transfer of weapons to: (a) states in international conflict; (b) states with internal conflicts and/or human rights abusers; (c) non-democratic states; (d) violators of international law; (e) states in which expenditures on health and education are less than for defense.

We also recommend that all states agree to mandatory weapons export and acquisition reporting to the U.N. Register of Conventional Arms. States should also agree to participate in the Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures.
5. A Hemispheric approach to Extending, Reinforcing, and Deepening Democracy

The hemisphere has reached an unprecedented moment in which all nations but one have held competitive elections. Elections are only one crucial element of democracy, however. We identified three issues for hemispheric cooperation on democratization: extending democracy to Cuba, deepening democracy by removing undue influence of money in campaigns and guaranteeing press freedoms, and eliminating corruption.

Extending democracy to Cuba: The most appropriate and effective way to bring democracy to Cuba is through a policy of engagement rather than isolation. The Helms-Burton law is counterproductive because it causes greater problems for U.S. relations with its friends in Canada, Latin America, and Europe than it causes problems for Fidel Castro. We urge the U.S. Congress and President to repeal or significantly modify that law and to cooperate with Latin America in drafting a hemispheric-wide approach to facilitating democracy and civil society in Cuba. The extra-territorial aspect of the law is particularly objectionable. Cuba should be invited to participate in hemispheric events, provided that the government is prepared to accept the standards of human rights and democracy as enunciated in the American Convention on Human Rights, the Santiago Commitment, and the Managua Declaration.

Deepening democracy. Democracy is a work in progress. Nowhere is it perfect. Existing campaign finance practices have tended to erode popular support for democracy even in countries like the United States. We discussed this issue along with access to the media for political candidates and concluded that reforms are necessary to restore confidence in the election process.

We urge governments and parties throughout the hemisphere to remove the disproportionate influence of money in politics. Each country will devise their own systems to provide for equity, transparency, and accountability in their electoral processes, but in our review of a number models in this hemisphere and in Europe, we found that shorter campaigns, limits on expenditures, tax deductible small contributions, publicly subsidized media time, and effective monitoring all increased transparency and competitiveness of elections. Canada may be the best model in the hemisphere; the United States and Colombia might be among the worst.
Freedom of the press from harassment, censorship and intimidation is vital to a thriving democracy. We unanimously endorse the Declaration of Chapultepec and urge all hemispheric leaders who have not yet done so to sign.

Corruption: In 1995, this hemisphere constructed the first anti-corruption convention in the world. It is now time for all governments in the region to follow the lead of Bolivia, Paraguay, and Peru and ratify the Inter-American Anti-Corruption Convention before the 1998 Summit of the Americas.

Transnational bribery is a negative consequence of the growing trade and investment relationships and privatization efforts of the hemisphere. We urge prospective bidders and government procurement agencies to sign Anti-Bribery Pacts. We applaud the initiative of the Inter-American Development Bank to require such transparency on their own projects, and we urge the World Bank to do likewise.

We support the establishment of a strong OAS anti-bribery working group to provide legislative and technical assistance and to monitor national performance.

We call on the OECD Ministerial meeting next month to follow the lead of the United States and the Inter-American Anti-Corruption Convention in criminalizing transnational bribery and ending tax deductibility for bribery.

*****

We intend to bring these issues to the attention of the leaders of the hemisphere, beginning with our three colleagues on this panel, who are incumbents - President Leonel Fernandez of the Dominican Republic, Prime Minister P.J. Patterson of Jamaica, and President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada of Bolivia. After our press conference, we will be meeting privately with Vice President Gore to discuss these issues, and he will have an opportunity to state his response and U.S. policy tonight.

We are heartened that U.S. President Bill Clinton will be visiting Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean in a week, and will visit South America next October. Thomas "Mack" McLarty attended part of our meetings along with officials from the State Department and the National Security Council. The President's trip offers a real possibility of translating the general goals of the Summit of 1994 into something that would benefit the people of the hemisphere.
We are pleased by the active participation of Ambassador Juan Martabot, who has been charged by Chilean president Eduardo Frei to coordinate all of the work of the Summit of the Americas that will be held in Chile in March 1998. He commented that "our meeting had awakened the hopes that had diminished after the 1994 Summit." We therefore see our work these last two days as a kind of a bridge between two Summits.
Agenda for the Americas for the 21st Century
Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government
April 29, 1997

Former President Jimmy Carter, United States
Former President Gerald Ford, United States
President Leonel Fernández, Dominican Republic
Prime Minister P.J. Patterson, Jamaica
President Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, Bolivia
Former President Oscar Arias Sánchez, Costa Rica
Former President Patricio Aylwin, Chile
Former President Rodrigo Carazo, Costa Rica
Former President Marco Vinicio Cerezo, Guatemala
Former Prime Minister Joe Clark, Canada
Former President Osvaldo Hurtado, Ecuador
Former President Luis Alberto Lacalle, Uruguay
Former President Carlos Andrés Pérez, Venezuela
Former Prime Minister George Price, Belize
Former Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford, Barbados
Former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Canada

Vice President Carlos Federico Ruckauf, representative of Council member President Carlos Saúl Menem, Argentina

Amb. Ronaldo Sardenberg, Minister of Strategic Affairs and representative of Council member President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Brazil

Rodolfo Terragno, President, National Committee, Unión Cívica Radical Party, and representative of Council member Raúl Alfonsín, Argentina

Dr. Robert Pastor, Executive Secretary of the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government and Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Program
May 27, 1997

To President Gerald Ford

Rosalynn and I are delighted to have a signed, original 1974 White House Christmas card. We really enjoyed being with you and Betty for the re-dedication of your museum and are grateful for your friendship.

With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270
November 7, 1997

To Jerry Ford

We enjoyed being with you and Betty yesterday. It was a nice event and the library is beautiful, but we prefer your museum displays, which are simpler, more interactive, and include both sides of difficult issues.

The book to which I referred is Ancestors of American Presidents by Gary Boyd Roberts, published by Carl Boyer, 3rd in Santa Clarita, California. It's very interesting, and shows you kin to eleven other presidents.

Best wishes,

p.s. Thanks again for your good work in having our office expense accounts extended.
May 12, 1998

To Gerald Ford

Following our visit to Jamaica in January 1997, numerous Jamaican leaders urged us to consider monitoring the next national elections, subsequently scheduled for December 18, 1997. We were convinced by them that Jamaica’s long-standing democracy could be endangered by violence and intimidation, particularly from “garrison communities,” undemocratic enclaves that used threats and violence to prevent genuine competition. In November, we decided to observe the elections only after we were formally invited by the Electoral Advisory Committee of Jamaica (EAC), and all three major parties told us they would welcome our involvement.

After three pre-election visits to Jamaica by our staff, I co-led a 58-person delegation with three of our colleagues from the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government, Rodrigo Carazo, George Price, and Gonzalo Sánchez de Lozada, to observe the election. General Colin Powell, a son of Jamaican parents, joined us as a co-leader. I am pleased to provide you our report on the observation of this election.

Dr. Robert Pastor and his staff visited Jamaica from April 22-24 to discuss the report’s recommendations with Prime Minister Patterson, Edward Seaga, and other leaders of political parties, the Electoral Advisory Committee, the Electoral Office of Jamaica, Citizens Action for a Free and Fair Election (CAFFE), and Commissioner Francis Forbes of the Jamaican Constabulary Force. They also presented the report to the public and encouraged Jamaicans to use our report, as well as CAFFE’s, as an agenda for improving the electoral process. We are pleased that this is happening.

In addition to the observation of the Jamaican elections, the Council has been active in following up on the recommendations proposed during the April 1997 “Agenda for the Americas for the 21st Century.” In March, former Presidents Arias and Sánchez de Lozada joined me in leading a pre-summit workshop to discuss conventional arms restraint in Latin America and the Caribbean. Following the workshop, we sent a letter to all of the current heads of state urging them to raise the issue of conventional arms restraint at the Summit in Santiago. We were encouraged that the leaders discussed this issue and their governments will pursue conventional arms restraint in future meetings.
We are also pursuing our work on trade issues and are exploring a major project on transparency in public sector transactions which could encourage additional investment and growth in Latin America and the Caribbean and make the region a model for the developing world.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Honorable Gerald Ford
P.O. Box 927
40-365 Sand Dune Road
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
To President Gerald Ford

At the Agenda for the Americas conference held here at The Carter Center last April, you and other Council leaders recognized corruption as one of the serious problems limiting development in the hemisphere. Our efforts in the past year focused on other agenda items, promoting freer trade, advocating arms restraint in sophisticated conventional weapons, and reinforcing democracy in Jamaica by monitoring that country's national elections. Now we want to turn our attention to working with you and others to make the region a model of investment and transparency.

After consultations with officials from the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, Transparency International and others, we learned of the difficulty that governments have in enforcing pledges to reject bribery in government procurements and privatizations. A monitoring mechanism is needed to detect and investigate corrupt acts and impose penalties or forward findings to judicial authorities capable of prosecuting cases expeditiously. We propose to work with three cooperative governments in "model" projects to develop and test such a monitoring mechanism in the coming year, and to discuss their progress and improve our model at our next major conference in the spring of 1999. Obviously, we would give these government leaders full credit for this effort.

I would like your advice on the best ways to reduce corruption and strengthen rule of law, and also on which governments might be the models. The first step would be for the president or prime minister to commit himself to take clear and demonstrable steps to stop corruption, and to appoint a liaison with whom we could work. Then, after studying the legal structure of the country and consulting with government and civil society, we will assist in designing the most effective mechanisms to persuade the people of the country that the government will no longer tolerate any corruption. The World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank have expressed interest in working with us on this project.

This is a serious undertaking and will no doubt engender resistance from some quarters. But leaders know that reducing corruption is essential if the region is to sustain democracy, compete successfully for investment, and obtain the growth levels needed to support the educational and poverty-eradication goals set at the Summit of the Americas. Upon learning of our ideas, Prime Minister P.J. Patterson immediately endorsed them and volunteered Jamaica to become our model Caribbean country. I would like your advice.
on which South and Central American countries are promising areas for reducing corruption and where one could expect high-level commitment.

Drs. Robert Pastor, Jennifer McCoy and Shelley McConnell from our Latin American and Caribbean Program staff will be contacting you in the next few weeks for your thoughts on this matter, and I would also welcome hearing from you on how this difficult but important work can best be accomplished.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

His Excellency Gerald Ford
P.O. Box 927
40-365 Sand Dune Road
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
To Jimmy Ford

I like your statement, and hope it’s published widely.

Regardless of individual decisions made, it’s very important for Newt and Chairman Hyde to convince the public that they are fair. I know you’ve been working on this.

We’ll be in Spain for two weeks. Take care of things while we’re gone.

Best wishes,

Jimmy
November 9, 1998

To President Gerald Ford

In an effort to provide a lasting legacy and to support the ongoing work of The Carter Center for future generations, Rosalynn and I have embarked upon a $150 million campaign to build our endowment. We feel a strong need to make permanent the activism and uniqueness of the Center, with which you are so familiar, after we are no longer involved on a daily basis. We will be seeking national and international support for this campaign.

As we market our case statement nationally, I would appreciate your authorizing us to quote you as part of the national phase’s case statement. Enclosed is a copy of the Atlanta Case Statement, which, as you will see, contains quotes from prominent Atlanta business leaders. As a former President who has played an important role in some of our work, your endorsement will further legitimize The Carter Center’s relevance now and in the future and will help strengthen our national fund-raising efforts.

A suggested draft quote is attached for your convenience. Please feel free to make any changes you like, and we will understand if you do not wish to participate. Please note your response and any changes and return the attached to The Carter Center in the envelope provided by November 25, 1998.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Rosalynn joins me in sending our warm best wishes to you and Betty.

Sincerely,

[signature]

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270-0927
"The Carter Center networks with global leaders to help solve world crises and prevent human injustices more effectively than any other non-governmental agency I know. Through its highly qualified staff, non-partisan approach and ability to take immediate action, The Carter Center has prevented numerous potential conflicts, carrying forth the spirit of the Camp David Accords through thoughtful and effective negotiation and conflict resolution."

-President Gerald Ford

Yes, I approve the above quote (with noted changes).

I prefer not to participate.
To President Gerald Ford

Rosalynn and I are pleased to join your friends, family, and colleagues in congratulating you on the honors you are receiving this evening at the Nixon Library. It is fitting that your lifetime of service is being recognized in this way.

Being reelected to Congress 12 straight times by Michigan's Fifth Congressional District was testimony to the impact of your representation among the citizens of your state. Both as Vice President and as President you served the people with great political courage and dignity. As I said in my inaugural address, Americans owe you thanks and praise for all you did to heal our nation. Since leaving office, you have continued to provide an outstanding example of statesmanship, lending your moral and active support to those issues that are in our country's best interest.

On a more personal note, I think you know how much I value your close friendship and your sage advice and opinion. Since we share many of the same concerns, I have found it particularly gratifying to collaborate with you on important projects over the years. Even on the rare occasions when our viewpoints differ, I find your input helpful to me in gaining new perspectives about major topics affecting our world today.

The 50th anniversary of your election to Congress is an appropriate occasion on which to reflect both on your political and private contributions to our nation.

Sincerely,

JIMMY CARTER

December 1, 1998
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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
GSA FORM 7122 (REV. 5-82)
January 31, 2001

To President Jerry Ford

I just learned with sadness about Jim's death and want you to know that you are in my heart and prayers. I know how difficult the loss of a brother is, and I hope that your warm memories and the love and prayers of your family and friends are of comfort to you during this time.

Rosalynn joins me in sending our best wishes to you and Betty. We trust that you both are doing well.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270
JIMMY CARTER

May 22, 2001

To President Jerry Ford

Congratulations on being honored at the John F. Kennedy Library with the Profile in Courage award. It is fitting that your strong leadership and noble decisions during a time of great challenge are being recognized in this way.

You have been a blessing to our nation, and indeed to me personally. Rosalynn and I appreciate the friendship that we share with you and Betty, and we are proud to be among those whose lives you have touched. With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270
To Betty and President Gerald Ford

As I write you this morning, our country, indeed the entire world, faces great uncertainty and trepidation.

Yet despite the questions we all are asking, regardless of the fears we may be experiencing, one fact is clear: we will pull together as a nation during this time of crisis.

I am calling on you and all friends of The Carter Center to join together in prayer for our country’s future, for President Bush and all our leaders, for the courageous rescue workers at the sites of last week’s terrorist attacks, and for our fellow Americans who were victimized by these cowardly acts.

If you haven’t already, please give your best possible support to relief organizations that are leading recovery efforts. If you are able, donate relief supplies, which are urgently needed.

In a few weeks, I hope to have an opportunity to write you about The Carter Center’s latest accomplishments and plans for 2002. But today, we must unite in compassion and resolve to meet the challenges to our country’s security.

God Bless America,

President and Mrs. Gerald Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270-0927
September 16, 2002

To President Jerry Ford

I wanted you to know what a delightful visit I had to your hometown last week. I met a number of wonderful people and was pleased to talk with them about the great friendship that you and I share. I was welcomed warmly and made to feel as at home there as I do in Plains.

As you know, the Van Andel Institute hosted me for lunch and provided updates on their work relating to pancreatic cancer research. I was most impressed by what they are doing and was pleased to hear about it first-hand. I enjoyed meeting Jay, David, and Carol Van Andel and am honored to lend my name to their Hope on the Hill Foundation along with your own.

I also had the opportunity to get to know Peter and Pat Cook and Fred and Lena Meijer during my time in Grand Rapids. Peter very kindly hosted me in his offices for my series of afternoon meetings, including one with Peter, himself. I had an early morning tour of the Meijer Gardens before my departure to Chicago and was intrigued by the insights on the gardens and sculptures that I received directly from Fred. Additionally, Fred and Lena Meijer graciously provided their airplane for my trip at the request of the Van Andel Institute, for which I was truly grateful.

My trip to Grand Rapids was a successful one for The Carter Center, and I wanted to write and let you know how much I enjoyed my time there.

Rosalynn joins me in sending our warm best wishes to you and Betty.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270-0927
To President Jerry Ford

Rosalynn joins me in sending our warm congratulations on your 90th birthday. Your longtime friendship means a great deal to us personally, and we always will be grateful for your significant contributions to our nation.

We are glad to have this opportunity to share in the celebration of your life. You have our best wishes for happiness on this special day and throughout the years ahead.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald Ford
Post Office Box 927
Rancho Mirage, California 92270
November 24, 2004

To President Gerald Ford

Enclosed is a complete set of signed photos that were taken at the White House Ceremony for NAFTA in 1993. Thank you for your cooperation. I plan to auction my set to raise funds for the work of The Carter Center.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Gerald Ford
Box 7090
65 Elk Track Court
Avon, CO 81620
To Jerry Ford

Rosalynn and I extend to you our love, friendship, and best wishes for a wonderful birthday. One of my most prized possessions has been the close relationship you and I have shared during our post-presidential years. We hope to see you and Betty often during the coming years.

Sincerely,