

Office Memo

Date: 4/20/93

To: Kerry
Amy
Ed
John

From: *Adrienne*

Re: March on Washington Lobby Days phone calls

When someone calls in they should be told about the **Briefings** in DC at the Bellevue Hotel 15 "E" Street NW. There is a leaflet if the person has a fax machine.

The briefings will be every hour on the hour and a person only has to go to *one* briefing no matter how many meetings they are attending. The briefing will take less than one hour and each person will receive a briefing packet and a packet for their congressperson. Then they will be asked to return to the briefing area after their meeting to de-brief and write thank you notes. It is important that the information collected at these meetings be shared with all the groups.

The schedule of SF and CA Senator meetings is on a piece of paper and can be faxed also. The large meetings with Pelosi, Boxer and Feinstein are open to the public. The staff meeting times are also open to the public but if a person stops by the briefing area they will probably hook up with some other people also going to the meetings.

For people going to other state meetings tell them to stop by the Bellevue and look at the meeting board for meeting times and dates. I will print out the list of meetings I have now but these meetings keep changing daily.

Also tell people we are looking for volunteers at the Bellevue to help us run the "Briefing Area".

Paul and I are staying at The Hampshire Hotel 1310 New Hampshire Ave. NW 20036
(202)296-7600 fax (202)293-2476 toll free (800)368-5691
Paul is in room 718 and I am in room 717.

The phone number at the Bellevue Hotel is 202-638-0900. I will be at the briefings most of the time.

The Bellevue Hotel

15 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

(202) 638-0900
1-800-DC-ROOMS

Main Floor Meeting Rooms will be used:

The Atrium - Registration
The Packard Grille - De-Briefing Room
The Lexington Room - Briefing Room

March on Washington Lobby Days:

Wednesday, April 21 5 p.m. - Close

Thursday, April 22 9 a.m. - Close

Friday, April 23 9 a.m. - Close

Sunday, April 25 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Monday, April 26 9 a.m. - Close

Tuesday, April 27 9 a.m. - Close

Briefings every hour.

Any questions or comments please notify Mobilization Against AIDS
(415) 863-4676.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi
Friday 4/23 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Town Meeting
Rayburn 2360

Senator Barbara Boxer
Tuesday 4/27 4 p.m.
Hart 902

Senator Diane Feinstein
Monday 4/26 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Reception
Hart 216

Open Meetings with Staff:

Rep. Nancy Pelosi's office
Meet with Steve Morin
4/22, 4/23, 4/26, 4/27 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Cannon 240

Senator Barbara Boxer's office
Meet with Peter Tiege
4/22, 4/23, 4/26, 4/27 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Hart 112

Senator Diane Feinstein's office
Meet with Ralph Payne
4/22, 4/23, 4/26, 4/27 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Hart 331

Inter-office
Memorandum

To: Ben

From: Kerry

Re: John Bouffard report

Date: June 7, 1993

Hey bud, you never returned my hard copy of JB's report on the March on Washington.

Please do so NOW.

Thanks!

SORRY BUD!
HERE IT IS 😊
Ben

May 25, 1993

To: Paul Boneberg

From: John Bouffard

RE: **Overview of Washington Lobbying Activities in April**

Mobilization Against AIDS coordinated a broad range of strategic lobbying activities during the March on Washington in April, affecting AIDS policy, enabling greater constituent involvement in the legislative process, and enhancing MAA's national visibility as a lobbying organization. These activities broke into two main parts:

- I. **MAA organized MOW meetings for the Western United States (Adrienne)**
 - Meetings focussed on the full March demands (AIDS funding, civil rights, and lifting the ban on gays in the military)
 - Preparation of all AIDS lobbying materials for the MOW
 - MAA conducted the AIDS component of the hourly briefing sessions for the 5,000 to 10,000 constituent lobbyists over a five day period
 - Meetings were held with Congressional delegations from every western state
- II. **MAA organized AIDS-specific meetings in conjunction with the MOW**
 - Meetings dealt with AIDS funding, general policy, and international issues
 - Participating were representatives from national AIDS organizations (including MAA board members at all meetings) and constituents when appropriate
 - Meetings occurred with high members of the Executive Branch and with leading members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees.

The AIDS-specific meetings were highly productive and in many cases strategically dove-tailed to effectively promote our policy objectives. The following summary highlights the major advances made through these meetings:

AIDS Policy Meetings:

Phil Lee, Under Secretary of State, Dept. of Health and Human Services:

Discussed: prevention issues, reform of drug development programs, reform of Global AIDS programs, and the Guantanamo Bay crisis.

David Kessler, Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration

Discussed: Kessler proposed a high level HHS-Industry-Community Task Force to speed up drug development and asked MAA to ascertain community support for it.

Anthony Fauci, Director, National Institutes of Health AIDS Programs

Discussed: Fauci briefed on the state of drug development. He was unsupportive of proposals to reform AIDS research at NIH and had concerns about increased AIDS funding relative to overall NIH research.

Sam Broder, Director, National Cancer Institute

Discussed: Broder gave a circular analysis of the state of AIDS research and possible structural reform; he strongly favored reform based on "results" not on "research entitlements".

Tim Westmoreland, Consul, House Sub-Committee on Health and the Environment

Discussed: General overview for the House authorizing committee perspective. Westmoreland expressed concern over CDC reform, immigration issues, and quality control in ASO's use of increased AIDS funding.

Global AIDS Policy Meetings

Tim Wirth, Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs

Discussed: This was the highest level AIDS meeting yet to occur in the State Dept. Wirth reiterated the Department's commitment to global AIDS issues. MAA sought commitment on three points: a high-level department task force to reform AIDS programs, the strong inclusion of human rights analysis in U.S. AIDS programs, and including AIDS in the up-coming summit of G-7 nations.

John Shadduck, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights

Discussed: In a very friendly meeting, Shadduck pledged strong involvement by the Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs in global AIDS programs.

Helene Gayle, Director, AIDS Division, Agency for International Development

Discussed: Gayle provided an overview of U.S. global AIDS programs, nearly all of which fall under her department.

Rep. Tom Lantos, Chair, Human Rights Caucus of the House

Discussed: Lantos pledged unequivocal support on AIDS human rights issues including holding a Caucus briefing on the issue, which will be the first major discussion of global AIDS human rights issues in Congress

Rep. Jim McDermott, Chair, Congressional Task Force on Global AIDS Issues

Discussed: McDermott gave an overview of his perspective and priorities, one of which is a debate on AIDS in the UN General Assembly. He was very critical on past U.S. programs and urged the possible removal of it from AID.

Jeff O'Malley, Executive Director, Harvard Global AIDS Policy Institute

Discussed: O'Malley, director of one of the few AIDS policy groups in the world, urged us to prioritize structural reform of U.S. AIDS programs, inclusion of AIDS in the G-7 Summit, and that AIDS funding not be tied absolutely to Human Rights issues.

Federal AIDS Funding Meetings

Senator Dianne Feinstein (Appropriations Committee)

Senator Patty Murray (Appropriations Sub-Committee)

Senator Barbara Boxer (Budget Committee)

Office of Senator Robert Byrd (Chair, Appropriations Committee)

Office of Senator Sasser (Chair, Budget Committee)

Rep. Martin Sabo (Chair, Budget Committee)

Rep. Nancy Pelosi (Appropriations Sub-Committee)

Office of Rep. Vic Fazio (Appropriations Committee)

Office of Steny Hoyer (Appropriations Committee)

Office of Rep. Richard Gephardt, Majority Leader (Appropriations Committee)

Office of Rep. Rosa DeLauro (Appropriations Sub-Committee)

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X SANSOME & BATTERY

Office Memo

Date: May 16, 1993

To: Members of the Political Strategy Committee

From: Ben

Re: **March On Washington Lobby Days**

I thought the March On Washington Lobby Days were a success for MAA. The following factors stand out in my mind: considerable constituent participation, the high volume of meetings, the consistently good attendance, the presence of representatives of many of the community organizations with which we work or hope to work (which resulted in good networking opportunities), the high visibility of MAA thanks to its many representatives, MAA's leading role in the efforts, the good feedback I heard from all involved, and the motivational aspects of the experience for all involved.

Attached are most of my notes from the meetings I attended. The level of detail in my note-taking varied according to the relevance of the discussions to MAA's concerns, and according to the number of photographs I paused to take. Also attached are photocopies of some of the photos, with captions.

MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with FDA Commissioner David Kessler, 4/22/93

David Kessler:

We can't be caught between AIDS groups, and we need your help on that. We need ideas and support.

Paul Boneberg:

We can help.

Kessler:

The Nutrition Labeling and Immigration Act will establish a standard for the FDA for foods. Standards for dietary supplements such as vitamins will be similarly composed. Amino acids will be studied, but not removed from the market.

John James:

I want to make sure amino acids aren't taken off the market after the act takes effect on December 31.

Kessler:

Get the data to support them.

Bart Casimir:

What about access to the FDA for alternative therapies such as acupuncture or herbal tea?

Kessler:

The office of alternative therapies at the NIH (Dr. Joe Jacobs) could handle that info.

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MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Tom Lantos and his wife Annette, 4/22/93

[Rep. Lantos is the only survivor of the Holocaust in Congress. His wife is also a survivor. Mrs. Lantos is the executive director of the Congressional Human Rights caucus.]

[Paul Boneberg raised the issue of the NIH reauthorization act as a principal issue to watch on AIDS issues.]

[Julie Dorf asked for leadership by the congressman on lesbian and gay human rights issues. Dorf asked specifically for a "dear colleague" letter from the Congressional Human Rights caucus.]

[Re the gays in the military issue: Dr. King (a member of Lantos' staff, I think) pointed out that Rep. Dellums will hold hearings soon so that our side's views may be aired. Tom Nolan asked for Rep. Lantos to exercise his influence on this issue. Dr. King said that Lantos' approach is to quietly lobby other members. Boneberg suggested that Lantos use his position on the Foreign Affairs Committee to point out that other nations' militaries include gays to no adverse effect. Dr. King pointed out that the Israeli army is integrated. Constituents Paul Perkovic and Dr. Eric Trefelner asked if the House can do anything to grant immunity from reprisals to any lesbian and gay servicemembers who may wish to testify about discrimination in the military. Dr. King pointed out that immunity is usually granted for legal matters rather than for psychological abuse.]

Lantos:
You will get full and enthusiastic support on these issues.

[Boneberg addressed the issue of the murders of lesbian and gay Mexicans.]

Lantos:
Excuse me--I just want to point out that at the dedication of the Holocaust Memorial this morning, lesbians and gays were strongly acknowledged.

Boneberg:
On the issue of the Mexicans--we need to convey to the Mexican government that this is a significant issue which must be addressed.

Lantos:
If you will draft the appropriate letter, I will sign it and forward it to the President. I would be happy to be guided by you in this matter--you know all the players. It would be very good if we could have a Republican co-signer. I'll ask any Republican colleague you recommend, if there is one.

Boneberg:

We have other concerns. For example, condom distribution. If women are enslaved, they have no control over their bodies and the prevention programs won't work. If lesbians and gays are disempowered, they can't take an effective role in leading this issue as they do here.

Lantos:

Please tell Tim Wirth that I'm supportive on this issue, and he and I can make a strong case to the State Dept.

Boneberg:

We want the State Dept. to raise AIDS as an issue at the G7 summit.

Lantos:

It's a rational, intelligent thing to do, and the worst they could do is try to come up with reasons why it wouldn't be intelligent. Tim Wirth is the right person to talk to on this issue. Getting Tim Wirth on our side is very important. Former congresspeople and senators get their calls returned, so Tim Wirth is invaluable because his rank is high and he has countless contacts here. He's viewed as an intelligent, reasonably liberal person who made a name for himself in both parties. I don't know his record but it ought to be good.

Boneberg:

Without human rights changes around the world, AIDS prevention will be very difficult. How can we convey that message to Congress?

Dr. King:

A caucus briefing would be a good vehicle.

Lantos:

That's an excellent idea. I would be happy to chair it, and to give it the maximum media coverage. Please recommend to me who should be involved.

Boneberg:

Regarding Guantanamo Bay, thanks for your vote on that issue.

Lantos:

You needn't thank me. It was the right thing to do.

Boneberg:

So what can we do about it?

Lantos:

I'm not optimistic. The polls show that the public doesn't support it. I don't know how far you'll get, but again Tim Wirth is the right person to talk to on that issue.

* * * * *

Lantos:

I want to share something with you that has a negative impact on gay issues. The administration suffered a very serious defeat on the stimulus package. The only thing that passed was the unemployment compensation issue. The administration's profoundly concerned that with the stimulus package losing, the Russian aid package will lose too, which could have profound meaning if the fascists take over from Yeltsin.

Nolan:

We're used to dealing with an enemy in the White House. We don't really know how to deal with a friend. What can you tell us? And how do we approach our remaining opponents?

Lantos:

Peer pressure helps--one colleague asking another to vote with him or her on an issue. Because our relationship is quid pro quo--we owe each other. This is the ultimate small town in America.

Nolan:

What factors led you to be supportive on lesbian and gay issues? In other words, what factors might influence others?

Lantos:

The fundamental human rights argument. I do not judge you--I accept you as a fellow human being. I judge your performance. Of course, having friends like you and Barney makes it easy.

Ben Carlson:

You mentioned that you and your colleagues support one another to an extent, but of course you don't elect one another. Much of the work we must do is with constituents. What should we do, other than what we're already doing?

Lantos:

What you are doing now is very good. Keep doing it.

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MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. James McDermott, 4/22/93

Paul Boneberg:

We're concerned that the transition meetings didn't include global AIDS issues. We're moving forward to try to be supportive of what's being done now. What we're hoping to do is to find out what you think our priorities should be in our meetings with the State Dept. and Congress.

McDermott:

I'm pleased to see what you're doing. If I had my first priority, it would be to try to get the President to talk about the issue publicly, to let the public know that it's not simply a health issue. I'd like to have a full discussion of AIDS in the general assembly of the U.N. That means that our ambassador to the U.N., Madeleine Albright, needs to bring it up and not just as a health issue. With that imprimatur, people will take a new view of the issue. I think this will be one of the top issues in the world by the end of Clinton's term.

Tom Nolan:

How did they respond?

McDermott:

The President did mention it in his speech. But he's got a lot on his mind. I want to keep incrementally raising the focus. The next issue is funding. AIDS is an economic issue that affects global stability. Originally I wasn't interested in focusing on global health issues, but a friend of mine in South Africa invited me to visit to kick the USAID into action, and I saw that the problem is enormous and threatening to a fragile health care delivery system. The civil rights issues are very difficult, and they're going to get worse. Mandatory AIDS testing, especially on travellers, is going to hurt international commerce and tourism. Our example is crucial.

Boneberg:

How do you see the relationship between AIDS and human rights issues affecting women, lesbians and gays, and people of color worldwide?

McDermott:

Elizabeth [X] is someone you should talk to on that issue. Obviously the empowerment of women is essential. Unfortunately, people in this country don't get that because they think of AIDS as a gay male disease, which simply isn't the case in the rest of the world. The leading cause of death among black women in this country is AIDS, and soon it will be the leading cause of death among all women. As the gay community knows well, the grassroots development of AIDS programs worldwide is crucial. AIDS consultants are a growth industry in the U.S., and they travel to other countries to show them how it's done, but not everything that works here will work elsewhere. Programs must be developed from the ground up around the world.

Boneberg:

The gay community in the U.S. doesn't seem to be a priority in U.S. programs. We need to see aggressive leadership on focusing on marginalized groups.

McDermott:

But the attempt to focus on the general population is to try to show people that we're all in the same boat. Otherwise, most people go around thinking they're not at risk. That's why we try to emphasize "ordinary" people--the mainstream. The people I worry most about are my two kids. In the gay community, not many people are denying the threat of AIDS. I think that to appeal to the mainstream will also help them care about the marginalized communities. One of the hardest things to confront is that some people are willing to accept the deaths of gay people because they don't like them. That's another reason why we've focused on the mainstream, so they will get out of denial and care more about stopping AIDS. Sex education in schools is a terrible problem. Schools are backed into a corner of preaching abstinence. Schools tend to be forced to deny that children have sex, or that gay people exist.

Julie Dorf:

How can we help you reform AID? We'd like to see money getting into the hands of the grassroots.

McDermott:

Recount the difficulty in the gay community of putting together an effective program among like-minded people, and getting people to change their behavior--imagine the difficulty of putting together a program for people who are different from you. People must design programs for their own communities. I think that Helene Gale [sp?], the new USAID director, understands this issue but I recommend that you talk to her. Another thing we need to point out is that these programs must be continuous, because children continue to become adults and start having sex--there are always new people to educate. More money should be going into UNDP so we can work on the economic and social issues. Helene could advise you on that. We need to broaden our funding beyond the technical medical matters. We've been giving away money without adequately coordinating what work is being done.

Dorf:

One of my concerns is the connection between funding and human rights issues. Russia, for instance, is still putting people in jail for being gay.

McDermott:

I believe that the human rights issues are going to get worse. Tuberculosis is going to be one factor. When a person gets tuberculosis, the government will say "Ahah! Now we can put that person away because he or she will otherwise spread the disease." The USAID organization hasn't solved this issue--it wasn't set up for it. It never saw itself as a health agency. The mindset is, let's do another program spawning catfish in Kenya. The country directors are agricultural experts or economic experts. USAID has been a way for the U.S. to sell U.S. products overseas. With AIDS, we can't sell anything.

Lloyd:

How hard would it be to reform AID?

McDermott:

It would be very hard. There's a constituency set up around the status quo, with strong economic interests.

Boneberg:

Then what about the prospect that the U.S. remove AIDS from USAID as a program and give it to a part of the State Department?

McDermott:

That might be better. Put it under Tim Wirth. Keep in mind that for the March On Washington you're coming in like a wave on the beach, and tomorrow the wave recedes. I recommend you couch it in positive terms, and suggest it in a constructive way. Let Wirth know that he's a good guy; we know he cares; say we're here to help you do this because it's not working over there with USAID. You basically have the same goal. Assume that he's well intentioned until he demonstrates otherwise. USAID is half-expecting this to happen. The Administration has to ask Congress for the change, then Congress has to act on it. Go to Berman and ask him how to get the program moved. The way the committee system works is Byzantine, so an experienced person like Berman would be good to ask.

Boneberg:

We've heard from organizers in other countries--India, Peru, South Africa--who can't buy or rent buildings for lack of funds. A \$50K purchase would buy a building.

McDermott:

The World Bank is a place that might be able to address that, and that's Barney Frank's committee.

John James:

A dollar in prevention is worth more dollars in treatment, but treatment is important too. But AID has a prohibition on treatment.

McDermott:

AID is to stimulate a country to take control of a situation--not to take responsibility for it. If AID got into treatment, it would be very hard to get out. And if we got out, what would sustain it?

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MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Dr. Tony Fauci, Director of the NIH AIDS programs, 4/23/93

Paul Boneberg:

About four years ago, Mobilization Against AIDS sent out a questionnaire, asking AIDS experts for a five-year outlook. The community seemed hopeful at the time, because several drugs were in the pipeline. Now I think that the community is less hopeful.

Dr. Tony Fauci:

One of the problems I see is that people want to feel up about this, but it leads to downs. My honest assessment, not as a cheerleader, is that combination therapy is going to be a step up from monotherapy. So I don't think the data from the Concorde Study is that pertinent now. So we'll be better positioned, and we'll have to get on with the trials for combination therapy--a combination of activation blockers and anti-virals. The tat inhibitors and the protease inhibitors look good in vitro, and we've got to get them in vivo. Also, increased understanding of pathogenesis is expanding our conceptual thinking. We should keep an open mind. For example, now that we know that the lymph nodes are virtual factories of HIV, we need to study regimens that will reduce the lymph nodes' reproduction of HIV. Early on, we might want to actually suppress the immune system. So, as I say--we must keep a very open mind. Nucleosides are not the answer.

Boneberg:

I'd like to discuss some political issues. How do you feel about reform of the NIH?

Fauci:

I'm concerned about the concept of having an AIDS czar control where the money goes, but that doesn't mean I'm against the Reauthorization Bill in other areas. And I don't want to buck the Administration. But we who manage grants feel that for one office to deal with the grants is a bureaucratic nightmare. People may think "oh, now things will really get done," but I think the opposite will happen. But I'm up front about a strategic planning process for how funds get spent. But if it's a done deal, we'll make it work. There are certain administrative considerations that we'd like to be able to waive. But then we'll get Dingell after us, and be accused of playing the "old boys'" network when we get a project rolling without getting bids for contracts from all over. This is where an AIDS czar can be effective.

[At this point Fauci, like National Cancer Institute Director Sam Broder, pointed out that "Manhattan Project" is not an apt analogy for our goals in the fight against AIDS, because AIDS research and treatment isn't a question of applying a known formula.]

Fauci:

So we need an AIDS czar to run interference for us--to broker deals. We want more resources with more flexibility.

Boneberg:

What if the research community, the regulatory community, the activist community and the pharmaceutical community were to come together as a task force on AIDS?

Fauci:

I have no problem with that. Research is prevention. There will probably be a backlash against the 21% increase that's happening.

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MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Sen. Dianne Feinstein aide Ralph Payne, 4/23/93

Don Sloan:

The defeat of the stimulus bill leads me to ask: how do we get that money back?

Ralph Payne:

I haven't heard any talk about AIDS money. I've been telling people to go to HHS.

Boneberg:

And we are.

Payne:

I assume we're safe for 1994, but we've lost the supplemental.

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Payne:

I get the impression that every non-gay person in the White House is saying that Clinton shouldn't be focusing on gay issues right now.

* * * * *

Boneberg:

Do you think the President's request for 1994 is in danger?

Payne:

I don't think so. I don't think the Republicans will attack AIDS funding for '94.

Boneberg:

Are we still losing on immigration? We just heard from Ignatius Bau of the proposal that the immigration ban remain as a statute for a couple of years, after which we will work on it again--rather than have the Congress legislate on it now when we're sure to lose.

Payne:

Nobody's talked to us about it.

Boneberg:

We met with Jim McDermott this morning, and he suggested that we move global AIDS funding from USAID to the HHS. Dianne could help us with that. What do you think about that?

Payne:

I think it's fine. A woman named Ellen Marshall is working for him, and she's pretty gay-sensitive. She worked in this office for a while. If you want a substantive meeting I suggest you meet with her. Do you think that Wirth would support that?

Boneberg:

We know what Wirth wants to work on AIDS, so we think he'll support it. USAID is prohibited from doing treatment. On the topic of agriculture, the FDA is trying to move things along in drug development through a task force of the NIH, the FDA, the pharmaceuticals, and the AIDS activist community.

Payne:

Can I tell the Senator?

Boneberg:

Wait until next week. Kessler said this is a secret for now--he wanted to feel us out. My sense is I think there's a need for reform. What do you think of this idea?

Payne:

When she convenes her task force, she can get her teeth into it and perhaps have some influence on funding. I think it's a great idea.

Boneberg:

I think it's just a matter of an extra \$5 million for Phil Lee, Undersecretary of Health. We need a champion in the Senate.

Payne:

And the AIDS czar wouldn't necessarily want to have to deal with this issue, so even though it's an end-run around the AIDS czar it's productive as long as it's a substantive move. Let's go back to the USAID thing for a moment. What specifically does McDermott want to do?

Boneberg:

He would support us raising to Wirth and the State Dept. that they need to say that they want AIDS programs, and we need to let them know that USAID isn't the place for the programs.

* * * * *

Payne:

Hammer the Administration while you're here. I sense that there's a lot of attention on lobbying Congress, and I want to make sure people lobby the Administration. I think they may back off of their position. You've got to keep on him. We may have lost a couple of things already.

* * * * *

Boneberg:

What about gays in the military?

Payne:

We're not doing well. I think the media is mostly on our side. Dianne tells me that Kerrey and Glenn are still opposed, even though Kerrey's people say otherwise. Glenn goes on and on about domestic partners, marriage, etc. Levin was the best. Kennedy wasn't even there the first day of hearings, and only half the second day, and a lot of people were expecting him to be the champion. The compromise we've got now may stand. People defer to Sam Nunn on military issues, especially Democrats, even when he challenges the President. But this issue is defining Sam Nunn, and people have got to say this to him. We'll have an opportunity to have input at the third stage of hearings, at the advocacy hearings. Then the Secretary of Defense drafts the order. But at that time I suspect the Republicans will pull together enough votes against us to win.

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MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Richard Gephardt aide Jill Eynon, 4/23/93

[A constituent presented an overview of the AIDS situation in the state of Missouri. It included information about anti-gay abuses, such as arrests under the state sodomy law. The state is underfunded for rural AIDS care and education. The constituent said that on the good side, Missouri pays for AZT for people who need it.]

Paul Boneberg:

I assume that Rep. Gephardt's office is supportive of the President's budget on AIDS funding, but his budget overall is about \$45 billion over the caps that we can legally spend, so we're not certain what will happen with that. I spoke to the Appropriations Subcommittee yesterday, and they say it's unclear how much AIDS funding will be left. We may do better than last year, but we may not get everything the President has requested.

Jill Eynon:

We're in support of the President's proposal. Rep. Gephardt is a close advisor to the President, and will introduce some health care reform on the President's behalf. But as you know, the Republican members of the Senate, though a minority, are very powerful and can stall things.

Tom Lloyd:

What have you heard from constituents on the filibuster?

Eynon:

I haven't been looking at that issue, so it's not clear to me. I know that polls show that they support the stimulus package.

Boneberg:

We realize that AIDS is getting higher funding than other diseases, and our position is that the whole budget for the NIH needs to be increased. It's important that health advocates on research work together, not against each other.

Eynon:

I've met with many different health advocates, and they're generally worried for their own causes but they don't usually say they want to take money away from AIDS. But some of them have been around for a lot longer than AIDS, and they think AIDS has taken a lot of attention suddenly.

Boneberg:

Of course, it's important to note that the lesbian and gay community is supporting the researchers who are saying they need more funding, whereas the press tends to portray lesbian and gay advocates as hollering for more money without that impetus or reason.

* * * * *

Ignatius Bau:

Congress should not be legislating public health policy. The immigration exclusion for people with HIV/AIDS should not be a question for Congress. HHS should remove the statute. Because we're losing on this issue now, our short-term compromise is to keep the exclusionary statute now, and to ask the Congress not to codify it with legislation, and then a few years down the road when public sentiment changes, we can ask the HHS to remove it. We think this compromise is one that can work, and one that members of Congress can sell to their constituents. Rep. Gephardt can play a key role in that.

Eynon:

Noted.

Boneberg:

The CDC has not done a great job on education/prevention issues. Rep. Pelosi is putting forward a bill to change that--it will get funds to grassroots groups. But we're seeking cosponsors, because there's a limit to the number of health care reform issues the Congress is willing to look at in one year, and we're concerned that other health care reform will take focus away from that.

Eynon:

Rep. Gephardt tries to stay off of legislation, but he does work behind the scenes.

Boneberg:

Another important issue to the AIDS community is the situation at Guantanamo Bay. We know it's an embarrassment to the President, and there's a lot of sentiment in favor of our policy there, but we're hoping to change that.

Bau:

We're paying more taxpayer dollars to maintain the situation there than we would if we brought them here, and treated them, and let those who can work to support themselves. This doesn't make sense from a fiscal standpoint.

Eynon:

Noted. Another topic: we've got a lot of negative feedback from our constituents on the gays on the military issue. I recommend to those constituents who support the President on this issue that they should write letters, and spread the word, and get people to let their members know about it.

###

MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Nancy Pelosi 4/26/93

Rep. Nancy Pelosi:

We're getting calls regarding interest in cosponsoring the Prevention Bill. [She's seeking a list of who we've seen, so that she may acknowledge them.]

[Julie Dorf briefed Rep. Pelosi on international issues.]

Pelosi:

I asked Mr. Christopher to address AIDS at the G-7 summit. He was noncommittal but receptive. We work also with Rep. McDermott, and I co-chair some task force meetings with him. Bush's undersecretary, Boland, also identified global AIDS issues as an important issue.

[Pelosi aide Carolyn Bartholemew said that she would be meeting with Rep. McDermott's staff (and others) tomorrow and will discuss this issue then. She asked for our advice regarding how to follow up.]

Pelosi:

We don't know what the new Secretary's view is regarding AIDS as a human rights issue--it's traditionally seen as an economic issue. Mr. Christopher has indicated that funding will go to NGO's and not just to government organizations.

[Bartholemew brought up the idea of a kind of "dear colleague" letter to government officials in other countries in areas in which AIDS organizations are unable to rent space for their offices.]

Pelosi:

Make an appointment to see Dick Sklar, because he could be a useful adviser on the USAID AIDS program reform issue. Maybe we can get a letter to Wirth signed by McDermott, Feinstein, or anyone else you suggest, to help us on this issue.

[The computer's battery ran out at this point]]

###

MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Martin Sabo 4/26/93

[The meeting included constituents, who began the meeting with an overview of AIDS issues in Minnesota, including specific emphasis on public housing accessibility.]

Sabo:

We assume that the administration's going to come through with some additional recommendations . Things are going to move quickly. [Sabo has no recommendations for specific points of emphasis for us to focus on for supporting the appropriations process.] You'll have tough competition for health care dollars. We've still got to deal with the problem of the uninsured.

###

MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Vic Fazio's aide Linda Wingate 4/26/93

Attended by Mike Shriver, Ignatius Bau, Alan LoFaso, Ben Carlson

Linda Wingate:

Rep. Fazio has always been supportive of increased funding for AIDS, but the problem this year is that there's such limited funding. Before the subcommittee markup, and again before we go to conference, Rep. Fazio puts in his chits. Rep. Fazio will work with Rep. Pelosi and Rep. Hoyer for '93 and '94 to support funds in full committee. Fazio will take leadership from Pelosi and Hoyer for '93 and '94. He'll consider cosponsoring the prevention endorsement.

[Mike Shriver speculates based on this meeting that Fazio particularly appreciates the standards of fairness and equity in the bill]

[Areas of follow-up: prevention, Titles One and Two]

###

MAA March On Washington AIDS Lobby Days

Notes from the meeting with Rep. Rosa DeLauro's aide Rob Cogorno 4/26/93

Pam Morse, Public Policy Director of the AIDS Action Council's New Haven, Connecticut office: We want to establish the organizational structures to effectively advocate for and coordinate Title One funding from the Ryan White CARE Act, now that New Haven has been designated a Title One city. This will set the stage for greater funding around Title Two funding as well. And I'm concerned about how effectively that money will be received.

Tom Nolan:
[overview of MAA's concerns]

Rob Cogorno:

Clinton's budget asks Congress to come up with cuts to offset his expenditures--otherwise known as discretionary spending caps. Without more leadership from the White House on where these cuts will come from, we've got a difficult job. The secretaries are not forthcoming with answers for the subcommittees on where to cut. We hope that will change soon when they have to come before the subcommittees. The provisions of the 1990 budget act drop off in '94 and '95 and we may have more flexibility then. We may try to do FY '93 appropriations for FY '94, and try to use supplementals to increase the money. It's best to keep the Pelosi Bill separate from the Ryan White issue.

Morse:

The AIDS Czar is a very important promise which must be fulfilled. Those of us who work on the front lines in Connecticut don't get much significant leadership, especially on funding, from the office of our governor (Lowell Weicker), yet he's been proposed as a possible AIDS Czar. We find that almost laughable. Another issue that concerns us is the threat of mandatory names reporting for HIV-positive people.

###



Ignatius Bau briefs Rep. Vic Fazio's aide Linda Wingate at a closed AIDS lobbying meeting.



Rep. Richard Gephardt's aide Jill Eynon listens to two constituents during a closed AIDS lobbying meeting.



Sen. Patty Murray listens to 18th Street Services Policy Director Mike Shriver during a closed AIDS lobbying meeting.



Rep. James McDermott shares a moment with MAA Board Chair Tom Lloyd following a closed AIDS lobbying meeting.



Dr. Sam Broder, director of the National Cancer Institute, shares a moment with MAA Board Member Bart Casimir following an "AIDS expert" meeting.