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LARRY J. HOPKINS

6TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
ARMED SERVICES



2437 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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VINE CENTER
ROOM 207
333 WEST VINE STREET
LEXINGTON, KY 40507
(606) 233-2848

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

June 22, 1990

The Honorable George Bush
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I want to bring a matter to your attention that is of crucial importance to the state of Kentucky.

I met recently with local leaders of the City of Paducah, Kentucky to discuss the overwhelming need for the Department of Energy's proposed Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation project (AVLIS) to be located at the DOE uranium enrichment plant site there.

Eighteen months ago, the Department of Energy's Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah began competing for the new AVLIS technology facility. For 30 years, this DOE plant has enjoyed a strong record of support by the city, region and state. This tradition continues as the city works diligently and successfully to improve infrastructure, provide added railroad service and strengthen technical education in preparation for the AVLIS location.

The Paducah plant has demonstrated its capability to undertake this demonstration project and deserves it for several important reasons.

As one who grew up in Western Kentucky, I was shocked to see during my visit, the extent of visible economic decline there. Undoubtedly, the future of this region remains clouded by the impact of the new Clean Air Act requirements. As one of the top coal producing fields in the nation, this high sulfur coal area will only be further crippled by massive job dislocation.

Awarding the AVLIS contract to the DOE Paducah site is an economical remedy to help displaced workers and encourage economic growth. This project is projected to create more than 900 indirect jobs, 90 new retail establishments and generate more than \$20 million annually in retail sales.

Next, one of the sites competing for this contract, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, has also had the benefit of being entrusted with research and development of the AVLIS technology. The federal

The Honorable George Bush
Page 2
June 22, 1990

government has devoted millions of dollars to this facet of the project which will undoubtedly continue beyond the site selection of the AVLIS facility. As a matter of equity, it would be illogical to concentrate AVLIS activities in one state.

I appreciate your serious consideration of this request and I hope you will assist Kentucky by endorsing the Department of Energy's Paducah plant for the new AVLIS technology facility.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Larry J. Hopkins", written in a cursive style.

LARRY J. HOPKINS
Member of Congress

cc: Secretary James D. Watkins
The Honorable John H. Sununu

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ED ROGERS *ER*

SUBJECT:

FOLLOW UP ON THE LARRY HOPKINS MATTER

For the time being, we've put Larry Hopkins' desire to meet with you about the 1991 governor's race on hold indefinitely.

He is, however, very serious about the race. Hal Rogers, and other leaders of the state party, have been enthusiastically encouraging him to enter the race, and Hal tells me that Jim Bunning is not serious about entering the race. I explained to Hopkins that your time is taken with official duties and the 1990 elections. He understands, but sometime over the next few months, he would like to chat with you regarding the prospects of his campaign.

He understands that there could not be a formal endorsement before the filing date, but he would like to enter the race with at least an encouraging word from you.

If there is no primary on the horizon, and the congressional delegation as well as state GOP operation remain as enthusiastic, this may be something to consider in a couple of months.

One final note, Hopkins does seem to have an unnatural desire to to jog or play golf with you. I explained that this is your personal time - not time for political photo ops. He was however, very certain in his desire that something like this would be to his political advantage. I'll continue to tell him that this is silly.

He and I are going to meet sometime in the next few weeks.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE:

5-23-90

FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO:

Ed Rogers

Re: Larry Hopkins.

He can be mercurial.

See if he will settle for a phone call.
Prior to this feel him out, indicating
I will not get involved in a primary and
should not be asked so to do.

Hal Rogers is our man. Bunning
supported me early on. Larry was, I
believe, for Dole.

Advise please.

May 24

Hal not in -
Marty Prioleau says
Hopkins should be our
guy Hal is pushing
him -

Larry H - wants POTUS

to tell him he should run

"also wants to jog & play golf w/ Pres."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1990 MAY 23 PM 2:08

May 23, 1990

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ED ROGERS *ER*

SUBJECT:

LARRY HOPKINS

We've received information that may help shed some light on the attached letter.

- I. Hopkins is developing a campaign scheme whereby he actively raises money now, holds the checks until June of 1991, and then makes a final decision as to whether or not he will run based entirely on how much money he has been able to raise. He will no doubt want you to help with this.
- II. He has also let on that a closer association with you would greatly benefit his campaign strategy, i.e. jogging with you, playing golf with you, etc.
- III. There is some thought that he is trying to scare off potential primary opposition - most specifically, Congressman Jim Bunning.
- IV. Hopkins also considers Secretary Sullivan's rhetoric against cigarette manufacturers a political problem and has protested loudly. He wants the Secretary to back off.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that we respond on your behalf in order to determine more precisely what Hopkins is up to. We'll reassure him that we're very interested in the 1991 gubernatorial race in Kentucky but that our primary efforts at the moment focus on 1990. We'll indicate that we'll work closely with the GOP leadership and him to make the Kentucky gubernatorial race a top priority!



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

LARRY J. HOPKINS
KENTUCKY

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT

I NEED TO SEE YOU AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE ABOUT A
MATTER OF MUTUAL IMPORTANCE--

THE 1991 KENTUCKY GOVERNOR'S
RACE, MY POSSIBLE CANDIDACY,
AND YOUR INTEREST IN IT.

LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING
WITH YOU - WARMEST REGARDS
Larry

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 23, 1990

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SUBJECT: LARRY HOPKINS

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

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LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING
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Larry

LARRY J. HOPKINS

6TH DISTRICT, KENTUCKY

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

May 10, 1990

Mr. Ed Rogers
Deputy Assistant to the President
and Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ed:

As the ranking Republican on the Tobacco and Peanuts Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee, I am writing to express my concern about the strident rhetoric emanating from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in recent weeks directed at the tobacco industry.

First there was Dr. Sullivan's characterization as "immoral" the practice of targeting certain consumer groups, who were already smoking, with a campaign designed to persuade them to switch brands. As you will note from the attachments to the enclosed letter to the President from my former House Colleague, Governor Jim Martin of North Carolina, not only were Dr. Sullivan's facts inaccurate, but he does not necessarily speak for the black community on this issue.

The most recent incidents are spelled out in the attached newspaper articles quoting the second ranking official at HHS, Dr. Mason, on trade policy and the second article quoting Dr. Davis of Center for Disease Control (CDC) on advertising ban policy. Neither of these gentlemen has responsibility for those issues and to make matters more vexing, their views are directly opposed to the position of the office of U.S. Trade Representative on trade and the Department of Justice on advertising bans.

These officials at HHS have the responsibility for protecting the health of the American people, however, their statements imply that the American public is unaware of the possible dangers from smoking cigarettes. A poll conducted by their own department has shown that 95% of the public believes smoking cigarettes can be

Mr. Ed Rogers
May 10, 1990
Page 2

harmful to their health. To suggest, as the anti-smoking groups and their allies in the Congress do on an almost daily basis, that people who smoke are making an uninformed decision is ludicrous on its face. Now, unfortunately, these HHS officials have added their voice and that of the administration to the chorus unless someone at a higher level refutes them.

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible on this matter.

Sincerely,



LARRY J. HOPKINS
Member of Congress

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RALEIGH 27611

JAMES G. MARTIN
GOVERNOR

March 15, 1990

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), Dr. Louis Sullivan, continues to make unfair public attacks on the tobacco industry for its alleged marketing strategies for cigarettes.

Over the years, I have seen many HHS secretaries oppose smoking, but only in this case has a cabinet secretary made such a vocal assault on the legitimate business practices of one industry. Contrary to Dr. Sullivan's comments, tobacco industry marketing methods are no different from those used by any other American company or industry selling a legal consumer product.

Tobacco is legally grown, manufactured, sold and consumed. It generates approximately one billion dollars in farm income in North Carolina (20 percent of the gross farm income). About 30 percent of the adult American population smokes. As I see it, tobacco companies have every right to compete among themselves for the business of those who choose to smoke--and that includes advertising and marketing strategies. No law prohibits the marketing of a legal product. Yet Secretary Sullivan says it is "morally wrong" for tobacco to do so.

Constitutional rights are at stake on this issue. Americans are free to choose the legal products they consume, and the First Amendment applies to advertising, as well as to other forms of free expression.

Dr. Sullivan's attacks on tobacco marketing and advertising could lead this nation down a very slippery slope. If tobacco ads are banned, what's next for those who would limit the free exchange of ideas? Beer? Coffee? Meat? Butter? Automobiles? All of these items are couched as hazardous by one "expert" or another.

The President
Page 2
March 15, 1990

I believe the enclosed article by Benjamin Hooks puts the article in proper perspective.

I respectfully request that you ask the Secretary to stick to the facts when it comes to advertising and marketing of tobacco products.

Sincerely,


James G. Martin

JGM/jo

Enclosure

What's Happening to Individual Choice?

By Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks

Over the past several months, increased attention has been focused on advertising by tobacco companies in minority publications and on billboards in minority neighborhoods. Charges have been made that these companies are specifically targeting minority communities because they offer a tempting target, and are more likely to be persuaded by the advertiser's message than the majority community.

Implicit in this is the premise that blacks are so naive they will be persuaded to smoke by a billboard or an ad. Buried in this line of thinking, and never really mentioned by these critics, is the rationale that blacks are not capable of making their own free choices and need some guardian angels to protect their best interests.

This is an insidious form of paternalism. Blacks, like the rest of the populace, can make the choice of whether to smoke or not.

Many of the critics of the billboards are also critical of tobacco companies for sponsoring positive activities in the black community.

A number of the major tobacco companies, as well as many other

firms producing different products, have been long-time supporters of worthwhile activities in the black community without asking a single thing in return.

For example, one company annually sponsors an achievers award to honor five black men and women who have made major contributions to their communities. Each is awarded \$10,000 to present to the community-based organization of his or her choice.

Should these contributions cease, and if other companies stopped supporting scholarships, skills training programs, single parent programs, and a whole host of good initiatives, would these same critics step forward to fill the gap? I doubt that very much.

There is a great deal of cynicism involved in outside forces criticizing black groups for accepting help from tobacco companies, while offering no alternatives. Ironically, these critics don't apply the same degree of heat to white groups that accept funds from these companies. You figure that one out.

Critics also have blasted the black press for accepting tobacco advertising. Anyone familiar with the black

press knows it has to struggle to get national advertising, a prime source of revenue. If black publications did drop tobacco advertising, they would face a serious financial crunch, in fact, might cease to exist. Would this be a good thing? No!

Many flagship black publications have gone out of business in recent years. Many were the only organs that objectively reported positive news from the black community. Some did not accept tobacco or alcohol ads. Where were the critics when these publications could have used their support?

Interestingly, the critics don't zero in on majority media—such as Time, Newsweek, Playboy, etc.—and demand that they yank their tobacco advertising, or impugn their motives in accepting such ads.

Let me make it clear that I am not advocating that anyone smoke. However, I believe that African-Americans have the right, just as everybody else, to make that choice on their own.

Dr. Hooks is executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

MAY 04 1990

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WEST COAST BLACK PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

1746 East Madison * Phoenix, AZ 85034 * (602) 257-9300

President: Clovis Campbell

April 16, 1990

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Committee on Labor and Human
Resources
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

In 1983 at the West Coast Black Publishers Association in San Francisco our members endorsed a resolution in support of the tobacco industry to sell their products within the Black community.

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it" Voltaire said. That is how we feel about more regulation of the tobacco industry. I believe all Americans should have the right to chose to smoke or not. The tobacco people should have a right to promote their legal product unless Congress enacts a law stating the product is illegal.

All businesses are expected to fulfill a role of concerned corporate citizens. The tobacco industry in my opinion has done just that.

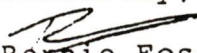
The final point I want to make is that it is offensive to the Black community, or any other minority group, to suggest that one group of individuals is less capable than another to exercise freedom of choice on whether or not to smoke.

There should not be any type of advertising ban against this industry.

The West Coast Black Publishers Association respects the opinion of those who wish to ban tobacco advertising to the Black community, so should they

respect ours. Better yet, let the public make the decision, African-Americans included.

Sincerely,


Bernie Foster
First Vice President

BF/mm

cc: All Members

Response to Allegations Concerning Cigarettes and the Disease Rate Among Black Americans

In recent months, a number of organizations and individuals have publicly claimed that cigarette smoking takes a disproportionately high toll on the health of black smokers.

The most recent and perhaps most forceful pronouncement to this affect came from Dr. Louis W. Sullivan, the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

In widely reported comments made during a Jan. 18 address at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Dr. Sullivan, the nation's highest-ranking health officer, said:

"While smoking poses a significant health threat to all segments of society, it is a particularly severe problem in the black community. Higher smoking rates among blacks, especially black males, are a major reason why blacks experience higher rates of lung cancer, other cancers, heart disease and stroke, compared with whites."

While we do not question Dr. Sullivan's integrity or the apparent sincerity of his desire to improve the health of blacks in America, we do have serious problems with the accuracy of his statement. Little, if any, of it is supported by current scientific knowledge.

Based on U.S. Census Bureau statistics, 37.2 percent of black males smoke, compared to 30.7 percent of white males. There is little difference in smoking incidence between black and white females.

Black males have been reported to have a lung cancer incidence more than 50 percent higher than that of white males.

To claim that a 6.5 percent higher smoking incidence among black males is responsible for a 50-plus percent increase in lung cancer defies logic and is simply not supported by scientific fact.

The claim that smoking is responsible for the higher incidences of other cancers reported among blacks is also not supported by current scientific evidence.

Blacks are at increased risk for a variety of cancers, including cancers that are not statistically associated with smoking, such as prostate cancer (59.5 percent increase), gastric cancer (94.8 percent increase), multiple myeloma (154.8 percent increase) and colon cancer (4.8 percent increase).

The higher incidence of cancers among blacks are most likely related to a variety of socioeconomic differences between blacks and whites, including nutritional and occupational factors.

One might try to argue that the lung cancer increase is due to heavier smoking by blacks. But that is contradicted by data that comes from Dr. Sullivan's own organization.

According to data reported by Dr. Thomas E. Novotny, blacks smoke fewer cigarettes per day than whites and are, in fact, three times less likely than whites to be heavy smokers.

In the paper "Smoking by Blacks and Whites: Socioeconomic and Demographic Differences," published in the September 1988 issue of the American Journal of Public Health, Dr. Novotny (a

member of the Office on Smoking and Health, Center for Health Promotion and Education, Centers for Disease Control) and his colleagues reported:

"Blacks were far less likely than whites to be heavy smokers, confirming other studies. This finding should imply a lower risk for smoking-related disease among black smokers compared with white smokers."

Dr. Novotny's study also noted that: "the odds of ever smoking are not higher for blacks compared with whites..."

Dr. Sullivan and others have claimed a higher incidence of smoking-related heart disease within the black population. This is also not supported by scientific fact.

This point is clearly made in a paper entitled: "Insight Into a Bad Omen for White Man: Coronary Artery Disease -- The Bogalusa Heart Study," which was published in the American Journal of Cardiology on August 2, 1989. In that paper, Dr. Gerald S. Berenson and his colleagues at the Louisiana State University Medical Center stated:

"Clinical experience of diagnostic and interventional procedures, including cardiac surgery, indicates a greater prevalence of coronary heart disease in white men than in other race-gender groups."

Dr. Sullivan's claim that blacks suffer more strokes than whites because of cigarettes is similarly not supported by scientific fact.

While blacks do suffer a higher incidence of strokes, studies have clearly shown that the largest factor contributing

to that is a higher incidence of chronic hypertension among the black population.

That increase in hypertension is not related to cigarette smoking. Even former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, in the 1988 Surgeon General's Report on Smoking and Health, acknowledged: "Cigarette smoking alone is not a risk factor for hypertension."

By virtue of his office, Dr. Sullivan has an obligation to help safeguard the health of the American public. But his first obligation -- as a medical practitioner and as a public health officer -- is to ensure that his public policy initiatives and public pronouncements are thoroughly researched and do not contradict scientific fact.

Washington Post April 6, 1990 p. A26

HHS Official Fires Broadside At Firms Exporting Cigarettes

By Morton Mintz
Special to The Washington Post

PERTH, Australia, April 5—A top U.S. health official today attacked administration trade policies that help "the mighty transnational tobacco companies . . . peddle more than 5 trillion of their pernicious [cigarettes] a year around the world."

It is "unconscionable" for the companies "to be peddling their poison abroad, particularly because their main targets are less developed countries," Dr. James O. Mason, assistant secretary of Health and Human Services, said in the closing address to the Seventh World Conference on Tobacco and Health.

Mason gave unexpected momentum to a newly aggressive American Cancer Society, which launched a global campaign against tobacco Wednesday. The society's chief executive officer, William Tipping, charged that "immoral trade policies" that began in the Reagan administration have made the government "a willing instrument for the enforced export of an epidemic" to the Third World and the rest of Asia.

"Many speakers at this conference—I'll be one of them—have been appalled over the cynical marketing techniques of the tobacco companies," Mason said. He did not identify the firms by name, but he clearly was referring to the members of the U.S. Cigarette Exporters Association—Philip Morris Inc., RJR Nabisco Inc. and British-owned Brown and Williamson.

The transnationals "play our free trade laws like a Stradivarius violin, pressuring our trade promotion agencies to keep open—even force open in some cases—other nations' markets for their products," he said.

"As we all know," Mason continued, the transnationals' "bottom line is to at least replace the 2.5 million customers they lose every year to death and disease because of their products—and to replace the millions more who quit."

His was the harshest language about tobacco exports spoken in public by a senior official of the Bush administration. It clashes with the efforts of U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills to help the transnationals crack Third World and Asian markets, most immediately Thailand.

Federal Health Officials Call For An Outright Ban On Tobacco Ads

ATLANTA (UPI) — Cigarette advertising should be banned or more closely regulated because it throws up a smoke screen clouding government health warnings, federal health officials said yesterday.

The national Centers for Disease Control's proposal to launch a new government offensive against cigarette advertising comes on the heels of an attack by Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan, who criticized tobacco companies for using commercials to target blacks and working women.

"A ban is certainly a lot more feasible now than it used to be," said Ronald Davis, director of the CDC's office on smoking and health and author of the report. "There's no question Congress has the authority to ban or restrict advertising of an inherently dangerous product."

Tobacco industry officials immediately criticized the report.

"To call for a ban on advertising completely subverts the entire meaning of the First Amendment as it applies to commercial speech," said Walker Merryman, vice president of the Tobacco Institute, a Washington lobbying group.

The CDC proposal is based on a study that found tobacco companies spent \$3.27 billion in 1988 to advertise

and promote cigarettes.

Tobacco commercials encourage children and teenagers to experiment with cigarettes, keep current smokers from quitting, prompt former smokers to begin smoking again and increase smokers' daily consumption, the CDC said.

Advertising also "may contribute to the perception that smoking is less hazardous, more prevalent and more socially acceptable than it is," the report said.

Davis outlined seven options in the report to battle the tobacco industry's big-budget approach to selling cigarettes, beginning with funding for a substantial "counteradvertising" campaign.

"We would have to have a budget that could combat (tobacco advertising)," said Rose Mary Romano, director of public information for the CDC. "It would have to be a substantial budget to be effective."

Romano said federal or state programs could be patterned after a Cali-

fornia anti-smoking campaign funded by an excise tax on cigarettes. The tax provided \$14 million last year for anti-smoking advertising, she said.

The report also proposed different levels of advertising regulation, including limiting ads to only words and pictures of the product, eliminating the tax deduction for cigarette advertising expenditures and banning all tobacco advertising and promotion.

The Tobacco Institute's vice president said most smokers have heard the warnings about cigarettes and have chosen to continue smoking.

"People at the CDC don't like the decision (smokers) have made," Merryman said. "These officials apparently

feel they can tell people what choice to make.

"Those warnings make billions of impressions every year" and are paid for by cigarette companies, Merryman added, referring to the Surgeon General's warning that by law must be carried on all cigarette advertising.

Davis said he also supports Sullivan's February statement that it is immoral to advertise a product proven deadly.

Merryman maintained tobacco industry research shows "there is no disease exclusive to smokers."

"I don't think it's appropriate to say smoking causes any disease," he said.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: August 20, 1990

8
TO: GOVERNOR SUNUNU

FROM: ED ROGERS

FYI, the attached was sent out roughly
6 weeks ago.

THE CHIEF of STAFF
has seen AUG 25 1990

GEORGE MITCHELL

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Friend,

What would you do with \$100 million?

This is not just an idle question. Republicans will spend at least that much in the upcoming Senate campaigns. And at this very moment, Republican political operatives are developing their 1990 campaign strategy which will combine this enormous war chest with the ruthless tactics of Lee Atwater and Roger Ailes to unseat leading Democratic Senators and take back control of the United States Senate.

And believe me -- they can do it, if we do nothing.

In the hands of men like Atwater and Ailes this staggering sum of money makes all Democratic Senators vulnerable. Even outstanding leaders like Claiborne Pell, Joe Biden and John Kerry will be hard-pressed to make their message heard above the deafening roar of Republican millions.

My friends, I am truly concerned. If we fail to shape our message and convey it to the American people in a compelling and effective manner, then the Republican campaign tactics -- used so effectively in the last election -- will once again cloud and confuse the real issues and allow Republican reactionaries to rise to positions of power and influence in the United States Senate.

That's why I'm writing to you today. And asking you to complete the **PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY** and return it to me today with your most generous contribution to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee.

As you know, the DSCC exists solely to help Democratic candidates. And the generous support we receive from members like you -- who share a Democratic vision of an America built on opportunity and fairness and a government responsive to the needs of all its people -- is what has enabled us to build a 55-45 Senate majority.

Your answers to the enclosed SURVEY, combined with those of thousands of other concerned DSCC members nationwide, will help our Democratic Senate form the strategies we will need to craft new legislative solutions -- as well as protect those solutions already built by generations of Democratic Senators working on the behalf of the American people.

AND ... your answers will be invaluable to Democratic candidates planning their 1990 Senate campaigns. As a former Chairman of the DSCC, I cannot overstate the importance of your informed and insightful thoughts on the issues the Democratic majority should emphasize in our legislative strategies and political campaigns.

Nor can I overstate the importance of your generous and early financial support of our Democratic candidates. Only by raising money -- and lots of

it -- early in the election cycle can we hope to counter the staggering sums of money the Republican Party will unleash on our Democratic Senators and challengers.

While it is not possible to match the Republican millions dollar for dollar, we must make certain that the issues we campaign on have the financial wherewithal to reach the American people. It is on the issues -- not the slick tactics of the Republicans -- that we will win the coming election.

You and I know that the Democratic Party best addresses the true concerns, hopes and dreams of the American people.

From Roosevelt to Kennedy, Democratic courage and vision has shaped this nation into the land of opportunity and liberty that to this day inspires the struggle for freedom and human dignity around the world.

But most importantly, Democrats have been the party of the people ... working people, who subscribe to the notion that hard work and honesty are the ingredients for success. And that America's promise is within the grasp of all those who have the opportunity to reach for it.

President Bush has not built a "kinder and gentler nation."

His foundation has proven to be built on rhetoric -- lacking programs of substance or policies of vision. His "thousand points of light" have not warmed the faces of the cold, homeless children living in our streets ... they have not brightened the darkness of those stricken by the scourge of drug abuse or left ignorant by schools ill-equipped and understaffed.

My friends, it is time for a new approach. If this administration is unable or unwilling to lead this nation into the 21st Century, then we must assert our historical mandate, as Democrats, and shape this nation's future to meet the challenges of the coming century.

President Bush says give the richest 1 percent of Americans a Capital Gains tax cut so they will invest in America ... but consider the 111 million Americans who work in America and have seen their Social Security taxes increase nine times in the last 10 years!

President Bush says America stands for human rights and decency around the world ... but why did he send secret missions to China and toast the leaders who mercilessly butchered their own people in Tiananmen Square?

President Bush says he supports clean air legislation ... but insists that the Senate's proposal is too expensive. How can we put a price on the health of our children?

These and countless other questions are waiting to be answered by our President. But unless Democratic Senators have the resources to force these issues in the campaign debate, do not expect to hear them addressed in the November election.

It is absolutely critical that the DSCC have a large enough war chest

issues so critical to the future of the American people and our nation will be debated, fought for and put forth in the coming decade.

And remember -- it will be ten years ago this November when the Republicans pulled out their checkbooks and reached deep into their pockets to defeat powerful Democratic Senators like Birch Bayh, Gaylord Nelson, Frank Church and George McGovern.

DEMOCRATS MUST NOT LET THAT HAPPEN AGAIN!

But to maintain and strengthen our majority, our Democratic Senate and the DSCC need your help today. We must know which issues loyal members like you consider most urgent, so we can set the legislative priorities most important to the American people.

And it is absolutely critical that we have your financial support as well -- so we can continue to provide the campaign funds and technical assistance for television, radio and print advertising, fundraising, polling, telephone banks, get-out-the-vote efforts and everything else it will take to defend our incumbents and challenge the vulnerable Republicans.

So, there are two things you must do:

FIRST ... complete the enclosed PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY and return it to me today. Your opinions on these issues will shape Democratic legislative strategy and develop the issues from which winning campaigns will be built.

SECOND ... enclose the most generous contribution you can to show your loyal support of the DSCC.

Your generous support will help maintain and strengthen our Democratic majority at a time when America and indeed the entire world is looking to the United States Senate for leadership.

Please let me hear from you today.

Sincerely,


George J. Mitchell
Majority Leader

to force these issues out of the shadows and into the light of public scrutiny. And we must have your support for this to be possible.

Unfortunately, there are many, many other questions that the Republicans have been avoiding for too long ...

** What are the Republicans offering to the struggling democracies in Eastern Europe except pocket change and wishes of good luck?

** What are the Republicans offering to young couples who watch helplessly as housing costs spiral out of their reach and child care bills eat up their modest savings?

** What are the Republicans telling poor women who are victims of rape and incest and need access to abortion services?

I'm afraid not very much.

And if we fail to force the debate on these questions, we will face the same issueless, rhetoric-filled and demoralizing campaign as last time.

So please, fill out the enclosed PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY and join with thousands of committed Democrats in shaping the political debate that will take place this November. AND ... please make as generous a contribution as you possibly can to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee and send them in today.

If we are to have a fighting chance this November, your support is absolutely essential. And fight we will ... to further the work of Senator Paul Simon of Illinois, a Senator who has championed the bedrock Democratic values of education, health care and individual liberties.

We will fight for Senator Harkin of Iowa ... an outspoken opponent of the administration's policies in Central America and who has taken a strong stand on a women's right to choose.

We will fight for Senator Levin of Michigan, a progressive Democrat who has opposed the MX missile and worked hard to assure U.S. compliance with international arms control agreements.

We will fight for Senator Johnston of Louisiana, a three-term Senator who may face former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan David Duke. This would be the first time in modern history that a member of the KKK will run for the U.S. Senate as a member of a national party.

It's essential that we keep all 16 of our Democratic Seats.

I was the Chairman of the DSCC when we took back the Senate in the historic election of 1986. I know how important the early and generous contributions of DSCC members are to shaping issues, recruiting challengers and financing the myriad of projects essential to successful election campaigns.

Our Democratic Senate majority will be the only guarantee that the



DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

The official arm of the Democratic Senate

PRIORITY ISSUES RESPONSE

Dear George Mitchell,

I AGREE! The coming election will decide America's future for the coming decade and into the next century. I will help ensure this future by building an even stronger Democratic majority in the United States Senate.

I understand that the Republican millions will be used by Lee Atwater and Roger Ailes to distort and confuse the issues. Democrats must have the financial resources to make our issues heard and force the Republicans to address the real concerns of the American people.

I have completed my Democratic Priority Issues Survey (below) to help Democratic Senators plan their strategy...and I am also enclosing my generous contribution for the amount of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$_____.

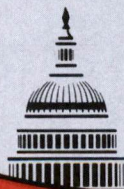
5-DIGIT ZIP + 4

G202
Shawn Smeallie
5 Court Terrace
Washington, DC 20002

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO THE DSCC AND RETURN TO: DSCC, P.O. BOX 96047, WASHINGTON, DC 20077-7245.

AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC SENATORIAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE ON FEDERAL TAX RETURNS.

DO NOT DETACH. RETURN ENTIRE SURVEY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.



DEMOCRATIC PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY

The stakes are high in 1990. Incumbent Democratic Senators will be faced with a campaign war chest unprecedented in the history of American politics. There is virtually no chance that we can match the Republicans dollar-for-dollar, but by focusing on the issues that really matter to the American people we will have a fighting chance. Please rank by order of importance (with "1" being most important) the following issues which you believe should be stressed in the upcoming campaign.

- A. _____ Reduce Social Security taxes for working people, not Capital Gains for the rich and special interest.
- B. _____ Provide increased economic and political support for the democratic movements in Eastern Europe.

CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE

DEMOCRATIC PRIORITY ISSUES SURVEY

- C. _____ Support legislation that ensures that the decision to terminate a pregnancy remains in the hands of the woman, not the government.
- D. _____ Pass legislation that emphasizes compassion, treatment and prevention in our fight against the scourge of drug abuse.
- E. _____ Propose a rational build-down of the military-industrial complex.
- F. _____ Condemn the repression of Chinese people and support policies to force the Chinese Government to allow the formation of democratic institutions.
- G. _____ Support policies to end America's housing crisis.
- H. _____ Restrict corporate takeovers financed by worthless junk bonds that drain America's competitive energies.
- I. _____ Pass tough clean air and clean water legislation with stiff fines and punishments for corporate polluters.
- J. _____ Reform our education system to ensure our children's future.
- K. _____ Force the reform of the Salvadoran government and make certain those responsible for the murder of the Jesuit Priests are brought to justice.
- L. _____ Other: _____

Additional comments: _____

Thank you for your participation.

*Your response will help Democratic candidates
set the terms of the debate in the upcoming elections.
And ensure that Republican money and
campaign tactics will not distort the issues that
matter to all Americans and Democrats.*

Senate Majority Leader Mitchell says Kolstad contradicts Bush on environment

HELENA (AP) — Republican U.S. Senate candidate Allen Kolstad is at odds with the president in claiming concerns about acid rain are nothing more than "scare tactics," Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell said here Saturday.

The Maine Democrat said Kolstad "places himself in a position which directly contradicts President Bush" by saying in a recent speech that acid rain and global warming are not serious threats to the environment.

Mitchell's comment came during a news conference here while in Montana to attend a pair of fund-raisers for Democratic Sen. Max Baucus, who Kolstad is trying to unseat.

Mitchell recalled that Bush included in his 1988 campaign a call for controls on acid rain and later proposed legislation to that effect.

"At least according to President Bush acid rain is not a scare tactic," he said. "It's a serious national problem and on that issue I agree with President Bush."

Acid rain is created when sulfur dioxide from coal-burning and other industrial plants contaminates rainfall. Scientists believe acid rain is responsible for poisoning many lakes in the

Northeast and eastern Canada.

For his part, Baucus said Kolstad appears to have taken a position against the attack on acid rain contained in the Clean Air Act sponsored by Baucus and now before a House-Senate conference committee.

"Anybody who opposes the Clean Air Act wants Montana to move backward," Baucus said, contending the legislation benefits Montana's low-sulfur coal and creates jobs in the state.

Also at the news conference, Sen. Frank Lautenberg, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Transportation, said he has added money for Montana projects to a spending bill.

The New Jersey Democrat said \$150,000 was added to study construction of a highway bypass around Kalispell and \$5.3 million for a new interchange at Bozeman.

But Mitchell and Lautenberg spent most of the meeting with reporters offering the expected praises for Baucus and touting the need for him to be re-elected to a third term.

Mitchell said Baucus' 12 years in the Senate give him valuable seniority and will ensure him

of a major committee chairmanship.

"Max is in unique position having achieved a significant level of seniority at a very young age," he said. "He is now in a position to become one of the most influential legislators in the nation because of his ability and his seniority at a relatively young age."

Mitchell said the National Republican Senatorial Committee has made the Baucus-Kolstad race its top priority this year because the GOP's chances are so dismal in all other races across the country.

He said Baucus will get a lot of help from the Democratic leadership because he is up against an historically successful Republican money-raising machine.

In the 1986 Senate races, Mitchell said, the National Democratic Senatorial Committee collected \$12 million and its GOP counterpart raised \$90 million. While the Democrats have narrowed that gap in recent years, they still can't provide the same kind of money that Republicans do for their Senate candidates, he said.

Helena Independent Record Sunday July 29

Senate leader praises Baucus

Kolstad out of step
with Bush on acid
rain, Mitchell says.

By The Associated Press

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(More on BAUCUS, page 2)

Helena Ind. Record Sunday July 29

Baucus

Continued from Page 1A

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McCarthy.
HELEN MARIE

Funeral mass will be celebrated at
10:30. Interment in

The Montana Star

Mitchell: Kolstad at odds with Bush on acid rain

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"Max is in a unique position he has achieved a significant level of respect at a very young age," Mitchell said. "He is now in a position to become one of the most influential legislators in the nation because

HRDCs rescue Conservation Corps

BOZEMAN (AP) — A conservation corps for low-income youths has been revived by three non-profit groups after state parks officials said there wasn't enough state money to start it.

We at the local level are trying

the wages of two supervisors to oversee the work.

Dick Ellis, regional parks manager for Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Bozeman, said cooperation between the agencies is addressing "some of the most serious needs of the state parks

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MITCHELL ON TROOP REDUCTIONS. WE DID
LOSE THE BIRD TWICE IN THIS SEGMENT!

3828

MITCHEL SAYS HE BELIEVES WE CAN AND
WILL GO FARTHER IN THE MATTER OF TROOP
REDUCTIONS.

3543

MITCHEL SAYS HE BLIEVES WE SHOULD
MAINTAIN ONLY A RESIDUAL FORCE IN
EUROPE.

3600

TROOPS SHOULD BE CUT TO SOMEWHERE IN
THE RAGE OF 100,000

3638

SAYS WE SHOULD TAKE A CAREFUL LOOK AS
FAR AS ASPIN'S SUGGESTION OF CUTTING
THE FOREIGN RATHER THAN DOMESTIC
TROOPS. NOBODY WANTS TO CLOSE BASES IN
THEIR OWN STATES.

3706

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET IS INCONSISTENT.
HE CALLS FOR TROOP REDUCTIONS BUT STILL
WANTS TO INCREASE THE DEFENSE BUDGET TO
PAY FOR WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

Donaldson: You say the Administration is asking for a tax increase. But in fact, it's the law.... The Administration is not asking for an increase.

Hollings: Well, they are because this is a 1990 increase that never was contemplated to be used for the deficit.... It's the law, but it was a law set aside for a reserve, and we're not setting it aside for reserve. And under Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, we weren't going to need that.

Brinkley: ...If we have your five percent value-added tax, how long will it stay at five percent? A year?

Hollings: Well, no one knows.... My guess would be you might cut out some of the exemptions....

Brinkley: But how long would it stay at five percent, senator, in your best judgment?

Hollings: Well, it doesn't make any difference. How long is the debt going to continue to soar?

Brinkley: I think it does.

Guests: Sens. Dole and Mitchell.

Brinkley: What we are told now is that the money, as it is going at the moment, will not be there. There will be IOUs. Is that right?

Sen. Mitchell: That's absolutely right. Sen. Moynihan has performed an important national service by pointing that fact out, and by pointing out how unfair and regressive the American tax system has become.

Donaldson: Do I take it you endorse the Moynihan plan?

Sen. Mitchell: Not yet, but I may well do that soon. It's just a suggestion.... And I've not yet had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Moynihan to discuss it with him. I think there's a growing groundswell of support for it in both the Democratic and Republican parties in Congress and around the country....

Donaldson: I'm a little curious why you don't jump on it immediately.

Sen. Mitchell: Well, I think it's kind of a sad commentary on the state of American politics that if you don't have an instant opinion, that if you want to actually study something and think about it, that's perceived as a negative.... The one adverse aspect which has to be carefully analyzed is the effect on the deficit and how we can deal with that.

Donaldson: Sen. Dole, you're not for the Moynihan plan?

Sen. Dole: I don't know how we're going to take care of the deficit.... My view is, the Administration has a plan that they're going to surface when the budget's released that would start setting aside, on a phased-in basis, money where you'd retire the debt with -- so you could save, protect the trust fund for future retirees.... I agree that it's an idea that ought to be studied.... It's not going to pass.

Sen. Mitchell shifts tactics, takes aim at president on range of issues

president says no.

"I think that is very unfair and it shows a disdain for the working poor. It is particularly outrageous when viewed in conjunction with the president's aggressive promotion of a tax cut for the wealthiest people."

While Mitchell said the minimum wage issue is Bush's biggest blunder, he said the president has made "other serious mistakes."

On the environment, Mitchell said Bush has, in "other than his words, been a complete failure."

Speaking about Bush's decision not to order a federal takeover of the Alaskan oil spill cleanup, Mitchell said the law allowed Bush to take charge if he believed Exxon was "not doing its

job properly . . . and as far as I can see, the only two people in America who think Exxon was doing its job properly were the chairman of Exxon and the president of the United States. . . . That directly contradicts his often-stated concern for the environment."

On arms control, Mitchell said Bush has been "short-sighted" and has "lacked imagination and innovation." Referring to Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev's wooing of Western European public opinion by offering arms-control proposals, Mitchell said, "Gorbachev is taking the initiative, he is taking the battle for public opinion forward, and the president is reacting, and reacting defensively, negatively and now is

reduced to calling Gorbachev names."

Asked why he was making such tough comments about Bush, Mitchell told the four reporters that the public does not get enough information through television and may not realize the enormity of the disputes facing Congress. He said he wanted to get his message across "through interviews like this." He also said that there are areas on which he has applauded Bush, particularly his actions on contra aid and the budget.

Mitchell concluded that relations between Democrats and Bush "are somewhere in between . . . a honeymoon and all-out war."

In shift, Mitchell hits Bush on issues

By Michael Kranish
Globe Staff

WASHINGTON — Sen. George Mitchell of Maine, the majority leader, harshly criticized President Bush yesterday on an array of issues, saying he is a "complete failure" on the environment, has shown a "disdain for the working poor" and is fumbling in his relations with the Soviets.

Mitchell's comments marked a departure from the mostly conciliatory statements he has made in the past about his fellow Maine resident.

At the same time, Mitchell defended his six-month record as the Democratic leader and said the Senate is not being harmed by the controversy surrounding House Speaker Jim Wright of Texas.

Mitchell sounded especially bitter about Bush's insistence that he will veto legislation approved this week that would increase the current \$3.55 minimum wage to \$4.55 an hour. Bush has promised to veto any bill with an increase beyond \$4.25.

Mitchell, speaking with four re-

■ **MITCHELL**

Continued from Page 1
porters in his ornate office over-

looking the Mall, charged that the only reason Bush has refused to negotiate on the minimum-wage

issue is that he wanted to pick an issue on which he could prove his toughness in dealing with Congress.

"The president has been shopping around for something to prove how tough he is," Mitchell said. "And here is a group of Americans that don't have much political clout ... so I guess he feels he can look tough and not worry about the political equation because there are just poor people involved.

"When it comes to Central America, the president says he will talk and he will compromise. When it comes to gun control, the president says he will talk and he will compromise. But when it comes to helping poor people, the

Majority leader Mitchell blasts Bush on environment, poor, USSR
By Michael Kranish
Boston Globe

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"When it comes to Central America, the president says he will talk and he will compromise. When it comes to gun control, the president says he will talk and he will compromise. But when it comes to helping poor people, the president says no."

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Keep -
Mitchell file

DATE:

TO:

J H S

FROM:

ED ROGERS

Lee is going to use this and
they are trying to find someone
to write a letter.

They are still searching for Mitchell
blocking the oil clean up funds.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 22, 1989
TO: Rick Shelby
FROM: Don Walter
RE: Senator George Mitchell: A Brief Review

You have asked me to provide you with a brief review of Majority Mitchell's vulnerabilities.

Majority Leader

Recent stories about Congressional inaction are true. So far, under George Mitchell's leadership, the U.S. Senate has been the slowest and most unproductive in years.

Number of Roll-Call Votes. Compared to other congressional sessions, this is the slowest moving Senate since Nixon was elected to a second term. Between 1973 and 1988, the Senate conducted (on average) 143 roll-call votes by May 22nd. As of May 22, 1989, the U.S. Senate has called only 69 roll-call votes, less than one-half the average number of senate votes called since 1973.

<u>Cycle/Year</u>	<u>Number of Votes (As of May 22)</u>
93rd (1973)	144
93rd (1974)	207
94th (1975)	194
94th (1976)	185
95th (1977)	159
95th (1978)	161
96th (1979)	107
96th (1980)	153
97th (1981)	134
97th (1982)	153
98th (1983)	112
98th (1984)	109
99th (1985)	90
99th (1986)	106
100th (1987)	124
100th (1988)	151
101st (1989)	69

Days and Hours in Session. Not surprising is the fact that, so far this year, George Mitchell has kept the U.S. Senate out of session more than any leader in the three previous sessions.

<u>Cycle/Year</u>	<u>Hours/Days in Session (As of April, 30)</u>
98th (1983)	250 50
99th (1985)	237 49
100th (1987)	275 At least 40
101st (1989)	188 38

Measures Passed and Public Laws. Also this year, the Senate (under Mitchell's leadership) has passed fewer measures and public laws than in any of the three previous sessions.

<u>Cycle/Year</u>	<u>Measures/Laws Passed (As of April, 30)</u>
98th (1983)	149 14
99th (1985)	149 14
100th (1987)	161 13
101st (1989)	123 6

Washington's Perks

Honoraria. Since being elected in 1982, Mitchell has collected \$192,375 in honoraria income from special interest groups.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Honoraria Accepted</u>	<u>Honoraria Kept</u>
1982	\$ 29,000	\$ 25,000
1983	\$ 30,650	\$ 25,000
1984	\$ 20,500	\$ 20,500
1985	\$ 27,530	\$ 22,500
1986	\$ 35,625	\$ 30,000
1987	\$ 42,225	\$ 34,875
1988	\$ 42,500	\$ 34,500
Total	\$228,030	\$192,375

Some of these special interest groups include big defense contractors, beneficiaries of tax "transition" rules, and, ironically, environmental polluters.

Reimbursed Travel. Judge Mitchell has enjoyed the luxury of his public office. Between 1982 and 1988, Mitchell (and his wife) accepted **89 trips** from special interest groups. Some of these trips were to exciting vacation destination including more than a half dozen trips to South Florida and California, and, Scottsdale, AZ.

If George Mitchell has a legislative mark in congress it has been on issues dealing with the environment. On February 3, 1987, Mitchell voted to restrict the number of billboards allowed along federal highways. But, in 1983, Mitchell (and his wife) accepted free transportation from the Outdoor Advertising Association, the national lobbying arm for the billboard industry.

Independent Counsel. On November 3, 1987, Mitchell joined Senator Cohen and voted to kill a proposal making members of congress subject to independent-counsel investigations into alleged wrongdoing. The measure passed by a slim 49-46 margin.

Franked Mail. Mitchell recently voted to increase the cost of the franked mail privilege by 500%. Mitchell's February 28, 1989 vote should cost the federal taxpayers over \$160 million.

Book Deal. According to his most recent Public Financial Disclosure Report, Mitchell made \$22,500 in **book royalties** in 1988.

Legislative Record

Spending and the Deficit. Mitchell voted against the three key measures dealing with the swollen deficit. Mitchell voted against giving the president line-item veto power, against requiring a balanced budget amendment to the constitution, and against Gramm-Rudman-Hollings. The National Taxpayers Union, has given Mitchell its dubious "Big Spender" label for his votes to increase federal spending.

Taxes. Mitchell has regularly voted to increase taxes. In 1987, Mitchell voted for the largest first year tax increase in our nation's history. Mitchell also opposed indexing taxes to offset inflation and was one of only 10 senators to vote against calling for no (new) increase in taxes.

Flip-flops. Mitchell has reversed his position on several key issues relating to abortion, Social Security COLAs, and Gramm-Rudman-Hollings (Mitchell ended up voting for the conference report).

Campaign Finance Reform. Although Mitchell co-sponsored and voted for S. 2--calling for campaign finance reform and limiting PAC receipts/expenditures, the Senator raised more than \$800,000 from special interest PACs during his 1988 campaign cycle. During his 1988 campaign, Mitchell hypocritically raised more than four times the amount of PAC money provided for in S. 2.

Voting Comparison. In every year since going to Washington, Mitchell has voted more often with Senator Ted Kennedy than Bill Cohen.

Interest Group Ratings. The American Security Council (NSI Rating) has consistent given Mitchell one of its lowest scores for the Senator's positions defense issues. Since going to Washington, Mitchell's average NSI score has been 12.5, 74.25 lower than Bill Cohen's average score.

RICK

DEMOCRAT-CONTROLLED CONGRESS PLAYS PARTISAN FIDDLE WHILE WASHINGTON BURNS

Congress' First Hundred Days

Since January 3, the Democrat-controlled Congress has worked very little, accomplishing even less. The House of Representatives has put in a total of 64 hours and 12 minutes of work, and has recorded a mere 14 votes. The Senate has done little better, working a total of 128 hours, 5 minutes, and 12 seconds, and recording 26 votes, 17 of which confirmed presidential appointees.

During these same 91 days of the 1st session of the 101st Congress, the average working American, based on eight hour days and a 40 hour week, put in 560 hours of work.

During the first 91 days of 1981, the 1st session of the 97th Congress performed dramatically better. There were 23 votes in the House and 104 votes in the Senate.

Based on the number of votes taken, the House is now performing at 61% of its 1981 level of productivity. The Senate is now performing at 25% of its 1981 level of productivity.

Again, during the first 91 days of 1979, the 1st session of the 96th Congress performed remarkably better. There were 168 votes in the House and 81 votes in the Senate.

Based on the number of votes taken, the House is now performing at 8% of its 1979 level of productivity. The Senate is now performing at 32% of its 1979 level of productivity.

In the business world, dismal performance like this spells only one thing: BANKRUPTCY.

Congress may well be approaching legislative bankruptcy. While the Democratic majority in both the House and the Senate claim a spirit of bipartisanship, the facts tell a different story. In 1979, Democrats held a majority in both the House and the Senate, as well as control of the White House. Here, cooperation and productivity were high. In 1981, with a Republican President and the control of Congress split, productivity was again relatively high.

In 1989, with a majority in both the House and the Senate, Democrats appear content to bring Congress to a grinding halt in a flurry of partisan bickering. The American people deserve better.

All the same, Senator Edward Kennedy, liberal guru of the Democratic-controlled Congress, manages to find plenty of time not-in-session to throw stones at the Republican administration. According to Kennedy, President George Bush "has no agenda."

"This Republican President, and perhaps the Republican Party itself, have run out of ideas,..."

"The administration has no agenda other than coping, no real budget, no major initiatives and very little to say....

"The administration holds office but doesn't know what to do with it."

(Washington Post, 3/7/89)

While other Democratic members of Congress join in a familiar refrain of inane catervauling, Congress itself flounders, accomplishing nothing of substance. Of the 14 votes recorded in the House, most are formalities. And those are the best votes of the lot.

- o House vote No. 1002, elected the honorable (???) House Speaker Jim Wright, Jr., to his second term as Speaker of the House. Wright is currently under investigation by the House Ethics Committee for numerous possible violations of House rules. Even "Democratic committee members remain troubled by the accumulated evidence regarding the Texas Democrat's personal finances..." (Wall Street Journal, 3/17/89).
- o House Vote No. 1003 adopted the Rules of the House for the 101st Congress.
- o House Vote No. 1004 rejected a procedural motion requiring an announcement of any bill or resolution at least four days prior to scheduled consideration.
- o House Vote No. 1005, Representative Tony Coelho's (D-CA) motion to adjourn, attempted to avoid the necessity of a vote on the controversial congressional pay raise.
- o House Vote No. 1006, H. J. Res. 129, rejected substantial increases in Executive, Legislative, and Judicial salaries, a vote which was forced by public outrage.
- o House Vote No. 1007 agreed to a rule to allow consideration of H. R. 1231.
- o House Vote No. 1008 passed H. R. 1231, which directed the President to establish an emergency board to investigate the Eastern Airlines dispute. The members of Congress apparently found their own schedules too busy to investigate the dispute themselves.
- o House Vote No. 1009 agreed to H. Res. 103, providing funds for the expenses of investigations and studies undertaken by standing and select committees of the House.
- o House Votes 1010, 1011, 1013, 1014, 1015, voted on a procedural resolution concerning, and amendments to, H.R. 2, amending the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. The final vote approved a raise in the minimum wage to \$4.55 an hour, 30 cents an hour higher than proposed by President Bush and gutting the administration's training wage.

On the Senate side, congressional productivity is little better. Of the 26 votes recorded, 17 confirmed Presidential appointees. The remaining 9 votes tell a dismal tale.

- o Senate Vote No. 1011, feigning fiscal integrity, rejected the proposed increases in Executive, Legislative, and Judicial salaries, based on the assumption that the House would adjourn and the controversial pay-raise would go into effect by default.
- o Senate Vote No. 1012, which passed H.J.Res. 129, rejected the congressional pay increase. As in the House, public outrage managed to keep the Senate in check.
- o Senate Vote No. 1014 tabled (killed) an amendment which would have deleted language in S.RES. 66, the Omnibus Committee Funding Resolution for 1989 and 1990, which abolished the present spending cap on Senate franking privileges. Instead of fiscal responsibility, Senators voted to write themselves a blank check covering the high costs of congressional mailings.

"Sen. Pete Wilson (R-Calif) called it 'a fivefold increase in the cost of self-promotion.' He warned that if every Senator made full use of the new provision, the cost of authorized Senate mailings could top \$180 million a year--compared with last year's figure of \$35.5 million.

"Sen. Don Nickles (R-Okla.) warned that it 'would be probably one of the more expensive things that we have done in Congress in a long time.'" (Washington Post, 3/19/89).

- o Senate Vote No. 1015 tabled (killed) an amendment to reduce funding increases for Senate committees.
- o Senate Vote No. 1020, the infamous Tower debacle, failed to confirm the President's appointment of John G. Tower to be Secretary of the Department of Defense.
- o Senate Votes No. 1022 and 1023, rejected motions relating to the impeachment of Judge Alcee L. Hastings.
- o Senate Vote No. 1024 passed S. 20, to strengthen the protections available to Federal employees.
- o And finally, Senate Vote 1025 passed S. 607, to prevent desecration of the U.S. Flag.

Where is the congressional agenda? Besides attempting to pass their own pay-raise, electing a man under investigation for possible violations of House ethical standards to be leader of the House, voting to destroy thousands of job opportunities, killing an attempt to control the costs of congressional mailings, killing an attempt to reduce spending increases for Senate committees, questioning the President's judgment in an embarrassingly partisan grandstand, and some run-of-the-mill business, the Democrat-controlled Congress has accomplished very little of substance.

Little wonder, considering the amount of time each congressman has spent working. To borrow Senator Kennedy's words, Congress "has no agenda other than coping, no real budget, no major initiatives and very little to say...." With the virtually unlimited mailing privileges the Senate so generously awarded itself, it's a shame congressmen will have so little to say to taxpayers when they write home.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date: April 19th

TO: Ron Kaufman

FROM: Mia Kelly
Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Per your request, attached please find the sum total of our correspondence with Susan Molinari et al on this issue.

I'm not sure this will help much, but at least it will give you an idea as to where we are/were....



THE POSTMASTER GENERAL
Washington, DC 20260-0010

November 7, 1990

Mr. Edward M. Rogers, Jr.
Deputy Assistant to the President
Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ed:

I wanted to follow up on our recent conversation about Congresswoman Molinari's concern about a plan to transfer mail processing functions from Staten Island to Brooklyn.

As I mentioned to you, Bill Johnstone, Assistant Postmaster General for Government Relations, and our Queens Field Division General Manager/Postmaster met with Congresswoman Molinari about this matter on October 18, along with Congressmen Ben Gilman and Frank Horton. The postal officials informed Ms. Molinari that, according to an initial review of Staten Island operations, the incoming Staten Island mail, which is approximately three-fourths of the daily volume, will continue to be sorted on the Island beyond 1995. Only a portion of the outgoing mail, approximately one fourth, may be sorted at the new facility in Brooklyn, beginning in the Spring of 1992.

I am enclosing for your reference a copy of an October 24 letter to Mr. Johnstone from Congresswoman Molinari expressing satisfaction with the meeting and an October 25 letter from the Division Manager to Ms. Molinari outlining in further detail the Postal Service's plans for effective Staten Island mail service.

Best Regards,

Anthony M. Frank

Enclosures

SUSAN MOLINARI
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
AND LABOR

OCT 26 1990

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3214

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1305 73rd Street
BROOKLYN, NY 11228
(718) 236-9292

October 24, 1990

Mr. William T. Johnstone
Assistant Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
Government Relations Department
Washington, DC 20260-3500

Dear Mr. Johnstone:

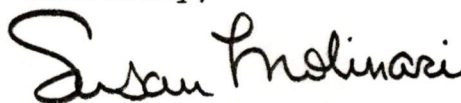
Thank you very much for coming to my meeting last Thursday. I really appreciate your taking time out of your busy schedule to discuss this important topic.

I was very pleased with the meeting and hope that I will be able to work with both you and Mr. Duchesne and the Postal Service in the future. My main concern is to provide the best available postal service to Staten Island and I hope we can work together to achieve this.

I am looking forward to hearing from Mr. Duchesne this week regarding the Postal Service's plans for Staten Island mail service. I would like to be able to share this information with Staten Islander's at my rally on Sunday, October 28.

Once again, thank you for coming to the meeting last week. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Susan Molinari
Member of Congress

SM:kbm



**United States
Postal Service**

October 25, 1990

Honorable Susan Molinari
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
2381 Hylan Boulevard
Staten Island, NY 10306

Dear Congresswoman Molinari:

This is in follow-up to our October 18th meeting concerning Postal Service plans for the processing of Staten Island mail. Also attending the meeting were Congressmen Ben Gilman and Frank Horton, and Assistant Postmaster General Bill Johnstone and Tony Conway of the Postal Service.

I was pleased to have the opportunity to discuss our mutual concern: to render the best possible postal service in Richmond County, Staten Island, New York. As I mentioned to you, I also have the same interest in service for Kings County, Brooklyn, Queens County and Western Nassau County.

During our meeting I shared with you the many options being developed in the Brooklyn-Queens Division. In order to provide our customers with the best possible service, we must maximize the use of our facilities and automation-mechanization equipment, while ensuring that we have the right people in the right place at the right time. In doing this we will be implementing the strategic plan of the Postal Service, i.e., placing a bar code on each piece of mail by 1995.

In order to accomplish these goals, we have reviewed and analyzed all operations in the Brooklyn-Queens Division. Through our initial review of the Staten Island operations, we have determined that the Staten Island incoming mail, approximately three fourths of the daily volume, will continue

to be sorted at the Manor Road facility beyond 1995. There is still a possibility that a portion of the outgoing mail, approximately one fourth, may be sorted in Brooklyn, beginning in the Spring of 1992.

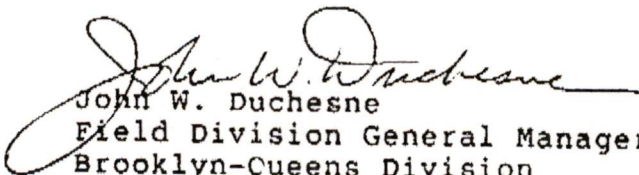
A task force has been established to study the mail operations on Staten Island. The study will include our delivery operations, taking into account the three main areas of the Island; the settled northern sector, the business as well as residential middle area, and the residential areas to the east and south. The results of this segment of the study may point to the establishment of Delivery Distribution Centers, which are consolidated large delivery units with bar code sorting equipment. Simultaneously, the task force will be studying how to enhance the handling of incoming mail and the most efficient methods of handling outgoing mail. I will be pleased to brief you or your staff concerning this task force effort.

I also discussed how the utilization of the automated equipment for bar coded mail will enable the Postal Service to handle greater volumes of mail with fewer employees, with a decreased possibility of mis-sort. Enhanced service will result. With the growth you mentioned that is anticipated for Staten Island we would expect mail volumes to increase, lessening the impact of the necessary downsizing of the Staten Island work force. Should our studies dictate that we handle the outgoing mail in Brooklyn starting in the Spring of 1992, I anticipate that less than forty of the over nine hundred Staten Island postal employees will be affected.

The United States Postal Service, through its employees and modern facilities, will remain available and ready to serve your constituents on Staten Island and in Brooklyn.

Thanks again for the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our mutual concerns. Please feel free to call on me whenever you would like to discuss these issues.

Sincerely,


John W. Duchesne
Field Division General Manager/Postmaster
Brooklyn-Queens Division

cc: Congressman Ben Gilman
Congressman Frank Horton
Louis Viegas, Postmaster, Staten Island

SUSAN MOLINARI
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
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November 1, 1990

Dear Ed:

I hope all is well and your schedule has become less hectic, post-budget negotiations. Prior to the end of session, I spoke to you about the proposed consolidation of mail service into Brooklyn.

The Post Office hasn't budged, despite my pleas-echoed by Congressmembers Horton and Gilman. I am fairly certain that I could appropriate the necessary dollars to obtain a bar code sorting machine for my district if I could get the Postmaster to issue an edict to maintain all Staten Island mail service on Staten Island.

Your assistance in helping the Postmaster see the value in this plan would be greatly appreciated. As the attached newspaper article indicates - - this is extremely important to my constituents.

Thanks!

Sincerely,



Susan Molinari
Member of Congress

sm/mr
enclosures

Mr. Edward M. Rogers
Deputy Assistant to
Executive Assistant
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, D. C. 20

I talked with Susie Travers in Tony Frank's office today. She had the materials, and the Postmaster General was in the process of writing to you.

11/6/90

DAILY NEWS

Sunday, October 21, 1990

SIL BSI 1

Staten Island

Letter stay here, sorters plead

By MARY ENGELS

Daily News Staff Writer

'SAVE STATEN ISLAND MAIL' is the battle cry of fearful postal workers striving to block a plan to shift some of the island's mail processing to a plant near Starrett City in Brooklyn.

Postal Service management has denied that it plans to move all of Staten Island's mail processing to the new Brooklyn Mail Facility, which will open next year.

But the service does not deny that to cut costs and operate more efficiently, it will have some of the island's outgoing mail processed at the new plant.

However, postal workers see the move as ultimately meaning a phase-out of some jobs—and possibly of the island's Manor Road mail-processing facility as well.

To counteract this, they have posted billboards from Richmond Terrace to Richmond Road. And last week they were out in force at the St. George Ferry terminal, getting islanders to sign petitions of protest.

30,000 have signed

Steve Kowal, president of the Staten Island local of the American Postal Workers' Union, said that more than 30,000 islanders have signed the petitions.

Kowal said his members plan to send the petitions to Postmaster General Anthony Frank. Their goal is to collect more than 100,000 signatures.

The group has the support of Rep. Susan Molinari (R-C, Staten Island-Brooklyn), who has also called on Frank to keep the mail on the island.

Molinari contended that islanders' experience with Friday drops, in which "our mail is shipped to Brooklyn for the weekend, usually has been disastrous."

She added that even a one-day delay in getting Social Security or pension checks, medical or legal notices—or even a letter from a loved one—could be devastating.

"As the island's population continues to grow, so does the necessity of reliable mail service," the congresswoman said.

She urged that all the mail processing be done on the island and not merged with another borough's load.

Cost-efficient

Jack Duchesne, field division general manager and postmaster for the Brooklyn-Queens-Staten Island division, said his agency was "trying to improve service and protect the jobs of our employees." Under the transfer plan, he said, most of the island's outgoing mail would be processed in Brooklyn.

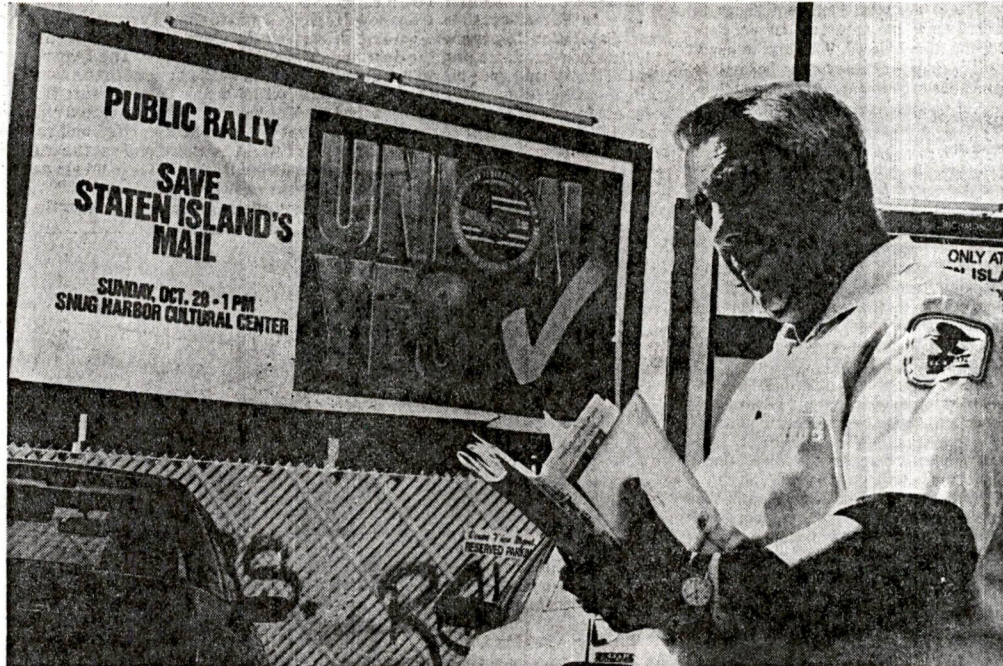
"The new facility will have the latest state-of-the-art equipment and, by consolidating Brooklyn and some of the island's mail, it will be more cost-efficient," he said.

As for jobs, Duchesne conceded that eventually some jobs will be lost—but insisted that this would come through attrition. He also said that for some "there may be different jobs, different locations and different hours."

"But we will be working with our unions on that."

While island union officials are concerned about jobs and a phase-out of mail processing altogether, Brooklyn postal workers are concerned

See MAIL Page 3



POSTMAN Joe Bilotti delivers mail at Shelter Shopping Mall with pertinent sign in background. Below, Kathy Thompson operates a bar code sorter at Manor Road Post Office. Workers fear operation will be moved to Brooklyn when new facility opens there next year.

JAMES HUGHES DAILY NEWS





AT LEFT postmasters Louis Vegas (l.) and Jack Duchesne, ponder possible move to Brooklyn site (above). JAMES HUGHES DAILY NEWS

Postal workers blast B'klyn move

MAIL FROM PAGE ONE
about safety, as well as jobs.

Jim Musumeci, a postal worker for 11 years and president of the Brooklyn local of the Postal Workers' Union, said the new location in Spring Creek near Starrett City is in "one of the highest-crime areas in the city."

"Our workers are caught in a Catch-22 situation," he said. "Our present working conditions at 271 Cadman Plaza are horrendous. But the new site is 'crime city,' and the workers aren't exactly happy about the thought of relocation."

Musumeci said his union has been meeting with management on the subject.

Said the union leader, "They promised there would be plenty of parking, and also said they were working out an arrangement with the Transit Authority to see the buses stopped right in front of the new plant. We'll believe it when we see it."

Musumeci also said the union workers had "grave concerns" over processing Staten Island mail. "We feel it should be processed in the island, no matter what management states about cost efficiency," he said. "They are out to cut costs and they don't care who gets hurt."

In the meantime, the postal workers plan a public rally on the Island at 1 p.m. on Oct. 28, at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, 1000 Richmond Terrace, rain or shine.

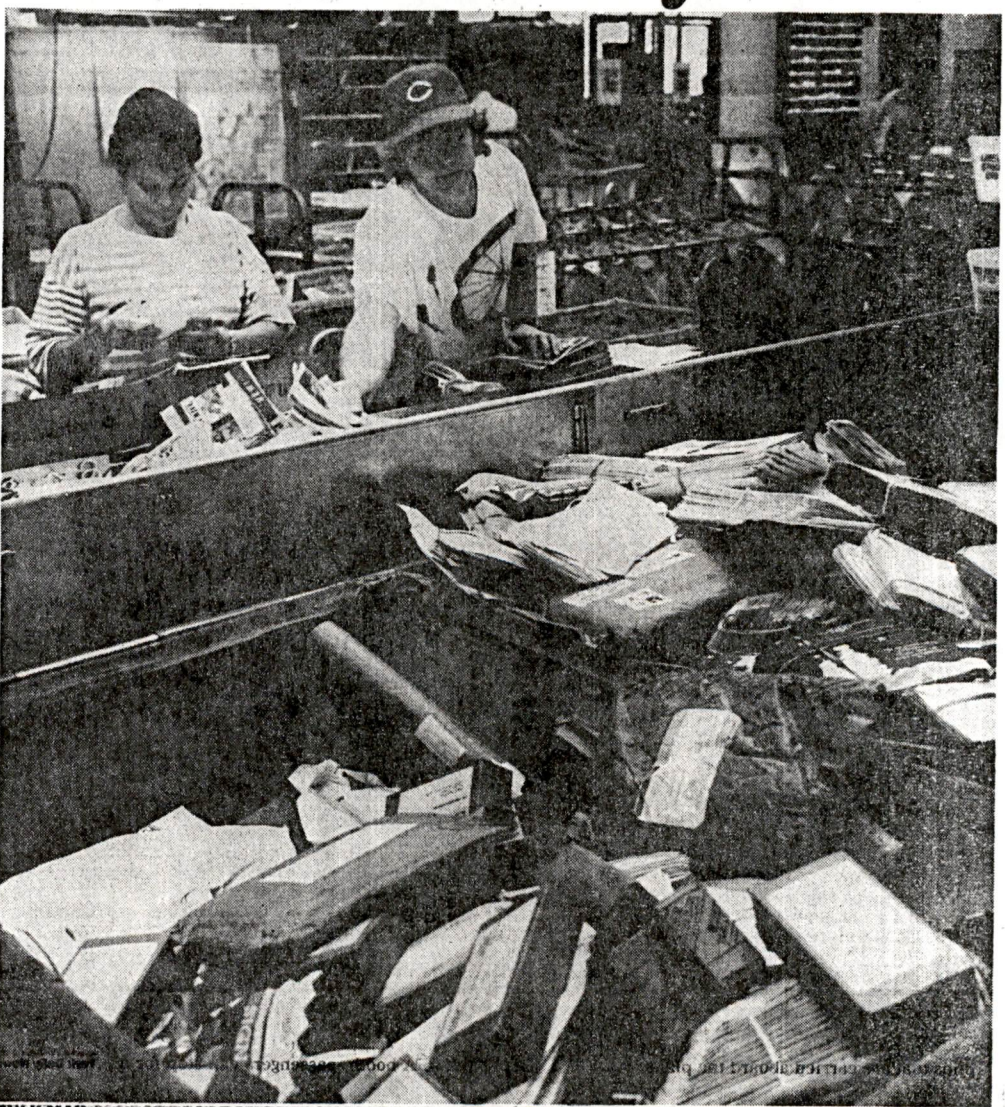
Many who signed petitions last week have promised to lend support by showing up at the rally.

Gerard Haugh of New Dorp said, "I think it's outrageous the way islanders are treated. I don't know why they want to tamper with our mail. Brooklyn, indeed!"

Anita Sparano of Grasmere said, "I think it's terrible—the service now. If it goes to Brooklyn, we'll never see it."

Duchesne did say that his office was in the process of forming a task force to study mail delivery on the island. "We will be looking at how best to serve the island by 1995 in the areas of greatest growth," he said.

"We want to be a good employer, and we are all here to give better service."



BULK MAIL is sorted by postal employees at Marjor Road Post Office in Staten Island.

Document Originally
Attached to
Following Page

10/23

Nia - Debrah
10/26 over to Postal Ser.
about this.

11/5

THE WHITE HOUSE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: October 16, 1990

TO: Tony Frank - U.S. Postmaster General

FROM: Ed Rogers

PHONE: 456-6594

COMMENTS: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES, EXCLUDING COVER SHEET 8

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 15, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR TONY FRANK

FROM: ED ROGERS *ZdR*

SUBJECT: STATEN ISLAND MAIL SERVICE

Per the attached, Susan Molinari is a friend. Would you please have someone on your staff call me with a status report on this issue? I just need to know more about it before getting back to her.

Thanks.

SUSAN MOLINARI
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
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October 10, 1990

Mr. Edward M. Rogers, Jr.
Deputy Assistant to the President
Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Rogers: *Ed:*

As per our conversation, I am writing to you today regarding the United States Postal Service's plan to consolidate mail processing operations for Staten Island into the new Brooklyn General Mail Facility. I have enclosed for your reference the following: various editorials and articles from my local newspaper, recent correspondence from the U.S. Postal Service, a press release from my office, and a petition that is currently circulating on Staten Island with over 5,000 signatures.

This has become a big, political issue for me. I am strongly urging the construction of a General Mail Facility on Staten Island. Every borough of New York City has their own, and with Staten Island's population approaching 500,000 it is certainly appropriate that the U.S. Postal Service give serious consideration to building a General Mail Facility on Staten Island.

A major rally is scheduled for October 28 on Staten Island and promises to draw every elected and hopeful official on Staten Island. It would be a tremendous boast if I read a letter from the Post Master General, "that consolidation plans for Staten Island mail service in to Brooklyn have been dropped."

I know that there are tremendous pressures put upon you and your office during these difficult days. As the last attachment will indicate, it is crucial to my effort. I would like to thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Susan Molinari
Member of Congress

SM:kbm
Enclosure



United States
Postal Service

June 19, 1990

Honorable Susan Molinari
Member of Congress
District Office
2381 Hylan Blvd.
Staten Island, NY 10306

Dear Congresswoman Molinari:

Thank you for your letter dated June 4, 1990. I appreciate your concerns regarding proposed changes in Postal Service operations on Staten Island.

Many of the plans that relate to the changes you referenced in your letter are still being developed. However, I will highlight the status of each and explain our intentions for changes in Postal Service operations on Staten Island for the next few years.

The U.S. Postal Service has made a substantial capital investment to build a new General Mail Facility (GMF) to serve the Postal customers in Brooklyn and Staten Island. It will replace one of our oldest facilities now in operation. Construction of the new GMF in Brooklyn is scheduled for completion in October 1991. Mail processing for Brooklyn and Staten Island will be gradually consolidated into the new Brooklyn GMF as soon as construction is completed and the Postal Service can take occupancy of the building.

The consolidation of Staten Island and Brooklyn mail processing operations will enable the U.S. Postal Service to provide more efficient and reliable service for our customers. The majority of mail processing operations currently being performed in Staten Island will be relocated to the new Brooklyn GMF. However, certain local incoming mail processing operations will remain on Staten Island to avoid anticipated transportation and logistical problems that exist between Brooklyn and Staten Island during rush hour periods. In addition, local mail addressed from Staten Island to Staten Island will remain on Staten Island provided the mail is identified and segregated by customers in the designated local collection boxes.

Beginning August 1990, all prescheduled and major motor vehicle repairs that are currently performed at the Staten Island Vehicle Maintenance Facility will be relocated and consolidated

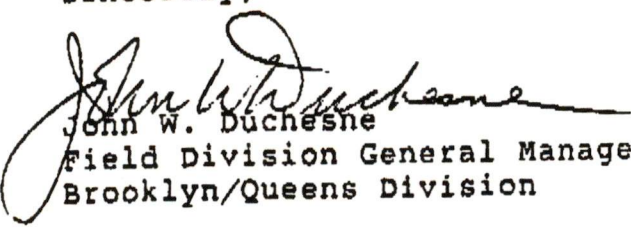
into the Brooklyn Vehicle Maintenance Facility. The Staten Island Vehicle Maintenance Facility will continue to operate with a small staff of mechanics to perform road calls and minor repair work. The facility will be equipped with a tow truck and spare parts to expedite emergency repairs. The operating hours of the Staten Island Vehicle Maintenance Facility will remain the same and the Brooklyn Vehicle Maintenance Facility will continue to provide back-up emergency towing and road call assistance. The consolidation of the Staten Island and Brooklyn Vehicle Maintenance Facilities will not adversely affect or delay the transportation of mails on Staten Island.

All of the changes I have mentioned will require the relocation of employees and in some instances, positions will be identified as excess to the needs of Postal Service operations in Staten Island and Brooklyn. In situations that involve excessing of employees, we will be working closely with the Regional and local labor unions to find new work locations for these employees in accordance with existing union contracts. The plans for the new Brooklyn GMF are still in the developmental stages and as such the exact number of employees that will be affected by this change in operations has not been determined.

In your letter you made references to the purchase of swamplands in Maspeth. The parcel of property purchased by the Postal Service in the Maspeth area was originally intended as the site for the new Queens General Mail Facility. Subsequent to the purchase of this property, the Postal Service purchased an existing facility and land in Whitestone as the new site for the General Mail Facility. The lease and sale of the property in Maspeth is currently being negotiated through our Headquarters Office in Washington, DC.

I hope these explanations answer some of your questions and clarify your concerns on the issues raised in your June 4 letter. Could a meeting be arranged with you to personally explain our detailed plans on these issues. I can be reached on 321-5155 and I look forward to that meeting.

Sincerely,


John W. Duchesne

Field Division General Manager/Postmaster
Brooklyn/Queens Division

Staten Island Advance

Vol. 105, No. 23,529— Thursday, September 20, 1990

S.I. Newhouse, President and Publisher, 1895 - 1979

Donald E. Newhouse, Secretary

Richard E. Diamond, Publisher

Lee Trautmann, Editor

950 Fingerboard Rd., Staten Island, N.Y. 10305

Telephone: (718) 981-1234

Classified: 720-6000

Sports: 981-2666

HOW DID
IGNORANT
TECHNOLOGICAL
ERECT THE
MONUMENT
EGYPTIAN



Our opinion

Neither snow, nor rain, nor USPS reorganization

What's the shortest distance between two points on Staten Island? According to the U.S. Postal Service, it's through Brooklyn.

That's the essence of its campaign to convince Staten Islanders that their mail will be more quickly and efficiently handled if it is routed through a central processing center in Brooklyn (almost in Queens) rather than through the Manor Road post office, as is the case now.

It's a tough sell. The idea that taking all Staten Island's mail to Brooklyn for processing just doesn't make sense logistically. We suspect that the elimination of mail processing on Staten Island does make sense financially for the cost-conscious postal service, and that is the overriding concern. Whether the mail actually moves faster or slower is secondary.

(If the Postal Service wants to cut costs, it should look at its national advertising budget. Why a nationalized business which as a virtual monopoly on ordinary mail service needs to promote itself in TV ads has always escaped us.) We tested the post office's Brooklyn efficiency theory and it went splat. Letters mailed on Staten Island to Staten Island addresses took one or two days during the week, when mail is processed at Manor Road. The majority of the letters were delivered overnight.

However, during the weekends, when Island mail is routed through Brooklyn, the letters mailed on Staten Island to Staten Island addresses took four to six days to be delivered.

Of course, the new processing center that the Postal Service has planned is supposedly state-of-the-art, and far more advanced than current Brooklyn facility. On the other hand,

though, the site of the state-of-the-art processing center is practically on the Brooklyn-Queens border, a good 90-minute truck trip from Staten Island, if the traffic is moving.

The seeming lunacy of transporting Staten Island-to-Staten Island mail through Brooklyn is the most obvious problem with this plan. Yes, Island-to-Island mail can be separated out — if you mail your letter at a post office. Otherwise, it will all be mixed in with mail to Albuquerque and Albany, and therefore Brooklyn-bound, even if the ultimate destination is Arrochar.

The postal service, above all agencies, should be aware of the population reality on Staten Island. This borough has in the neighborhood of 400,000 people and, by all accounts, is the only city borough that is growing. Now is not the time to be consolidating Island postal services with other boroughs.

After all, that population puts Staten Island on a par with Minneapolis, Tulsa, Fort Worth, Cincinnati and a host of other major American cities. Only in this city could such a population center considered an appendage to even larger boroughs. Is Cincinnati's mail routed through Cleveland to cut the postal service's costs? Is all Tulsa's mail routed through Oklahoma City? Of course not. They're significant population centers that merit their own self-contained postal processing facilities.

Last we looked, Staten Islanders paid the same federal taxes as people in Tulsa and Cincinnati. They deserve the same quality postal service as well.

BENSARGE

Your

Vegetarian only hope

This year, a October 1 has World Vegetarian Day. October 2 (Mother's birthday) as World Day. With all this, it seems that the one might worry about the

Mahatma G. that the character be judged by animals. The icy towards animals marized as fol millions of animals livestock. Their animals for ou of our flesh-eat lions of people tive diseases. T kill millions of seeking cures

Staten Island Advance

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Our opinion

More efficient mail service? In Brooklyn?

In the Hall of Ominous Phrases, right up next to "We're from the government and we're here to help you," they should put this one: "It will make mail service much more efficient and reliable."

We wouldn't be nearly so skeptical if it weren't for the fact that the "it" being discussed by a U.S. Postal Service spokeswoman in this case is the transfer of much of Staten Island's mail processing operation from the Manor Road Post Office in Castleton Corners to Brooklyn. A new automated processing plant, near the Queens border, is scheduled to open late next year.

The move makes no sense to anyone but the Postal Service, and that's never a good sign.

Manor Road has automated equipment, and was doing a perfectly good job at handling Staten Island's mail. What's more, it was built to accommodate a second floor, which could be added to make room for more equipment, if necessary.

But the Postal Service is bent on consolidating the Brooklyn and Staten Island operations for the sake of efficiency. We wonder whose definition of efficiency we're using here.

Rep. Susan Molinari protested in a letter to Postmaster General Anthony Frank. "Our ex-

perience with Friday drops . . . wherein our mail is shipped to Brooklyn for the weekend, usually has been disastrous . . . This is unacceptable. Even a one-day delay in receipt of Social Security or pension checks, medical or legal notices, or even a letter from a loved one, could be devastating."

Ms. Molinari also noted that the Island's population continues to grow and it warrants a mail processing facility of its own, as many smaller communities have.

The new building is to be near Starrett City on the Queens line. Yet large trucks aren't permitted on the Belt Parkway. How will they get from Staten Island to the new facility? Won't that further add to delays already existing in Island mail routed through Brooklyn?

It's hard not to suspect this planned move has a lot more to do with cost-cutting and little to do with efficiency. Once again, by virtue of its relative size, Staten Island is seen as a mere appendage to the other boroughs, when separate communities half the size of Staten Island have full, self-contained postal service.

This borough is fast approaching the half million population mark. If anything, the Postal Service should be seeking to expand service here, not take it away.

Brooklyn to handle Island mail

By TERENCE J. KIVLAN
ADVANCE WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Postal officials plan to transfer much of the mail processing operations at the Manor Road General Post Office next year to a massive new facility being built in Brooklyn.

"It will make mail service much more efficient and reliable," said Joanne DeBari, a Postal Service spokeswoman. She explained that the Brooklyn center will be "a lot more auto-

mated" than the Staten Island facility.

But Rep. Susan Molinari and the postal workers union opposes the plan, saying it will hurt Island mail service.

Under the transfer plan, the processing of most of Staten Island's outgoing mail will be shifted to Brooklyn, Ms. DeBari said. Mail addressed for delivery within the borough will continue to go to Manor Road, provided it is deposited in collection boxes

designated for handling there, she said.

The scheduled opening of the new Brooklyn facility in October 1991 could involve some shifting of workers from the Manor Road General Post Office in Castleton Corners to the new Brooklyn center off Linden Boulevard in the Cypress Hill section.

"It may involve some relocation on the mail processing side," Ms. DeBari said. "But we'll be working with the local unions

closely on that."

The Manor Road post office was opened in 1965. Although the Staten Island facility has automated mail processing equipment, Ms. DeBari said postal officials have decided that consolidating the Brooklyn and Staten Island general post offices' mail sorting operations under one roof would be more efficient.

"The advantage of this facility," she said, "is that it has 650,000 square feet of space. So you can

get a lot more automated equipment in there."

But Ms. Molinari has registered a strong protest against the plan here with Postmaster General Anthony Frank.

"Our experience with Friday drops ... wherein our mail is shipped to Brooklyn for the weekend, usually has been disastrous," she said in a letter this week to Frank. "This is unacceptable."

"Even a one-day delay in re-
(See MAIL, Page A 2)

(From Page A 1)

ceipt of Social Security or pension checks, medical or legal notices, or even a letter from a loved one, could be devastating," she wrote.

The congresswoman urged construction of a separate general mail facility for the Island, noting that every other city borough and a number of less populated counties in the state had their own.

She told Frank that as the Island's population is nearing 500,000 and continues to grow, so did the "necessity of reliable mail service."

Steve Kowal, the head of the

Island local of the postal workers union, predicted the plan will become a "heated issue" and will lead to a deterioration of the already poor mail service in the borough.

"We are going to do what we have to do to stop this," he said.

Kowal said it was already common practice on the Island to avoid mailing letters on Friday after 3 p.m. because after that they "get waylaid" to Brooklyn and delayed for days.

He also contended that the transfer plan would affect inter-borough mail because the the

Postal Service has not installed any special collection boxes for these letters on the street. "All they have are a few small drops in the postal stations," he said.

He estimated that letters addressed for delivery within the borough accounted for 40 percent of its mail volume.

Mail service between Staten Island and the other boroughs can be particularly unreliable, sometimes taking a week for a first class letter to travel from the Island to Manhattan.

The congresswoman also noted that the Manor Road center was designed to take a second story

addition. She said that if this space was deemed inadequate for the new facility, it could be accommodated at many other sites on the Island.

Ms. DeBari said she was not aware of the "Friday drops" problem cited by Ms. Molinari. "If she has any problems with mail service, we would love to have them brought to our attention so we can do something about them."

She said it was not known yet how many employees at the Manor Road office could be affected by the transfer plan. "It's still being looked at," she said. "Nothing is in concrete."

SAVE STATEN ISLAND MAIL SERVICE

Staten Island Advance
Monday, August 13, 1990

Brooklyn to handle Island mail

Starting Oct. 1991, The Post Office plans to truck much of the mail processed at the Manor Road Post Office to a Brooklyn/Queens location.

Staten Island Advance
Friday, September 21, 1990

Brooklyn flunks mail test

Island letters disappear for 4-6 days

Staten Island Advance survey results show delivery time dropped from 1 to 2 day delivery time when mail processed on Staten Island to 4 to 6 days when processed in Brooklyn.

**Petition available
to save the Island's
general post office**

By ANN MARIE BARRON
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER
S.I. ADVANCE

**SIGN THE PETITION
TO KEEP STATEN ISLAND'S
MAIL ON STATEN ISLAND**

LOOK FOR OUR
SAVE STATEN ISLAND MAIL BOOTH
AT THE FERRY TERMINAL

OCT. 15th to 19th

6:30 AM - 9:30 AM

For More Information and
Copies of the Petition,
Complete Coupon on
Right and Mail to:

**SAVE STATEN
ISLAND MAIL**

P.O. BOX 83
S.I., N.Y. 10314

PAID FOR BY THE S.I. LOCAL AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO

Yes, I want to sign the petition to
Postmaster General Anthony Frank to
keep Staten Island's mail on Staten Island

NAME/
ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

TEL. # _____