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Series: Sununu, John, Files
Subseries: Correspondence Files

OA/ID Number: 29133
Folder ID Number: 29133-002

Folder Title:
Unanswered Mail 10/91 [2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	15	24	5	6

10/14/91.

Mr. John Sununu ,Chief of Staff

The White House ,

Washington , D. C .

Dear Sir ,

Having watched the Hill & Thomas hearings on T V, it seems to me that the actions taken by Miss Hill are politically motivated .

Senator Joe Biven tried to shut up Senator Hatch telling him that "he would let him finish ,but would cut him off real quick".

It was obvious that Senator Biden did not like the questions asked by Senator Hatch . Possibly he was afraid the truth would be then learned.

Senator Biden's office is responsible for starting this affair with the aid of the F.B.I. , and this should be investigated .

Testimony given by J.C. Alvarez was the most damaging to Miss Hill.

There was little disclosed regarding Miss Hill's past up to this point in time . I don't see how she could keep this a secret for so many years.

This doesn't make sense to me !

Who is paying the expense for bringing her large family to ~~W~~ashington ?

To reiterate , further investigation is badly needed .

I have great faith in President Bush's ability to select a good and trustworthy person to the Supreme Court. Judge Thomas "fills the bill".

It was obvious that several senators on the comittee had their minds made up before hearing all of the testimony.

One senator with a very bad background has a nerve to question Thomas.

Miss Hill's lack of advancement no doubt has made her very angry .

This entire situation is a disgrace, and should never have been made public.

Sincerely yours ,

G. A. E.

The Palm Beach Post

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1991

FINAL EDITION

4

78 PAGES

35 CENTS

Race for credibility intensifies

'One thing Anita told me that struck me . . . was that Mr. Thomas had said to her, "You know, if you had witnesses, you'd have a perfect case against me." '

SUSAN HOERCHNER
Onetime classmate of Anita Hill



Hill



Thomas

'The Clarence Thomas that I have known for 10 years is absolutely incapable of the abuses described by Professor Hill.'

DIANE HOLT
Clarence Thomas' former personal secretary

Witnesses back up Hill and Thomas

By **BOB DART**
Palm Beach Post Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — In a marathon struggle for credibility, four friends of Anita Hill testified Sunday that she confided to them in the 1980s that Clarence Thomas had sexually harassed her.

But, soon afterward, women who worked with Thomas told the Senate Judiciary Committee that the Supreme Court nominee was 'incapable' of such behavior and suggested that Hill was lying or fantasizing.

Outside the crowded hearing room, a polygraph expert said Hill had passed a lie detector test, which her supporters said raised her believability.





THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anita Hill supporters Judge Susan Hoerchner (from left), Ellen Wells, John Carr and Joel Paul said she told them of sexual harassment years ago.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thomas' former EEOC co-workers J.C. Alvarez (from left), Nancy Fitch, Diane Holt and Phyllis Berry portrayed Thomas as dignified and Hill as calculating.

White House behind Hill attack

Fearing Thomas was doomed, aides launched a counteroffensive.

New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — The fierce Republican counterattack on Anita Hill's testimony sprang from high-level White House consultations among dispirited officials who concluded that the only way to save Clarence Thomas' nomination was to cast doubt on Hill's character and motivations.

When the hearings began Friday, the White House avoided urging the Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Commit-

tee to attack Hill because President Bush's aides were split.

Aides who backed Thomas said the gloves should come off, but some feared the political dangers of attacking a black woman's character.

There were also aides who could not make up their minds and a small group that backed Hill, officials said Sunday.

But by Friday afternoon, as Hill's damaging testimony continued, the mood at the White House sank to what an official called "a new level of depression," and some advisers feared the nomination was doomed. The odds on a lunchtime bet between two White House aides were 5-to-1 against confirmation.

A group of Thomas friends — led by C. Boyden Gray, the White House counsel, and including J. Michael Luttig, an assistant attorney general who has been confirmed as a federal judge but not yet sworn in — decided their only course was to pick apart Hill's case even if it involved a direct attack.

Bush approved the effort, but it was decided he needed to stand apart from it, officials said. The White House assembled a team of lawyers from its counsel's office, the Justice Department and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to amass evidence

Please see STRATEGY/8A

SEARCH FOR 'SMOKING GUN'

Sunbelt Democrats will likely cast the votes that determine the outcome of the Thomas vote. And at least one of them believes no 'smoking gun' exists. **STORY, 6A**

■ **TEST OF TRUTH** — Lawyers for Anita Hill say she passed a lie detector, but it isn't admissible in a trial. **STORY, 8A**

■ **EXCERPTS** — Longtime acquaintances of both Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill testify in efforts to boost the credibility of both. **TEXT, 6A**

■ **SHOW OF SUPPORT** — President Bush, saying he's been glued to the TV, calls the Senate hearings 'outrageous.' **STORY, 8A**

■ **GETTING TRIVIAL** — A bit of hypocrisy taints the feminist firestorm over the Thomas accusations. **OPINION, 13A**

Thomas

By BOB DART

Palm Beach Post Washington Bureau

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But, soon afterward, women who worked with Thomas told the Senate Judiciary Committee that the Supreme Court nominee was 'incapable' of such behavior and suggested that Hill was lying or fantasizing.

Outside the crowded hearing room, a polygraph expert said Hill had passed a lie detector test, which her supporters said raised her believability.

And, as the hearing that began at noon went pass midnight, committee chairman Joseph Biden, D-Del., said a woman expected to testify that Thomas had made unwelcome advances toward her would not be called before the committee.

Biden announced that Angela Wright, a former aide whom Thomas fired from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, would not testify. Instead, her statement to the committee staff would be added to the hearing record.

The hearing opened with friends and colleagues of Hill testifying that her allegations against Thomas date back nearly a decade.

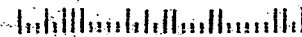
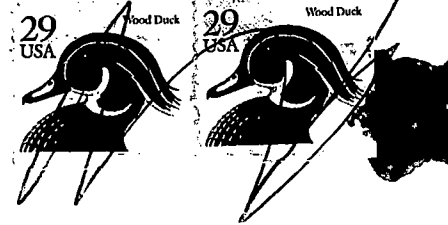
In the early 1980s, "she told me she was being subjected to sexual harassment by her boss. That boss was Clarence Thomas," said Susan Hoerchner, a California administrative judge and a onetime Yale Law School classmate of Hill.

"One thing Anita told me that struck me particularly, and I remember almost verbatim, was that Mr. Thomas had said to her, 'You know, if you had witnesses, you'd

Please see THOMAS/6A

Mr. John Sununu ,Chief of Staff
The White House ,
Washington ,
D. C.20500 .

PERSONAL.



cl secretary John Sumner
"Anna Peruz - press secretary

Oct 17, 1991

Good morning Anna,

Frankly writing to the "White House" staff is a very frustrating effort - one doesn't expect direct answers from say Sumner, Scowcroft or Fitzwater - but it does seem odd that their staffs would fail to extend the common courtesy of a reply - poor manners or arrogance?

I feel that my military service WWII my American heritage - James of Ohio* and my wife's as a Taft kin should be rewarded with something better than the shabby treat ment afforded me - enough said!

Warren B. Jones

* American Revolution hero as chronicled by Jane Grey

** William Howard Taft - President + Chief Justice
my kin -



Secretary - John Sununu
"The White House"
Washington D.C.

94606

Oakland, Ca.

William B. Jones
712 Biala St
Alburt

Ted Wright

COTTAGE 324
SEA ISLAND, GEORGIA 31561

October 15, 1991

Mr. Gregory Peck
Chief, Wetlands and Aquatic
Resources Regulatory Branch
Mail Code (A-104F)
U.S.E.P.A.
401 M Street, SW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Mr. Peck:

My comments on the revisions of the 1989
Wetlands manual are attached.

I support true wetlands preservation (swamps,
marches, and bogs), but the 1989 and 1989
Revised Wetlands manuals go too far and control
the use of land that is not wet.

The government has gone too far . . . please go
back to what it was before 1989.

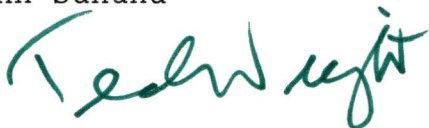
Sincerely,

Ted Wright

/jm

Attachment

c: John Sununu



COMMENTS ON "1989 FEDERAL MANUAL FOR IDENTIFYING AND DELINEATING
JURISDICTIONAL WETLANDS", Proposed Revision

General Comments:

1. The revised manual is an improvement over the 1989 manual. Additional improvements are needed.
2. Private property rights must be addressed and made part of this process.
3. The revised manual continues to be extremely complicated and almost impossible to understand-even the regulatory employees have trouble with it. This issue is not that complex and it appears that it is being made complex to confuse property owners and the general public.
4. The permitting process should have time limits established. Delays and indecision are very costly to the property owner. Suggest a 90-day permit period from receipt of application to a yes or no decision by the Corps of Engineers. Good business management is needed in the permitting and review process.
5. Highly recommend that the 1989 manual and all revisions be voided. That the 1987 manual, with soils and plant list available at that time, be used for the permitting process. And immediately set up a Blue Ribbon committee of scientist, land owners, foresters and land developers to formulate a Wetlands Manual for identifying and delineating jurisdictional wetlands.
6. Regional and even state wetlands plant and soils list should be developed by this same Blue Ribbon committee.

Specific Recommendations:

1. The requirement that all 3 wetlands criteria must be satisfied, each independent of the other two, must be clearly and precisely spelled out in the manual. e.g.: field inspectors should not be allowed to assume that since the soil is hydric that hydrology and plant requirements are also met.
2. "Disturbed Wetland Areas" should be eliminated from this manual. Almost all the land east of the Mississippi River has been disturbed at one time or another and much of that west of the river. Wetland classification must be made on the present condition and function of the land.

If left in the manual, this will undo the intention of President Bush, his council on Competitiveness and the improvements that have been made with this revised manual.
3. Change the "growing season" definition to agree with what is universally accepted: "from the average date of the last killing frost in the spring to the average date of the first killing frost in the fall."
4. Facultative vegetation is neutral, therefore, it should not be counted or even used to determine if the hydrophytic vegetation criteria is met.
5. Even though 3 years of water table data and 5 years of aerial photography is not a requirement, their inclusion in this manual could be interpreted as requiring this length of time before a delineation could be made. This optional data requirement should be eliminated from this manual. The use of these data should be optional and used when they are available and reliable.
6. The manual should state emphatically that a single secondary indicator does not determine whether a criterion has been met.
7. Change the hydric soils criterion so it is consistent with the requirement that soils must be saturated to the surface for a minimum of 21 days. The revised manual section on hydric soils still indicates that a water table of 6 to 18 inches below the surface determines hydrology. This inconsistency must be changed.

BERND LEMBCKE
213 FIVE POUNDS ROAD
ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GA 31522

October 14, 1991

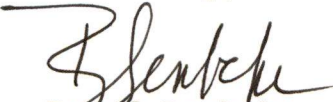
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/bg
attachments

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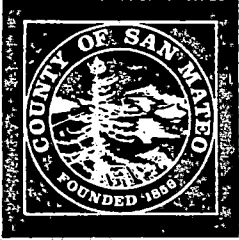
B. Lembcke
213 Five Pounds Road
St. Simons Island, GA 31522



John Sununu, Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



Board of Supervisors



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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RICHARD L. SILVER
CLERK OF THE BOARD

(415) 363-4566

October 15, 1991

The Honorable Tom Campbell
U.S. House of Representatives
313 Cannon House Office Building
1st and Independence Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Campbell:

The recent Medicaid regulations that eliminate or restrict a wide variety of state financing approaches will create severe problems for many state budgets and, more importantly, could reduce health services to poor families, their children and the elderly. Under attack are voluntary contributions and provider-based taxes which have been used by states, counties and providers to meet increasing service demands and rising health care costs. The use of some types of intergovernmental transfers, an integral part of Medicaid since its enactment, are also in question.

I urge you to oppose the regulations and seek a legislative remedy.

In the 1990 OBRA legislation, Congress extended the moratorium on regulations affecting voluntary contributions. Congress intended to continue allowing provider-based taxes. Limitations on intergovernmental transfers was not even discussed.

Counties participate in Medicaid by making payments to their public hospitals long term care facilities, and health departments. In some states, counties pay a portion of state Medicaid match. These methods have enabled us to serve more Medicaid-eligible individuals.

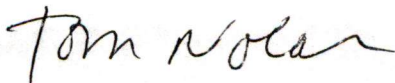
This measure seeks to maximize federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program. Specifically, this legislation provides additional flexibility for state Medicaid participation to help finance services rendered by disproportionate share hospitals. San Mateo County General Hospital is a disproportionate share hospital and would benefit from this funding. It is estimated that San Mateo County General could receive as much as \$2 million through this provision of the Act.

The Honorable Tom Campbell
October 15, 1991
Page 2

The need for services will not end if the regulations stand. What would end is another piece of intergovernmental cooperation in addressing a national problem; providing health care to the poor.

Legislation and withdrawal of the regulations is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Nolan".

TOM NOLAN
President of the Board

mmp/1099

cc: National Association of Counties
Governor John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff, White House

Board of Supervisors



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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CLERK OF THE BOARD

(415) 363-4566

October 15, 1991

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U.S. House of Representatives
1526 Longworth House Office Building
New Jersey & Independence Avenue S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20515

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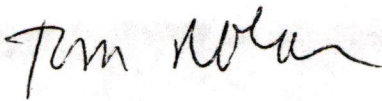
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mmp/1099

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Board of Supervisors



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(415) 363-4566

October 15, 1991

The Honorable John Seymour
U.S. Senate
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 720
Constitution Avenue & 2nd Street N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Seymour:

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U.S. Senate
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 112
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Washington, D.C. 20510

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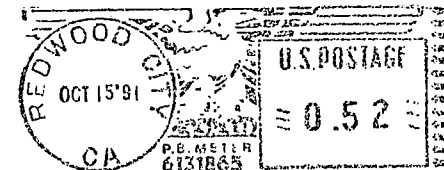
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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER
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Governor John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500



President George Bush
The White House
Washington D.C. 20001
Attention: Mr. John Sununu, Chief of Staff

Dear President Bush:

It is our understanding that you are considering the appointment of former California Governor George Deukmejian to the office of Attorney General, should a vacancy occur.

All gun owners would strongly oppose such consideration of Mr. Deukmejian. Let me explain why.

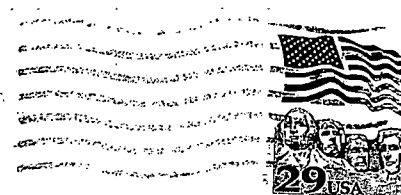
In 1982, gun owners in California were threatened with the loss of their right to own hand guns by the passage of Proposition 15, on the November ballot. Over fifteen million dollars was spent in opposition. We not only defeated the gun-control measure, but our absentee ballot efforts helped elect Mr. Deukmejian, who had stated his opposition to Proposition 15.

Much to our dismay, however, we learned his stand was more political than philosophical. Later, he would sign into law two of the most restrictive gun laws in the nation, literally causing tens of thousands of innocent, law-abiding citizens to be categorized as criminals. As U.S. Attorney General, Mr. Deukmejian would be responsible for protecting our Second Amendment rights which he failed to do at the state level. We shudder to think of what he would do on the federal level.

Sincerely,

Clyde Harris Jr.
RD #2 Box 184-4
Jelenople, PA 16063

P.S. I expect a reply to this letter on what the President intends to do.



President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20001

Attn: Mr John Sienunu

CLYDE R HARRIS, JR
RD #2 BOX 189-4
ZELLENOPLE, PA 16063

John Sununu, Chief of Staff

White House

Washington DC 20500



USA 19

Sir: It is my understanding
that a Justice of the Supreme
Court should get guidance
from the Constitution - and -
NOT FROM THE POPE!!
So now we will be dictated to
by the Catholic Church - What
happened to separation
Church and State? You surely
are not a paragon of virtue!

(11) 10-18-91

3
F/copy

Michael D. Frohling
Rural Route 3, Box 209
Brunswick, Ga 31525-9328

October 14, 1991

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Chief, Wetlands and Aquatic Resources Regulatory Branch
Mail Code (A104F)
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Michael Frohling

c: Virginia Tippie
Robin O'Malley
Thomas Weimer
LaJuana Wilcher
Dr. Edward Dickey
Robert Grady
David Gibbons
Richard Porter
Teresa A. Gorman
Dave Juday
Allan Fitzsimmons
James Mosely
Paul Bordack
Joseph Canny
William Myers
Edward S. Goldstein
Congressman Lindsay Thomas
Senator Sam Nunn
Senator Wyche Fowler
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RR 3 Box 209
Brunswick, GA 31525-9328



JOHN SUNUNU, CHIEF OF STAFF
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20500

J.S. Garton

October 3, 1991

FYI

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

It is with outrage and dismay that I have followed the work of your administration in systematically undermining this country's environmental protection legislation. Your presidency will be remembered for its philosophy that all environmental protections should be hostage to private profits -- regardless of the public interest or scientific foundation.

It is diabolically cynical to fashion environmental policy in response to your election year needs. The U.S. economy is stalled. Protecting adequate ecological reserves for the Northern Spotted Owl interferes with some logging opportunities which might put a few people back on the payroll -- at least long enough to get through another election -- and might spark the economic recovery that your election campaign thirsts for so desperately.

You recently told Bob Strauss that he was the first person to tell you that he didn't support you and wouldn't vote for you in '92 -- and that's why you chose him to be your ambassador to the Soviet Union. You ought to recognize the same need to apply that criteria to your environmental advisers and the Chief of Staff, because they don't understand ecology, population, or the long term consequences of failure to act without compromise in response to these demands.

Call off your "God Committee." Call off your wetlands redefinition. Call off your Mexico City policy.* OPEN YOUR EYES.

Robert Gates is under attack now for politicizing intelligence gathering and analysis. That's precisely what is going on in your administration's environmental activities. In no case is the American public served, and certainly not the best interests of the nation.

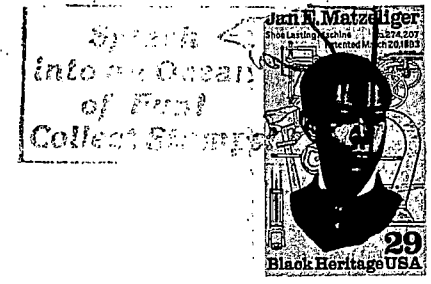
Only you can do something about it. I ask you to set your mind to learning about global and national carrying capacity, biodiversity, extinction rates, human population impacts -- and the multitude of ways that the United States, its development and consumption patterns as well as its basic economic theories and practices are destroying and degrading the national and global survival system. Seek out teachers who, like Bob Strauss, will tell you the truth, not just what you already believe. Then act. Do the right thing.

And frankly, if you do, you'll stand a better chance of reelection than if not.....

*oops - did I forget to mention your
scuttling of the Clean Air Act?

A fervent American,


Jan Garton
219 Westwood Rd.
Manhattan, Ks. 66502



JOHN SONUNU
CHIEF OF STAFF
THE WHITE HOUSE
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20500

Providence Memorial Hospital 2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902 • 915/542-6011



October 11, 1991

The Honorable Peggy Rosson
Texas State Senate
1551 Montana Avenue
El Paso, Texas 79902

Dear Senator Rosson:

On September 12, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) published regulations to eliminate or restrict federal matching payments for a variety of State Medicaid funds. The regulations will wreak havoc on State Medicaid budgets and place further strain on the national safety net hospitals. The rule, which is hopelessly ambiguous, calls into question states' use of provider-specific taxes which represent a vital source of Medicaid funds in Texas.

In the 1990 OBRA legislation, Congress made its position clear: HCFA was to continue matching provider-based taxes. Now HCFA is seeking to unilaterally change the rules of the game.

I urge you to speak out against the regulations and work legislatively to prevent their implementation. In 1990 the average Texas hospital received almost \$900 less per Medicaid patient than the cost of providing their health care. Additionally, the recession and federally mandated eligibility expansions have contributed to the Medicaid population explosion of almost 25% in Texas. In El Paso, there are many residents who have no health insurance at all but for whom we continue to provide care.

The need for services will not end if the regulations stand. Until a fiscally viable national health policy of caring for America's indigent is designed, these programs are vital to prevent the collapse of the health care industry's ability to care for our country's poorest and neediest.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lawrence Scanlon
Vice President and CFO

LS:lrg

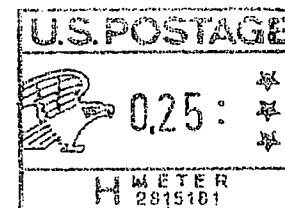
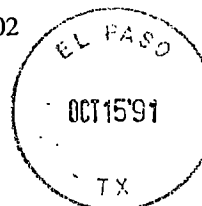
cc: The Honorable Louis W. Sullivan, Secretary, Health and Human Services
Governor John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff, White House

Providence Memorial Hospital



2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS



The Honorable John H. Sununu
Governor
Chief of Staff
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500



Providence Memorial Hospital 2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902 • 915/542-6011



October 11, 1991

The Honorable Phil Gramm
Texas State Senate
123 Pioneer Plaza
El Paso, Texas 79901

Dear Senator Gramm:

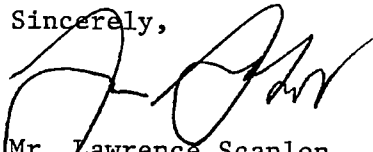
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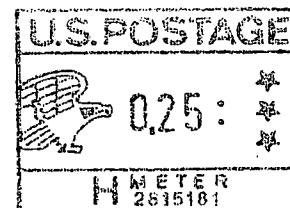
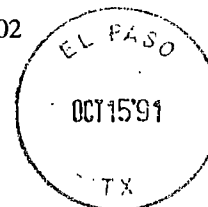
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Providence Memorial Hospital



2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS



The Honorable John H. Sununu
Governor
Chief of Staff
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500



October 14, 1991

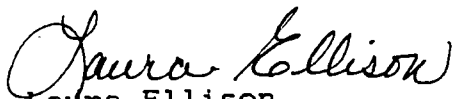
Mr. Gregory Peck
Chief, Wetlands & Aquatic
Resources Regulatory Branch
Mail Code (A-104F)
U.S.E.P.A.
401 M Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20460

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Sincerely,



Laura Ellison
2511 Demere Road
St. Simons Island, GA
31522

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General Comments:

1. The revised manual is an improvement over the 1989 manual. Additional improvements are needed.
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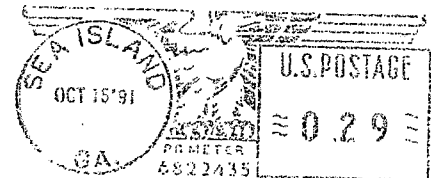
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John Sununu, Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500



850 Mallory Street
Apartment C-4
St. Simons Island, Ga 31522

October 15, 1991

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Regulatory Branch
Mail Code (A-104F)
U.S.E.P.A.
401 M Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20460

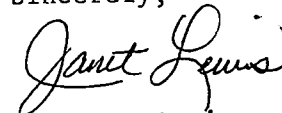
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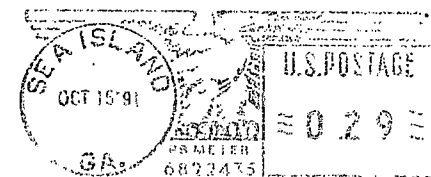
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October 14, 1991

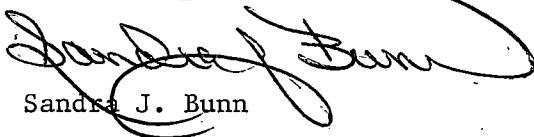
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Chief, Wetlands and Aquatic Resources Regulatory Branch
Mail Code (A104F)
U.S.E.P.A.
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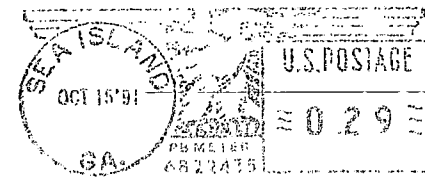
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The White House
Washington, DC 20500



October 14, 1991

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U.S.E.P.A.
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339 Brockinton Drive
St. Simons Island, GA 31522-1667

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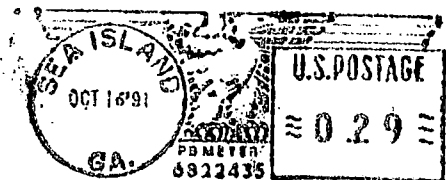
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John Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC 20500



Providence Memorial Hospital

2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902 • 915/542-6011



October 11, 1991

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Texas State Representative
2314 Montana
El Paso, Texas 79903

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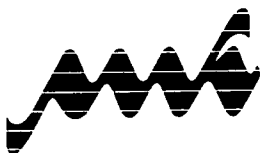
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Mr. Lawrence Scanlon
Vice President and CFO

LS:lrg

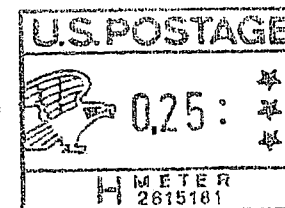
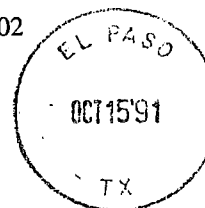
cc: The Honorable Louis W. Sullivan, Secretary, Health and Human Services
Governor John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff, White House

Providence Memorial Hospital



2001 N. Oregon Street • El Paso, TX 79902

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS



The Honorable John H. Sununu
Governor
Chief of Staff
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500



COPY

October 15, 1991

Mr John Doggett
32 Sundown Parkway
Austin, Texas 787--

Dear Mr Doggett:

I hope that I have the right Doggett: If Judge Thomas is confirmed for the Supreme Court later to-day I believe that a great deal of the credit is due to your testimony at the hearing. It may prove to have been the turning point in the entire affair. Many people that I know commented on your superb command of English and the way you devastated the Liberal Senator Mentzebaum of Ohio who set out to discredit you. In 60 years of watching political contests I have never seen anything to compare with your proving that Mentzebaum was just another character assassin who stop at nothing to discredit anyone who opposes him.

I write as a white Southerner and member of Sons of Confederate Veterans etc. I feel that this entire nation is indebted to you for taking your stand for justice. I am sending a copy of this letter to the White House, and to Judge Thomas.

Enclosed is a cartoon from to-days Dallas Morning News and an article by Safire.

If ever you enter Texas Politics you will have a staunch supporter here.

Best wishes,

Rick Cortyn

Incl a/s

cc a/s

COPY

October 15, 1991

Mr John Doggett
32 Sundown Parkway
Austin, Texas 787--

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DEORE'S WORLD

The Dallas Morning News '91, Universal Press Syndicate 10/15



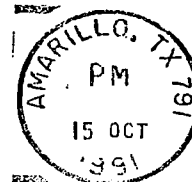
SEN. METZEN "BOMB"

Bill DeOre/The Dallas Morning News

3801 Lewis Lane
Amarillo, Texas 79109

might
He ~~would~~ like to see enclosed
cartoon and a copy of a letter
to John Doggett is enclosed.

Hon Governor Sununu
Chief of Staff
THE WHITE HOUSE
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington D.C. 20500



10/9/91
Letter to Editor
Morning Sentinel
Waterville, Maine 04901

Copy

When Senator George Mitchell and Senator Joseph Biden hoisted Anita Hill's desire for anonymity in her accusation against Judge Thomas above the national interest, they played dangerous politics. It was their plain duty to immediately transfer the Hill complaint to the President for FBI investigation and reconsideration of the Thomas nomination. Instead, they usurped the executive function, sat on the Hill affidavit until it was leaked to the press, and deliberately risked the confirmation of an unfit man to the Supreme Court.

Though Judge Thomas might have been denied confirmation for other reasons, if the Hill accusation becomes the efficient cause of denial, it will establish the odious precedent that a last minute smear can bar future male nominees from confirmation. On the other hand, if the Senate disregards the Hill accusation and confirms Thomas, the time-bomb of other belated "disclosures" by Anita Hill would certainly undermine public confidence in the whole confirmation process. In the meantime, Judge Thomas, almost saintly before the woman scorned showed up with her stale and improbable story, the media has whipped up an emotional public outcry to strip Judge Thomas of his right to the presumption of innocence--for which Senators Biden and Mitchell should be publicly boiled in political oil.

Jerome G. Daviau

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Mr. John Sununu
The White House
Washington D. C.

