

# FOIA MARKER

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**Collection/Record Group:** Clinton Presidential Records

**Subgroup/Office of Origin:** Counsel Office

**Series/Staff Member:** Meredith Cabe

**Subseries:**

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**OA/ID Number:** 18221

**FolderID:**

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**Folder Title:**

School of Americas: School of the Americas [Committee for Clemency Letter]

**Stack:**

**S**

**Row:**

**113**

**Section:**

**5**

**Shelf:**

**1**

**Position:**

**2**

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                                                                 | DATE       | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 001. letter              | Gary Ackermna, et al. to William Clinton; RE: Dr. Richard Streb [partial] (1 page)            | 11/24/1998 | b(6)        |
| 002. profile             | RE: Biographical Information of the 25 School of the Americas protestors [partial] (15 pages) | n.d.       | b(6)        |

### **COLLECTION:**

Clinton Presidential Records  
Counsel Office  
Meredith Cabe  
OA/Box Number: 18221

### **FOLDER TITLE:**

School of Americas: School of the Americas [Committee for Clemency Letter]

2006-1704-F

db3787

### **RESTRICTION CODES**

#### **Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

**P1** National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]  
**P2** Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]  
**P3** Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]  
**P4** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]  
**P5** Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]  
**P6** Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

**C.** Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

**PRM.** Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

**RR.** Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### **Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

**b(1)** National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]  
**b(2)** Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]  
**b(3)** Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]  
**b(4)** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]  
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**b(7)** Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]  
**b(8)** Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]  
**b(9)** Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

## THE WHITE HOUSE

## OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

## FAX COVER SHEET

NOTE: THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS  
CONFIDENTIAL AND INTENDED FOR THE RECIPIENT ONLY.

DATE:

2/18

TO:

Meredith Cabe

FAX:

61647

FROM:

X

ELI JOSEPH

COURTNEY CROUCH

456-7500 (TEL)

456-6221 (FAX)

RE:

per our conversation  
Thank you very much  
Let me know if you  
have any questions

PAGE 1 OF

3

If there are any problems with this transmission, please  
call (202) 456-7500.

# Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

## Clinton Library

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# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

288742

November 24, 1998

The Honorable William Clinton  
President  
The White House  
Washington DC 20500

NOV 30 04:11:13

Dear President Clinton:

We write to you regarding the current situation involving Dr. Richard Streb and his recent incarceration. We appreciate any and all attention you can give to this important matter.

Dr. Streb was arrested in November 1997 with 28 others for protesting at the United States military base in Fort Benning, Georgia. They were demonstrating against the controversial School of the Americas (SOA), a U.S. funded military school to train Latin American military personnel. As you may know, this past weekend another demonstration occurred in front of Fort Benning. This one was led by the renowned actor and social activist, Martin Sheen, and we understand that about 2,000 people participated. Yet none of these demonstrators were arrested, even though they had crossed on to base property as well. Rather, they were bussed to a park outside the town limits and deposited there. That seems to us to be a much more appropriate punishment to fit the crime committed.

Nonetheless, Dr. Streb was able to defer his six month jail sentence for almost a year. This delay in his prison term was generously granted because Dr. Streb needed to care for his 74-year-old wife, (b)(6). However, on September 21, 1998, Dr. Streb began serving his half-year term in a Federal prison in Beaver, West Virginia. [001]

As a former constituent of Representative Ackerman's, we can assure you that Dr. Streb has been an upstanding citizen with no prior criminal record. He was the chairman of the social studies department at Northport High School and remains well respected by fellow teachers and students alike. He retired almost 20 years ago and has since relocated to Roanoke, Virginia.

Dr. Streb is now 73 years old, and is not in good health. He remains in a frail and weakened condition, and we also understand that he has not been receiving the proper medication that he needs to remain healthy. In addition, Dr. Streb fears for his life, as he has been incarcerated with mostly drug dealers and other common criminal elements, and therefore has been forced to live in rough and harassing conditions.

Having served over a month of his sentence, we feel that Dr. Streb has been sufficiently punished for his crime. We implore you to seriously consider the circumstances surrounding Dr. Streb's imprisonment and commute his sentence to time served.

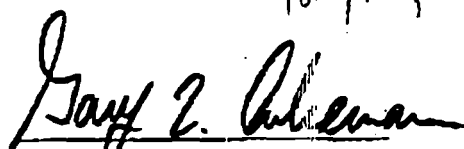
3-8-99 spoke to  
E. Joseph - we'll  
inform congressional  
des. of status of application  
and March '99 release date

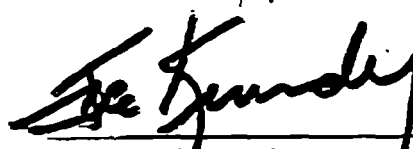
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

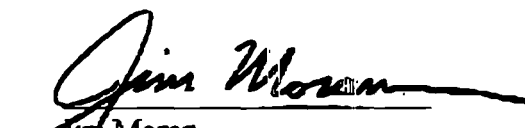
President Clinton letter  
Page 2

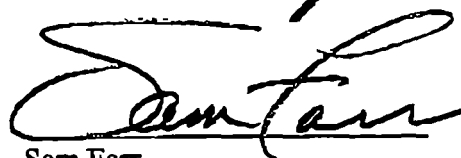
Thank you for taking the time to carefully examine and review this situation. I trust that you will make a decision that benefits all those involved in this case.

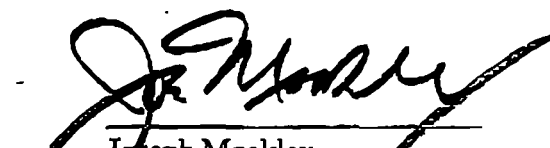
Sincerely,

1839/NC  
  
Gary I. Ackerman  
Member of Congress

1839/NC  
  
Joseph P. Kennedy  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Moran  
Member of Congress

  
Sam Farr  
Member of Congress

  
Joseph Moakley  
Member of Congress

Laura:

suggested language:

Thank you for your recent letter.....

I have asked the Department of Justice about the status of requests for executive clemency for the six individuals convicted following an incident at the U.S. Army School of the Americas. The Department of Justice has informed me that only one of those six individuals, Dr. Richard Streb, has thus far chosen to apply for executive clemency. The Justice Department is currently conducting a thorough review of Dr. Streb's application. When that review is complete, the Department of Justice will forward that application, along with the Department's recommendation, to the President. Please be assured that we will keep your correspondence here so it will be available to the President when the matter comes before him.

In the meantime, should the others seek to apply for executive clemency, application materials and further information about the process are available from the Office of the Pardon Attorney at the following address: Office of the Pardon Attorney, Department of Justice, 500 First Street, NW, Fourth Floor, Washington, DC, 20530. The phone number is (202) 616-6070.

I hope this information is helpful. Thank you again for taking the time to communicate to the President your views on this important matter. ....

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ID 9900226

REFERRAL

DATE: 28 JAN 99

MEMORANDUM FOR: WH COUNSEL

CABE, M

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION: TO: PODESTA, J

SOURCE: DRINAN, ROBERT F

DATE: 29 DEC 98

SUBJ: REFERS TO RELEASE OF SIX PROTESTORS AT SCHOOL OF AMERICAS

---

REQUIRED ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DUE DATE: 01 FEB 99

COMMENT: POC AT NSC IS JAMIE BAKER AT 456-9111

FOR



JOHN W. FICKLIN

NSC RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICE



0226

Steph

JAN

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Robert F. Drinan, S.J.  
Professor of Law

December 29, 1998

cc: Laura

Mr. John Podesta  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear John:

I have been asked to write to you about the release of the six protesters at the U.S. Army's School of the Americas.

I know that you are very familiar with all of the details of this matter.

A colleague of mine, Charles Currie, S.J., has written to you about the matter.

I know that you will do whatever is feasible.

On another point: I congratulate you formally upon your elevation in the White House. All of us are proud and grateful.

It goes without saying that I stand ready to be of assistance to you in any way possible.

Cordially yours,

Robert F. Drinan, S.J.

RFD:jaf

JAN 11 17:17

entto M. Cabe  
67484 m. 14

# AJCU

ASSOCIATION OF JESUIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SARA

see

- serious re
- counsel of
- JDP sign

**May 5, 1998**

**Mr. John D. Podesta**  
**Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff**  
**The White House**  
**Washington DC, 20500**

**Dear Mr. Podesta:**

At the suggestion of our mutual friend and colleague, Mark Gearan, I am writing to request your assistance with the enclosed petition for clemency, commutation of sentence and remission of fine of the 25 Protesters against the School of the Americas.

I understand that the normal pardon process is quite time-consuming and I would not be able to help those who are already serving their six-month sentences. Thus I would hope you would be able to help expedite things so that the President might act quickly.

As one who has been deeply involved with El Salvador over the past nine years, I appreciate the many ways this Administration has been more responsive to requests for a more enlightened and sensitive policy re: human rights issues and grass roots concerns. From the new approaches of Brian Atwood at A.I.D., to the new sensitivity of the U.S. Ambassador, Mrs. Anne Paterson, in El Salvador, the difference is obvious and much appreciated. One recurring issue however, is the School of the Americas, which continues to be a sore point.

I wish I and others were able to convince the President that the SOA should be shut down, because, despite protestations to the contrary, it does not seem to have changed significantly from its sorry past. One instructor is quoted as saying, "Nothing has changed; we teach the same counter insurgency tactics as before, but now the target is the drug trade." Its graduates now attack the indigenous population of Chiapas rather than Salvadorans. The Commanding Officer, Colonel Roy Trumble and Captain McGivern, Public Affairs Officer, both sound eerily like what I heard in El Salvador nine years ago as they equate liberation theology with communism, protests as un-American, etc.

Mr. John D. Podesta  
May 5, 1998  
Page Two

But the main thrust of this letter is to encourage a speedy pardon of the men and women in jail for a peaceful protest of what, at the very least, is a highly questionable place. Attorney Hannula, in her enclosed letter, makes the legal case for such an action, and her brief biographies of those imprisoned offer strong moral justification for such a pardon.

These men and women are strong enough to endure imprisonment, but it is a great waste of the kinds of service they bring to their various communities to have them in jail, even for six months. There is also a sad irony that while they are in prison for a harmless expression of their right to protest peacefully, those responsible for the killing of the four American women in El Salvador in 1980 (like most of those involved in killing the Jesuits in 1989, graduates of the School of the Americas) were reported to be walking free in Miami.

A speedy pardon would demonstrate, in a very tangible way, President Clinton's concern for justice and human rights.

I would also hope that he could see his way to allowing the closing of the School of the Americas and transferring any worthwhile programs there to another base. There are simply too many victims and too much negative human rights history associated with the place for it ever to function normally.

Thank you for any help you can provide. I would be happy to provide any additional information you might need.

Gratefully,

*Charles L. Currie*

Charles L. Currie, S.J.

Enclosure

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**

January 27, 1999

TO: MEREDITH CABE

FROM: JO HUNERWADEL

Meredith, we understand that you are the one that handles clemency in WHC. This package will be officially transferred to you through our Records Management office, but Caroline thought it a good idea to give you a heads up. It looks like you already received the letter from Currie directly from Podesta's office.

UNCLASSIFIED  
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9900226  
RECEIVED: 14 JAN 99 13

TO: PODESTA, J

FROM: DRINAN, ROBERT F

DOC DATE: 29 DEC 98  
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: LEGAL ISSUES

CENTRAL AMERICA

PERSONS: CURRIE, CHARLES

*CK action  
check with MO  
if she already  
has background.  
EX*

SUBJECT: REFERS TO RELEASE OF SIX PROTESTORS AT SCHOOL OF AMERICAS

ACTION: APPROPRIATE ACTION

DUE DATE: 20 JAN 99 STATUS: S

STAFF OFFICER: BAKER

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION  
BAKER

FOR CONCURRENCE  
GALLUCCI

FOR INFO  
DOBBINS

*Refer to White House Counsel for action. Laura Markers  
in Podesta's office ~~is waiting~~ <sup>has found</sup> incoming for the letter  
from Charles Currie and the reply. It should  
go along with the transfer of WHC.*

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSDMK

CLOSED BY:

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED



0226

Staff

JAN

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

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Cordially yours,

Robert F. Drinan, S.J.

RFD:jaf

JAN 11 17:17

## EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF



New  
Currie  
letter  
attached

Please Deliver To: Caroline KrassNumber of Pages (Including Cover Sheet): ~~2~~ 3Fax Number: 69110Sender: Laura MarousDate: 1-27-99

Message: There is the Charles Currie letter -  
As you can see it doesn't have  
much to do with the original topic.  
Pls. let me know if you need  
anything else. fks

Note: The information contained in this facsimile message is CONFIDENTIAL and intended for the recipient ONLY. If there are any problems with this transmission, please call (202) 456-6798.

sent to M. Cabe  
67484 m.14i

## AJCU

ASSOCIATION OF JESUIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

SARA

see  
meJOHN  
- serious re:  
- counsel ofc  
JDP sign

JESUIT COLLEGE, MA

CARROLL COLLEGE, CT

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS, MA

CORBETT UNIVERSITY, ME

FIELDHILL UNIVERSITY, CT

LOVELAND UNIVERSITY, NY

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, DC

GONZALES UNIVERSITY, WA

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY, OH

LE MOYNE COLLEGE, NY

LOVELAND COLLEGE, MD

LUTHERA MARQUETTE U, CA

LUTHERA U CHICAGO, IL

LUTHERA U NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY, IN

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, CO

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, IL

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, PA

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, MD

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, NJ

MARIAN UNIVERSITY, CA

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, WA

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, AL

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY, MI

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, CA

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, CA

WYOMING JESUIT UNIVERSITY, WY

YOUNG CHRISTIAN, OH

May 5, 1998

Mr. John D. Podesta  
Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington DC, 20500

Dear Mr. Podesta:

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I understand that the normal pardon process is quite time-consuming and would not be able to help those who are already serving their six-month sentences. Thus I would hope you would be able to help expedite things so that the President might act quickly.

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Mr. John D. Podesta  
May 5, 1998  
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A speedy pardon would demonstrate, in a very tangible way, President Clinton's concern for justice and human rights.

I would also hope that he could see his way to allowing the closing of the School of the Americas and transferring any worthwhile programs there to another base. There are simply too many victims and too much negative human rights history associated with the place for it ever to function normally.

Thank you for any help you can provide. I would be happy to provide any additional information you might need.

Gratefully,



Charles L. Currie, S.J.

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1999

Mr. Mike Lowry  
President  
Enterprise Washington  
1900 S. Puget Drive  
Renton, WA 98055

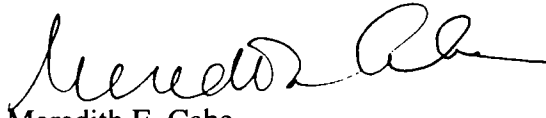
Dear Mr. Lowry:

Thank you very much for your letter to the President regarding commutations of sentence for six protestors of the U.S. Army's School of Americas.

According to long-standing guidelines established by the Department of Justice, individuals seeking executive clemency must file an application with the Office of the Pardon Attorney at the Department of Justice. Of the six named individuals in your letter, only Dr. Richard Streb has filed such an application. Dr. Streb's application is currently under review at the Department of Justice. I will forward a copy of your letter to the Pardon Attorney to ensure that it will be included in that review.

Thank you again for your thoughtful letter, and for taking time to communicate to the President your views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith E. Cabe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meredith E. Cabe  
Associate Counsel to the President

cc: Mr. Roger C. Adams

Ruff

#2855720

**Mike Lowry**  
President  
Enterprise Washington  
Washington State Governor (1993-1997)  
United States Congress (1979-1989)  
1960 S. Puget Drive  
Renton, WA 98055 USA

October 21, 1998

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**RE: Request for Clemency, Commutation of Sentence and Remission of Fine**  
**of the 26 SOA Protesters**

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to show my support and concern for the protesters of the U.S. Army's School of the Americas (SOA). One of those protesters, Fr. William J. Bichsel, is a 70-year-old priest from Tacoma, Washington, and a life-long resident of Washington State. Fr. Bichsel began serving 1½ years in Federal Prison on September 28, 1998, for his peaceful non-violent protest of the SOA.

As a member of Congress from 1979-1989, I opposed U.S. support of the School of the Americas. I definitely continue to question whether the SOA does promote peace and democracy in Latin America. Too many reports from Latin America continue to point to human rights abuses committed by SOA graduates. We, as Americans, cannot continue to be viewed as complicit in these atrocities. Economic aid and free trade are the tools that will bring lasting, peaceful relations with Latin America.

There is a group of Washington State attorneys seeking clemency for the SOA Protesters. According to them, 25 Americans were charged with misdemeanor criminal trespass charges at Ft. Benning, Georgia. These charges arose from a peaceful protest at the School of the Americas in Ft. Benning on November 16, 1997, when more than 2,000 Americans gathered and held a silent funeral procession and prayer vigil commemorating the deaths of the six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and her 15-year-old daughter. All were killed November 16, 1989 in El Salvador. According to the United Nations Truth Commission, 19 of the 26 soldiers found to be responsible for these murders were SOA graduates.

The 25 Americans convicted of criminal trespass were sentenced to six months in Federal Prison and a \$3,000 fine. It is my understanding that 20 of the 25 have already served their six-month sentence. Dr. Richard Streb, one of the 25, began serving his six-month sentence just one month ago, on September 21, 1998. Dr. Streb is 73 years old, a decorated World War II Veteran, a retired teacher, and the primary caretaker of his elderly wife.

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
October 21, 1998  
Page 2

In a separate protest two months prior, on September 29, 1997, five protesters gathered at the entrance sign to Ft. Benning. According to attorneys familiar with the case, the base and media were notified of the protest several days earlier. The military police arrived at the same time as the protesters and watched the protesters write "School of Assassins, School of Shame" on the sign. After the protesters were finished, they prayed together and sang a hymn, and at that time were arrested and charged with two counts of felony property destruction. Sr. Marge Eilerman, a 70-year-old nun, Ed Kinane, Mary Trotochaud and Kathleen Rumpf wrote on the sign. Fr. William Bichsel placed his hand in red paint and placed it on the sign.

All five received prison sentences from eight to 12 months for the September crime. Four of the five were among the 25 sentenced for the November protest, and rather than run the two sentences concurrently (as was requested by their defense team), Judge Elliott gave the four consecutive sentences, to be served in addition to the six-month-sentences. (Judge Elliott's biography is attached and republished with permission).

I ask that you commute the sentences of Fr. William Bichsel, Ed Kinane, Sr. Marge-Eilerman, Mary Trotochaud, Kathleen Rumpf and Dr. Richard Streb. These are deeply religious people expressing their heartfelt beliefs about the SOA, not hardened criminals that we must remove from society in order to protect our communities.

Fr. William Bichsel is a well-known and well-respected productive member of the greater Tacoma/Seattle area. He has dedicated his life to working with the homeless and mentally ill. He taught at Bellarmine and Seattle Preparatory Schools, both well known for their academic achievements, and was Dean of Students at Gonzaga University. He has won awards for his humanitarian efforts.

To incarcerate these individuals is a terrible waste of taxpayers' money. The loss to their communities is tremendous. Please commute their sentences and remit their fines, along with the fines of the 20 who have already served their sentences.

More than 5,000 citizens have signed petitions calling for their release. Article 2, Section 2 of the Constitution gives you full authority to pardon these citizens.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Mike Lowry

cc: The Acting Pardon Attorney

Enclosure

Bruce Rogow, a professor of law at a University and an ACLU general counsel who has been involved in the litigation. "He played on the good faith of public officials and what he assumed was their own desire to do right." Rogow likens Hoever to Frankston, now on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, who is famous for his civil rights decisions as a district court judge in Alabama in the sixties and seventies. There was a lot of public resistance to Hoever's actions in the Broward County jail case—people's attitude was, it's supposed to be a hotel," says Rogow. "And plenty of other judges could've tried to shirk it, or avoid responsibility for it by saying something like, I can't help it, the Constitution makes me do it. But Hoever never did. His approach was, this is what must be done, and we're going to be better people for having done it." For his part, Hoever just says that he thinks the public's attitude toward jails is changing. We're slowly coming out of the Dark Ages."

The judge points to a criminal case in 1979, *U.S. v. Kopsiuk*, as one of the most demanding he has tried. A complex organized crime case, it involved waterfront union officials and employers where there were 22 defendants at the outset, and 11 went to trial who had allegedly anticipated for more than ten years in a widespread pattern of corruption aimed at securing control of business activity at several major ports in the southeastern United States. Both defense lawyers and prosecutors in that trial offer high praise for Hoever's performance. "He never plays favorites, never ruffles, and he has the patience of Job," says one of the



William Hoever

prosecutors.

After nearly seven months of trial, Hoever encountered a novel problem when—four days after jury deliberations had begun—a juror became psychotic and had to be discharged. Over the unanimous objections of defense counsel, Hoever substituted an alternate juror, thus violating one of the federal rules of civil procedure. He accompanied his order with a careful opinion explaining why the bending of the rules was necessary. The defense moved for a mistrial, unsuccessfully, and the central issue in the *Kopsiuk* appeal became whether Hoever had erred in substituting the juror. The Eleventh Circuit Court

*Kopsiuk* convictions were affirmed in November 1982.

Some lawyers do complain that Hoever can be slow to rule in civil cases, particularly on pre-trial motions. Hoever offers this criticism himself, commenting that he thinks he is less efficient than some of his colleagues. But his supporters point out that Florida Southern District judges are laboring under a crushing load of criminal cases, with civil cases almost crowded off the docket. Hoever, they say, is slow because he gives each case the kind of individualized attention that many judges with more of a case-count mentality no longer do.

Peter Nimkoff, a U.S. magistrate for the Southern District of Florida, has had the opportunity to view Hoever from the vantage point of a defense lawyer, a prosecutor (he was chief of the civil division in the U.S. attorney's office in the Southern District), and his present role. Nimkoff says that he has seen the same model of fairness and courtesy in Hoever from each of those perspectives, adding that the judge "makes anyone who believes in the possible majesty of the law want to be a part of his court."

—by Connie Bruck

## WORST

J. ROBERT ELLIOTT, 73

Appointed by Kennedy in 1962

Judges like J. Robert Elliott of Georgia's Middle District are, fortunately, a vanishing breed. An old-line segregationist who flaunts his deep-rooted prejudices against blacks, unions, and criminal defendants, Elliott is less a judge than a despot. He is often compared by lawyers to Mississippi's legendary Harold Cox ("Still Racist After All These Years," *AL*, July 1979), now on senior status in the Fifth Circuit.

Over the last 21 years, Elliott—a Kennedy appointee who went on the bench in 1962—has been heavily reversed (first by the Fifth Circuit and now by the Eleventh). According to Victor Navasky's *Kennedy Justice*, Elliott's reversal rate in civil rights cases during the years that Robert Kennedy was Attorney General (1961–1964) was 90 percent, exceeding even that of Harold Cox.

C.B. King, a black attorney from Albany, Georgia, first appeared before the judge in 1962. Elliott had issued an injunction against King's clients, Dr. Martin Luther King (no relation) and other integrationists, to keep them from demonstrating in Albany. Elliott's ground for the injunction was that the demonstrators would violate the civil rights of local non-integrationist whites. In the 20 years since, says King, "there have been better than fifty civil rights cases in which I've been involved, either as principal counsel or of counsel, and I can't recall a single instance where the relief sought was granted by Judge Elliott. It was always a matter of having to go to the appellate court. And with the exception of four or five of those cases, the circuit court either reversed or remanded."

There was ample indication before Elliott was appointed that he might make the federal bench into a political podium. A Democratic national committeeman from 1946 to 1956, Elliott led the walk-out of the Georgia delegation at the 1948 Democratic National Convention in protest of the party's stance in support of civil rights. He was a floor leader for Georgia's segregationist governor, Herman Talmadge, who later became a U.S.

Elliott appointed to the bench. At a state Democratic convention in 1950, in blasting the press for what he said were their efforts to blacken Talmadge, Elliott declared that if the "mighty moguls of misrepresentation" continued in that effort, the state would punish them with legislation authorizing suit for "libel against society." In 1952, when Elliott was arguing that the county-unit system of conducting elections, which guaranteed white rural domination of Georgia politics, should be written into the state con-



J. Robert Elliott

stitution, he was widely quoted as saying, "I don't want these pinks, radicals, and bloc-voters to outvote those who are trying to preserve our segregationist laws and other traditions."

Elliott's hatred for the press seems to be as pronounced as his segregationist beliefs. In 1974 Lt. William Calley came before him with a habeas corpus petition after being convicted by court-martial of premeditated murder and assault with intent to commit murder. In his opinion setting aside the conviction, Elliott devoted nearly 50 pages to reviewing what he deemed to be the inflammatory news coverage of Calley and his role in the My Lai massacre, and summed up this section by saying that "if there has ever been a case in which a conviction should be set aside because of prejudicial publicity, this is it."

In the rambling and grandiloquent conclusion to his Calley opinion, Elliott declared that "war is war." He illustrated the point by comparing Calley's murder of civilians at My Lai to Joshua's destruction of Jericho as described in the Old Testament, which Elliott quoted at length; to Ivan the Terrible's drowning of the Jews; to Winston Churchill and President Eisenhower's joint bombing of German cities; and, in fullest exposition, to Union General William Tecumseh Sherman's acts of violence against Confederate civilians in his march through Georgia during the Civil War. Elliott closed with this paean to Calley's martyrdom: "He was pummeled and pilloried by the press./He was taunted and tainted by television./He was reproached and ridiculed by radio./He was criticized and condemned by commentators . . ."

Elliott ruled Calley's conviction invalid and ordered him freed in September 1974. One year later, the Fifth Circuit found Elliott in error on all grounds and ordered Calley back to prison.

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1999

The Honorable Brian Ebersole  
City of Tacoma  
747 Market Street  
Room 1200  
Tacoma, Washington 98402

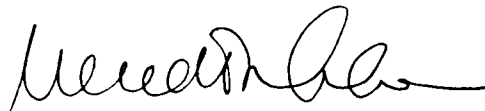
Dear Mayor Ebersole:

Thank you very much for your letter to the President regarding commutations of sentence for six protesters of the U.S. Army's School of Americas.

According to long-standing guidelines established by the Department of Justice, individuals seeking executive clemency must file an application with the Office of the Pardon Attorney at the Department of Justice. Of the six named individuals in your letter, only Dr. Richard Streb has filed such an application. Dr. Streb's application is currently under review at the Department of Justice. I will forward a copy of your letter to the Pardon Attorney to ensure it will be included in that review.

Thank you again for your thoughtful letter, and for taking time to communicate to the President your views on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith E. Cabe', with a stylized, flowing script.

Meredith E. Cabe  
Associate Counsel to the President

cc: Mr. Roger C. Adams

Reiff



# 287145Cu

## City of Tacoma

December 2, 1998

Mayor Brian Ebersole

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: Request for Clemency, Commutation of Sentence and Remission of Fine of  
26 U.S. Army's School of the Americas Protesters

Dear President Clinton:

Please add my voice to the many requesting that you commute the sentences of Father William Bichsel, Ed Kinane, Sister Marge Eilerman, Mary Trotochaud, Kathleen Rumpt and Dr. Richard Streb.

These individuals were all involved in a peaceful protest of the SOA at Ft. Benning, Georgia. Father Bichsel, a 70-year old Catholic priest, was sentenced to a total of 1-1/2 years. Father Bichsel has been a contributing member of our community for several years. He has taught at two excellent schools in the area, Bellarmine Preparatory in Tacoma and Seattle Preparatory. He was also Dean of Students at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. For the past several years, Father Bichsel has dedicated his life to the mentally ill and homeless in Tacoma. Through his work at Guadalupe House, which houses the homeless and provides employment, Father Bichsel continues his humanitarian service to the community.

To incarcerate these individuals who are productive members of their community is a crime in itself. These individuals, for the most part, are elderly and have taken vows of poverty. This action points out to our taxpayers the lack of common sense on the part of government—to sentence and fine individuals at this level for a misdemeanor when options such as community service are available and more realistic. It would appear that these individuals have been targeted for harsh and unreasonable sentences due to their political viewpoint.

I respectfully request that you give this request your serious consideration under your powers to  
pardon according to Article 2, Section 2 of the Constitution.

Sincerely,

BRIAN EBERSOLE  
Mayor

cc: Debra K. Hannula

011-8

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
May 20, 1998

Meredith -  
thx, this  
was perfect!

Charles L. Currie, S.J.  
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities  
One Dupont Circle, Suite 405  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Mr. Currie:

Thank you very much for your recent letter concerning the 25 men and women who were convicted of trespass offenses after an event at the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. You are right that this President cares very deeply about justice and human rights, and I appreciate your communicating your views on this issue with me and with him.

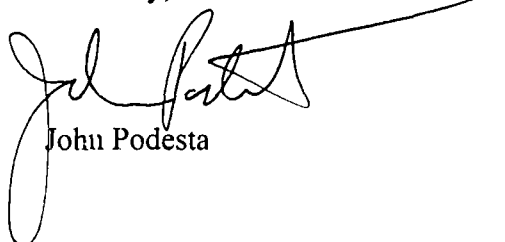
I am informed by the Department of Justice that no applications for these individuals are currently pending. According to longstanding regulations established by the Department of Justice, the Department does not consider applications for executive clemency from individuals who are still in the process of seeking remedies through the courts. It also does not consider applications of individuals who have not yet begun serving their sentences. My understanding is that all but two of the men and women you write about fall into one of these categories.

The remaining two, however, are eligible to apply for executive clemency, because they are in fact serving their sentences, and their cases are not currently under consideration by the courts. They have not yet submitted applications. In order to facilitate that process, the Office of the Pardon Attorney, an office within the Department of Justice, has sent them applications and instructions at the institutions where they are incarcerated. We have asked the Department of Justice to complete its review process as expeditiously as possible upon receipt of those individuals' applications.

In addition, we will keep your letter on file here at the White House so it will be available to the President if and when applications from any of those 25 men and women come before him.

Thank you again for communicating your views to me and to the President.

Sincerely,



John Podesta



Mr. John D. Podesta  
May 5, 1998  
Page Two

But the main thrust of this letter is to encourage a speedy pardon of the men and women in jail for a peaceful protest of what, at the very least, is a highly questionabale place. Attorney Hannula, in her enclosed letter, makes the legal case for such an action, and her brief biographies of those imprisoned offer strong moral justification for such a pardon.

These men and women are strong enough to endure imprisonment, but it is a great waste of the kinds of service they bring to their various communities to have them in jail, even for six months. There is also a sad irony that while they are in prison for a harmless expression of their right to protest peacefully, those responsible for the killing of the four American women in El Salvador in 1980 (like most of those involved in killing the Jesuits in 1989, graduates of the School of the Americas) were reported to be walking free in Miami.

A speedy pardon would demonstrate, in a very tangible way, President Clinton's concern for justice and human rights.

I would also hope that he could see his way to allowing the closing of the School of the Americas and transferring any worthwhile programs there to another base. There are simply too many victims and too much negative human rights history associated with the place for it ever to function normally.

Thank you for any help you can provide. I would be happy to provide any additional information you might need.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles Currie".

Charles L. Currie, S.J.

Enclosure

# COMMITTEE FOR CLEMENCY/PARDON OF THE SOA PROTESTERS

1315 Madison Street #286  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
(206) 748-3137

## MEMBERS

*Debra K. Hamula*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*John R. Connelly, Jr.*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Catherine A. Ruckle*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Judith G. Stewart*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Martha J. Koenigsberg*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*William L. M. Nae*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Maria Clavel*  
PRESIDENT, NEWSPAPER WORKERS  
LOCAL UNION 1000

*Roberto Maestas*  
NATIONAL UNION MEMBER

*Daniel L. Hamula*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Kevin Keefe*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Kevin Keefe*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Martha Walton*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Kathy Jo Stewart*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Don Madison*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*John Miller*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Mimi Buscher*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Carl Luer*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

*Dick Hamula*  
COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER

*Sylvia Hamula*  
RETIRED TEACHER

*Nancy Linton*  
INVESTIGATOR

*Jane O'Sullivan*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Frances Smersh*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Margaret Read*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Edward Salazar*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Alison Moore*  
RETIRED TEACHER

*Ronnie Schroeder*  
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE  
ST. JORDEN MINISTRIES

*Kelly Brown*  
JOURNALIST

*Pat Reardon*  
HUMAN RIGHTS GRADUATE STUDENT

*Patricia Song*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Roberta Cole*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Natalie Ellinger*  
SOCIAL ACTION MEMBER

*Maralyn Chase*  
ORGANIZER

*Father Patrick*  
HUMAN RIGHTS BOARD MEMBER

*Kim Cronin*  
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

April 27, 1998

President William Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: Petition for Clemency, Commutation of Sentence and Remission of Fine of the 25 SOA Protesters

Dear President Clinton:

I, along with attorneys Cathryn Ruckle and John R. Connelly, represent 25 Americans convicted of criminal trespass at Ft. Benning, Georgia and sentenced on November 19, 1997 and January 22, 1998, to 6 months in Federal prison and a \$3,000 fine. Twenty are now in prison, the other five will soon follow. We respectfully request clemency for these individuals. We are asking that their sentences be commuted and they be released from prison immediately. We are asking for remission of the fines. Enclosed are four affidavits from attorneys addressing the sentences imposed by Judges Slaughter and Elliott, brief biographical statements on each of the 25, their judgment and sentences from Georgia and a copy of an article from The American Lawyer, reprinted by permission of the publisher, describing Judge Elliott's record on human rights, including his 1974 decision to overturn Lt. William Calley's murder conviction for the My Lai massacre, declaring "war is war."

These convictions stem from a peaceful demonstration at Ft. Benning, Georgia, against the School of the Americas, which has taken place every November 16 since 1990, to commemorate the deaths of the six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter killed November 16, 1989. The UN Truth Commission found that 19 out of the 26 cited as responsible for their murders were graduates of the School of the Americas. That demonstration of November 16, 1997 consisted of a silent funeral procession with protestors carrying make-shift coffins. Inside the coffins were 1,000,000 signatures calling for the closure of the School of the Americas.

Our clients were convicted of "Illegal Re-Entry onto a U.S. Military Reservation." All 25 had participated in other similar protests at Ft. Benning. All had received ban and bar letters prohibiting them from returning on November 16, 1997.

The ban and bar letters were issued as a result of arrests made, after these protesters demonstrated against U.S. tax dollars spent for the School of the Americas.

Ft. Benning is open to the public, city transit enters freely. The demonstrations took place in areas open to the public.

Over the years, public functions attended by civilian and media invitees, have taken place at Ft. Benning, where political speeches in favor of the School of the Americas, are featured. None of these gatherings have resulted in arrests or charges being filed against those assembling, or those speaking on behalf of the School of the Americas.

The convictions of our clients contradict the rights of all U.S. citizens to hold dissenting viewpoints. Viewpoint-based discrimination violates the First Amendment. Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, 508 U.S. 385, 124 L.Ed. 352, 113 S. Ct. 2141, 2147-48 (1993). This idea is more eloquently expressed by Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendall Holmes in his dissenting and now famous opinion in Abrams v. U.S., 250 U.S. 616, 631, 40 S. Ct. 17 (1919).

Persecution for the expression of opinions seems to me perfectly logical. If you have no doubt of your premises or your power and want a certain result with all your heart you naturally express your wishes in law and sweep away all opposition. To allow opposition by speech seems to indicate that you think the speech impotent. . . . But when men have realized that time has upset many fighting faiths, they have come to believe . . . that the ultimate good desired is better reached by free trade in ideas, — that the best test of truth is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market; and that truth is the only ground upon which their wishes safely can be carried out. That, at any rate, is the theory of our Constitution. It is an experiment, as all life is an experiment. Every year, if not every day, we have to wager our salvation upon some prophecy based upon imperfect knowledge. While that experiment is part of our system I think that we should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe and believe to be fraught with death, unless they so imminently threaten immediate interference with the lawful and pressing purposes of the law that an immediate check is required to save the country. . . . Only the emergency that makes it immediately dangerous to leave the correction of evil counsels to time warrants making any exception

President William Clinton  
April 27, 1998  
Page 3

of the sweeping command; "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech."

Attorneys Madsen, Keefe, McKay, and Steward address the issue of the sentences given by Judges Slaughter and Elliott. All 25 were given the same sentence, regardless of prior convictions, ability to pay the fine, or who they are as citizens. The majority of the 25 have no criminal record. The few that do have similar convictions from similar charges from either protests at the School of the Americas or other non-violent demonstrations. As the affidavits show, typical sentences for similar crimes would result in community service hours and deferred sentences, not six months in prison and a \$3,000 fine. Imposing the maximum prison penalty is usually reserved for those individuals who are violent offenders, who create a real danger and must be removed from society. Imposing a \$3,000 fine on these protesters, most of whom have taken vows of poverty, is grossly excessive.

Three of our clients, Dr. Richard Streb, Anne Herman and Carol Richardson pled nolo contendere November 19, 1997 and did not appeal their convictions. Their fines and prison sentences were not stayed. Carol Richardson entered Federal Prison January 21, 1998, Anne Herman entered January 30, 1998, and Dr. Streb is scheduled to enter September 21, 1998. The other 22 appealed their convictions under the First Amendment and other grounds. They did not ask for a stay for their prison sentences. They requested a stay on their fines, but this has not been granted or responded to.

I have attached an affidavit from attorney David Grindle who represented the 22 at their trial January 22, 1998. Mr. Grindle also represented 13 SOA protesters in a similar trial in 1996, also before Judge Elliott. They were convicted and sentenced to various prison terms. All 13 served that time. Appeals were filed on First Amendment grounds in 1996. The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals has not yet ruled on these 1996 convictions.

In the case of the 25, they will also serve their prison sentences before the Eleventh Circuit rules on their appeals.

I received the rules governing petitions for executive clemency from Acting Pardon Attorney, Roger C. Adams. Section 1.3, Eligibility for Filing Petition for Commutation of Sentence states:

No petition for commutation of sentence, including remission of fine, should be filed if other forms of judicial or administrative relief are available, except upon a showing of exceptional circumstances.

As stated previously, three of the 25 have not filed appeals. The 22 that have will have served their prison terms before the appellate court rules on their convictions.

As stated above, Section 1.3 allows for commutation of sentence even if other judicial relief may be available, if there is a showing of "exceptional circumstances". Practically speaking, there is no judicial relief available that will address the prison sentences timely. The prison terms were not stayed. Twenty are now in prison. Only the fines were asked to be stayed. This has not been ruled on, though the request was made January 30, 1998.

Some of my clients in prison have been told they must pay those fines now. Paddy Inman has been told he must pay anywhere from \$100 - \$600 a month towards his fine or his commissary money will be confiscated and applied to the fine. He and Christopher Jones have been told they will not be released from prison after their 6 months stay if the fines have not been paid.

The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals has not yet ruled on the 1996 convictions from the November 16, 1995 Ft. Benning vigil of 13 SOA protesters.

As appellate attorney Grindle states in his attached affidavit, ". . . It is my belief that appellants will have completed their prison sentences long before the Eleventh Circuit rules on their appeal."

The facts before you constitute exceptional circumstances.

Also included in the information from Mr. Adams was Section 1.10 of the Rules of Clemency, Advisory Nature of Regulations:

The regulations contained in this part are advisory only and for the internal guidance of Department of Justice personnel. They create no enforceable rights in persons applying for executive clemency, nor do they restrict the authority granted to the President under Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution.

President Clinton, nothing in the Rules of Clemency restrict your authority to do what you believe to be fair.

We make this petition for clemency, commutation of the sentences and remission of the fines on behalf of these 25. As the biographical information shows, these people are outstanding citizens who contribute immensely to their communities. They are priests, clergymen, nuns and grandmothers, who work with the mentally ill, the homeless, victims

President William Clinton  
April 27, 1998  
Page 5

of torture and battered women. Some are school teachers. Some are students. Some are veterans. Most are in their 60's and 70's.

A Federal prisoner costs the U.S. taxpayer at least \$30,000 a year.

I know your schedule is overwhelming and you have many pressing issues, but I ask you to assist us. These are hardworking, dedicated Americans. They should not be imprisoned for expressing their heart-felt beliefs about the School of the Americas. Their demonstrations are the type of free speech and conscientious objection upon which this nation was founded.

Thank you for your time and attention. Please contact me for further information.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra K. Hannula".

Debra K. Hannula  
Attorney at Law  
(206) 663-2772

Enclosures

The following biographical information is included. The names of the 25 SOA protestors are:

Fr. Bill Bichsel, S.J.  
Fr. Roy Bourgeois, MM  
Rev. Dr. Nicholas Cardell  
Mary Earley  
Sr. Marge Eilerman, OSF  
Sr. Mary Kay Flanigan, OSF  
Anne Herman  
Paddy Inman  
Christopher Jones  
Rev. Ken Kennon  
Ed Kinane  
Dwight Lawton  
Rita Lucey  
Bill McNulty  
Sr. Megan Rice  
Carol Richardson  
Dan Sage, Ph.D.  
Doris Sage  
Randy Serraglio  
Sr. Rita Steinhagen, CSJ  
Richard Streb, Ph.D.  
Ann Tiffany  
Mary Trotochaud  
Judith Williams  
Ruthy Woodring

#### **Fr. William Bichsel**

Fr. William Bichsel is a Catholic priest, born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. His father was a railroad engineer, his mother a homemaker. He has six brothers and one sister. Five of his brothers served with distinction in the United States Army and Navy in World War II.

Fr. Bichsel returned to the Tacoma area after his seminary training and taught at Bellarmine Preparatory in Tacoma and Seattle Preparatory. Both of these schools are known for their academic excellence. He also coached football, basketball and baseball. In addition to these schools, Fr. Bichsel was the Dean of Students at Gonzaga University at Spokane, Washington for three years.

Fr. Bichsel was an associate pastor at St. Leo's parish in Tacoma for seven years. Along with his pastoral duties, Fr. Bichsel worked with people with mental illnesses and low income people. Fr. Bichsel was chaplain at Western State Mental Hospital for eight years.

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b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial  
information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]  
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purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]  
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of  
financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]  
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information  
concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Fr. Bichsel now works and lives at Guadalupe House, a Tacoma Catholic Worker House. It began as an outreach house for the mentally ill, who were discharged from Western State Mental Hospital. Currently it assists homeless people. This house is modeled after the writer, journalist and philanthropist, Dorothy Day. Ms. Day was a voice for the poor and homeless during the depression. She started the Catholic Worker in 1933, which began as a soup kitchen in the Bowery. Ms. Day's spiritual philosophy included living out works of mercy. Each Catholic Worker House shares her commitment to the gospel and teachings of Jesus. Each house focuses on different social concerns. Some house only women and children in need, some for the mentally ill, some assist those with AIDS. There are 150 Catholic Worker Houses, both here and abroad.

Currently, Guadalupe House works with the homeless. Along with providing people with a place to live, it also provides employment. Guadalupe House runs a successful organic garden program. Fr. Bichsel approached landowners in his neighborhood and convinced them to allow his group to use their lots, which had been garbage dumps, and turn them into organic gardens. These gardens are not only a source of food, but a place of employment for homeless persons.

In 1992, Fr. Bichsel received the Hunthausen Humanitarian Award. This Archdiocesan Award is given to those committed to humanitarian efforts. This award recognized Fr. Bichsel's work with the mentally ill and homeless.

#### Fr. Roy Bourgeois, MM

On March 23, 1998, Fr. Bourgeois entered Federal prison.

He was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED] He has two siblings.

[002]

Fr. Roy is 59 years old and a Maryknoll Catholic Priest. He received a degree in theology from the University of Southwestern, in Louisiana. He served four years as a Naval officer. He volunteered for shore duty in the Vietnam War and is a recipient of the Purple Heart. He served one year in Vietnam. After Vietnam Fr. Roy entered the Maryknoll Seminary and was ordained a Catholic Priest in 1972. He served the poor of Bolivia for five years. After Bolivia, Fr. Roy returned and worked for the Maryknolls, in cities throughout the United States, teaching in schools and preaching in churches.

In the late 1970's, he became very involved in El Salvador during the time Bishop Romero was Archbishop of El Salvador. Fr. Roy spent time in El Salvador witnessing the plight of the poor firsthand. From these experiences Fr. Roy became an advocate for the poor and voiceless in Latin America. For the past 18 years, Fr. Roy has been an educator in colleges and churches around the country on Latin American studies.

In 1990 he became the founder of the SOA Watch in Columbus, Georgia.

He is the 1996 recipient of the Franciscan Federation of U.S. Peace Maker of the Year Award. He is the 1997 recipient of the Pax Christi, Pope Paul VI Teacher of Peace Award.

Fr. Roy is the heart and soul of the SOA Watch and a tireless advocate of human rights.

### **Rev. Dr. Nicholas Cardell**

On March 23, 1998, Rev. Dr. Nicholas Cardell entered Federal prison.

Rev. Cardell grew up in Manhattan. He received a B.A. from Columbia College and a B.D. from Meadville-Lombard Theological School at the University of Chicago. In 1987 he received his Doctor of Divinity from this school.

Rev. Cardell has been a church minister for over forty years. Currently he is the Unitarian Universalist Minister with the May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society in Syracuse.

Rev. Cardell served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was stationed overseas with his Parachute Infantry 101, Airborne Division. He was captured in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium on January 3, 1945. He was a POW for three months before he managed to escape. His unit received recognition for their efforts with the Belgium Forreger Award, two Presidential citations and the Good Conduct Medal.

Rev. Cardell has been married since 1974. He has two children, a son and a daughter. His son is an associate professor at Washington State University. His daughter is a social worker, now living and working in New York City. She currently counsels recovering addicts.

Rev. Cardell has been actively involved in the community throughout the years. He has served on the Board of Peace Action of Central New York. He was chairman of the Board of Planned Parenthood of Syracuse, New York.

Rev. Cardell has been active in assisting the community through his congregation. His church hosts 12 step meetings, the Syracuse Community Choir and assists other churches with meals for the needy. His congregation is well connected with the community and enjoys a wonderful reputation for service.

**Mary Earley**

On March 23, 1998, Mary Earley entered Federal prison.

Mary Earley is 67 years old, a former Roman Catholic nun from North Palm Beach, Florida.

Mary was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED]. As a young woman, Mary met social rights worker Dorothy Day. "Her philosophy and the Catholic Worker Community in New York have probably been the biggest adult influence on my life. There I saw the beatitudes being lived and it strongly influenced my life and my passion for pacifism."

At 17, Mary became a nun with the Presentation Sisters in Newburgh, New York. She left the convent in the 1960's and became a special education teacher for the New York school system, caring for children in the city's hospitals.

Later she became active in Pax Christi, an international Roman Catholic peace movement.

Mary moved to Florida in 1994. She is an active community volunteer. In addition to her SOA activities, she serves regularly at the soup kitchen at St. George's Church in Riviera Beach.

**Sr. Marge Eilerman, OSF**

On March 23, 1998, Sr. Marge Eilerman entered Federal prison.

Sr. Marge Eilerman was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED]. She has nine brothers and sisters. Her father served in World War I and two of her brothers served in World War II.

She attended colleges at Miami University, Oxford and Mary Manse College in Toledo, Ohio.

Sr. Marge entered the Franciscan community in Tiffin, Ohio in 1957. From 1960-1970, she taught elementary students in small rural schools in Northwestern Ohio. From 1970-1974, Sr. Marge worked as a missionary in Chiapas, Mexico with the rural poor. She returned to the United States and worked as a pastoral associate for 20 years in Eastern Kentucky.

Sr. Marge has been involved in a number of civic activities. She served four years on the local mental health board, Kentucky River Community Care. She is currently on the Board of Directors for a small factory, Appalachian Environmental Products, Inc. This factory was formed as an attempt to create employment in an impoverished community. She has served on the Board for the past three years.

She also belongs to a ministerial association, a group of ministers in her region, who work together to provide community services, religion and outreach services to the poor, including emergency food, housing and paying overdue utility bills.

In 1995, Sr. Marge received the Lexington Diocesan Mission Award, given to outstanding missionary workers. In 1996, Sr. Marge received Outstanding Board Member Award of the Kentucky River Community Care.

#### Sr. Mary Kay Flanigan

On March 23, 1998, Sr. Mary Kay Flanigan entered Federal prison.

She is 65 years old.

She was born (b)(6) She has an older sister and a younger brother, now deceased. She has 10 nieces and nephews and 17 grandnieces and nephews.

She received her MSW from Loyola University in Chicago in 1959. She is also certified as a spiritual companion. Sr. Flanigan's life has been dedicated to bettering children's lives as a teacher and a social worker.

Sr. Flanigan worked as a psychiatric social worker in the field of child neglect and abuse in Chicago from 1959-1977. During this period of time, she worked with families struggling with issues of child abuse and neglect, with the hopes of family reconciliation. She did this work at Mercy Hospital, the Institute for Juvenile Research and the Juvenile Protective Association, all located in Chicago. At that time she was also a field work instructor for graduate students.

Sr. Flanigan entered the Novetia in Rochester, Minnesota in 1977 to become a Franciscan nun.

She returned to Chicago's inner-city neighborhoods in 1979 and worked as a staff worker and coordinator with Chicago's Uptown Ministry until 1991. This is an Ecumenical Community Center dedicated to a variety of programs, including a pre-school, an after school child care program and counseling for those in need.

Sr. Flanigan was a board member for REST, a shelter for homeless adults.

Currently Sr. Flanigan works with the Eighth Day Center for Justice in Chicago. This organization is funded by 28 different religious congregations and works primarily in the areas of economics rights, women's rights and environmental issues. Sr. Flanigan also serves as a counselor to indigent people several days a week at the Chicago Uptown Ministry.

In August of 1997, Sr. Flanigan was in Chiapas, Mexico with the Christian Peacemaker's team, and was deeply touched by the stories of refugees and others in the Northern War zone.

#### Anne Herman

On January 30, 1998, Anne Herman entered Federal prison.

Anne Herman is 64 years old and a mother of six.

She received her master's degree from the State University of New York, Binghamton, New York. She taught school for many years, along with raising her family.

She became involved in a number of human rights activities including welfare rights, Native American rights, and domestic violence issues.

She has held a variety of jobs including working as a paralegal and doing social work, including helping families through the Family and Children Society. She has also worked for the Volunteers of America.

Her children are grown and some are married. She has three grandchildren and is looking forward to the birth of her fourth grandchild expected in June.

Since October 1997, she has lived at the Zachaeus House, a Catholic Worker House in Binghamton, New York. This Catholic Worker House has been primarily a shelter for women, children and families in crises for the past 20 years.

Currently Anne is a member of the Christian Peace Maker Teams, which serves as a witness to international areas in conflict.

#### Christopher Jones

On March 23, 1998, Christopher Jones entered Federal prison.

Christopher Jones is 23 years old and was born [REDACTED] (b)(6)

Christopher is the son of Dr. Stephen R. Jones, Chief of Medicine at Good Samaritan and Emanuel hospitals, and a long time member of Physicians for Social Responsibility. Chris has a bachelor's degree in Latin America Studies.

Christopher became interested in the movement to close the School of the Americas when he did an internship in Western Belize, working with refugees from Guatemala and El Salvador. The personal stories about the violence done by SOA graduates compelled him to work for the closure of the school. After he graduated he spent three months

working with the Kaquiokel Mayan Indians who also had horrific stories of violence perpetrated by SOA trained soldiers.

Christopher has been accepted into a PhD program at Tulane University where he will be studying anthropology. He is scheduled to begin school next September.

#### **Paddy Inman**

On March 23, 1998, Paddy Inman entered Federal prison.

Paddy Inman was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) along with six other siblings. His father was a career serviceman, serving in both the Army Air Corps and the Air Force. He is 52 years old.

Paddy graduated from Gonzaga University and has been a high school teacher for the past 28 years. During these years, Paddy completed two masters degrees in education while teaching Advanced Placement English, At-Risk programs for disadvantaged students, Life Skills for Adolescents as well as coaching the cross-country team and raising his children. He is currently teaching in the Mead School District and is scheduled to start next fall at Mt. Spokane High School. Paddy currently teaches English.

Paddy has three children. His son Matthew attends the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and is working towards his doctorate in Physics. His daughter, Denie, is currently doing her student teaching through Gonzaga University and daughter, Casey, is an honors student and high school senior.

Paddy is an active volunteer in his community. He is the past Chairman of the Spokane Neighborhood Centers Committee, which runs the Spokane Neighborhood Centers, providing outreach, food stamps, and other assistance to low income and disenfranchised people. Currently he is a member of the Peace and Justice Action League in Spokane. He was also the chairman of the Board of the Spokane Catholic Family Services, which helps run adoption agencies, counseling services and neighborhood outreach programs.

Paddy is an avid runner and bicycle tourer.

#### **Rev. Ken Kennon**

On March 23, 1998, Rev. Ken Kennon entered Federal prison.

He is 63 years old.

He was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) and has one sister and one brother. His brother served in the U.S. Army in the 1950's. At that same time, Rev. Kennon served with the FBI for three years as a security clerk.

He received his B.A. and master of divinity from Texas Christian University, and is an ordained clergyman. He has been a minister for 30 years.

Rev. Kennon has been married for 45 years to Mary Ellen Kennon and they have five children, one deceased and 15 grandchildren.

At this time, Rev. Kennon serves part time at Community Christian Church in Arizona City, Arizona.

He and his wife, Mary Ellen, both own and operate adult care homes for the elderly in Tucson, Arizona. This interest arose when Rev. Kennon's mother-in-law was ailing and he and his wife cared for her. They learned the needs of the elderly and what resources were available. They entered the care for the elderly because both Rev. Kennon and his wife were concerned that elderly care was below appropriate living standards.

His wife, Mary Ellen serves as President of the Council on Adult Care Homes in Tucson. Mary Ellen and Rev. Kennon have two large elderly care residences that boast an excellent reputation. They have had these businesses for 12 years.

Over the years, Rev. Kennon's civic works have included: Tucson SOA Watch, Tucson Pastors for Peace, Tucson Ecumenical Council, Task Force for Central America, Tucson Ecumenical Council Legal Assistance (TECLA), Community Food Bank, Arizona Friends of the Farm Workers, Tucson Ecumenical Council, Michigan Farm Worker Ministry, National Farm Worker Ministry, Public Housing Commission, City of Dowagiac, MI, Cass County Non-Profit Housing Corporation, MI, Tri-County Migrant Ministry, Azie Public Library, City of Azie, Azie, TX, Tarrant County Council on Alcoholism, and Alanon Family Groups.

### Ed Kinane

Ed Kinane is 53 years old and was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) He has three siblings. One is a public defender attorney in Orlando, Florida, another is a college teacher at Auburn Community College, and a third is a "JAG" with the U.S. Army.

Ed received his education from Fordham College and Syracuse University where he graduated magna cum laude. He has a masters in anthropology from the New School for Social Research in New York City.

His partner of 13 years is Ann Tiffany, a retired psychiatric nurse.

Ed has been an active community volunteer. He also taught anthropology for two years at Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, Washington. He has been a volunteer with jail ministries, counseling local inmates in Syracuse.

Ed worked for the Syracuse Peace Council for 20 years. He also taught 8th grade one year in Kwanza, Kenya in 1980, and worked for a time on Wall Street.

From 1985-1987 he worked at a local Syracuse agency called Transitional Living Services, Inc. He worked with the developmentally disabled helping them to become independent. From 1988-1997, he has worked with Peace Brigades International. Ed began working with the SOA Watch in 1994 and is currently active with that group full time.

For his efforts for peace, he has received honors from the ACLU.

#### **Dwight Lawton**

On March 23, 1998, Dwight Lawton entered Federal prison.

Mr. Lawton was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED]. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1953-1956. His brother, now deceased, served in the U.S. Air Force from 1956-1967.

Mr. Lawton received his B.A. from Franklin-Marshall College in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Lawton has three children, one daughter is a homemaker and mother of his only grandchild. The other daughter is in graduate school at the University of Michigan Medical School. Mr. Lawton's son is a businessman in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Mr. Lawton is now retired, but was formerly a corporate business officer in commercial truck leasing and sales. He worked throughout the midwest, New York and Minneapolis.

Mr. Lawton is currently involved in many community service activities. He is on the board for the National Farm Worker Ministry, which advocates for improving conditions for farm workers. He is also involved with the ACLU.

#### **Rita Lucey**

On March 23, 1998, Rita Lucey entered Federal prison.

Rita has been married for the last 46 years to Dan Lucey, a career military man with the U.S. Air Force. She has four children, her youngest is adopted, and was a former foster child of hers. In addition to parenting her own children, Rita spent four years as a foster parent to children in need. Her oldest son, Daniel, is a physician in internal medicine in Silver Springs, Maryland. Another son, David, own a welding business in St. Cloud, Florida. Her daughter, Elizabeth, is a R.N. and works with terminally ill patients in Orlando, Florida. The youngest son, Timothy, is a pastry chef on the Choctaw reservation in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

Rita held a management position with AT&T for 13 years and was active with Boy and Girl Scouts and team sports when her children were young. After retiring, she has been an active volunteer.

From 1994-1997, she volunteered at a Battered Women's Shelter. In addition, she has been a hospice volunteer for the past 8 years.

Rita is currently the President of the United Nations Association of Greater Orlando, which educates and advocates for the United Nations in the United States.

Mrs. Lucey is also an active member of the following: Pax Christi, an international social network for peace, Common Cause, and The Board of Radio for Peace International.

She received her masters in 1997 from Loyal University in Pastoral Ministry.

She is a grandmother of six, ages 4 through 14.

### Bill McNulty

On March 23, 1998, Bill McNulty entered Federal prison.

He was born (b)(6) and is an only child. His uncles and cousins served in World War I and World War II. Two of Bill's sons served in the Armed Forces also. One son was in the Navy in World War II and another son served in the Air Force and is also a physician.

Bill attended Fordham University and received a teacher's certificate. He taught math and history to junior high students for 14 years in the Sachse Central Schools in Suffolk County, Long Island. Bill left teaching in 1972 to do carpentry and construction business full time.

Bill has been married for 41 years and has six children. Bill's wife was a teacher for 17 years in the South Country School District and taught special education in the elementary grades.

Bill is an active volunteer. He, together with others, set up a soup kitchen at St. James Catholic Church in 1991. It serves 300 people weekly. He also helped establish the Food Pantry, an emergency food provider for people in need. The Food Pantry was relocated three times, until Bill renovated a broken down building and established its permanent home. It serves 1,600 to 2,000 a month.

**Sr. Megan Rice, SHCJ**

On March 23, 1998, Sr. Megan Rice entered Federal prison.

Sr. Rice was born (b)(6) with her two sisters. Her mother was a history teacher at Hunter College in Manhattan. She also taught one of the first courses in Black History Studies. Her father was an obstetrician and worked at Bellevue Hospital. She attended Villanova and Boston Colleges and received a masters in biology. She became a nun in 1950 with the Sisters of the Holy Child Order. She went to Nigeria in 1962 and remained there almost entirely until 1996. She taught secondary students science, math and religious education and also leadership training for community leaders.

She returned to New York from 1986-1991 to care for her elderly mother and has since moved back to New York permanently to care for her mother, now 94 years old.

In addition to caring for her mother, Sr. Rice works part time at an inner-city parish, St. Lucy's Parish, in Syracuse. She assists with pastoral work and the RCIA, initiation of adult Christians. With her parish she works with numerous dysfunctional families providing intervention and counseling to families in need.

**Carol Richardson**

On January 21, 1998, Carol Richardson entered Federal prison. She along with two others, Dr. Richard Streb and Anne Herman, were arrested November 16, 1997 and pled nolo contendere at their November 19, 1997 arraignment.

Carol was born (b)(6). She has one brother. Her father was a machinist and her mother was a homemaker. Her brother served in the United States military.

Carol received her master of divinity degree from Methodist Theological Seminary in Ohio.

Carol has two children. Her daughter received her B.A. from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and her master's degree from Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. Her son served in the United States Coast Guard for 4 years and is currently a computer consultant.

Carol worked as a United Methodist minister in Ohio from 1980-1983, serving two small rural churches. She also was the minister for a church in Maryland.

She moved with her family to the Washington, D.C. area in 1983. From 1983-1987, Carol worked for Bread for the World, a hunger advocacy organization.

She also has worked for a variety of Peace and Justice Agencies in D.C., including Witness for Peace, as a delegation and program coordinator. Carol is currently the co-director of the SOA watch in Washington, D.C.

**Dan Sage, Ph.D.**

On March 23, 1998, Dr. Dan Sage and his wife Doris Sage entered Federal prison. Dan is 70 years old. He has been married for 51 years since 1947 and has two sons and three grandchildren. He was born (b)(6) and resided there until 1965 when he moved to Syracuse with his family. Dan came from a family of five children. His brother and he served in the U.S. military. Dan was in the Navy in World War II and his brother served in the Army. He has three sisters.

Dr. Sage attended college at the University of Oregon and received his doctorate in education.

Dan Sage was a professor of special education and administration from 1965-1992 at Syracuse University. Currently he is professor emeritus and advises students at Syracuse. Dr. Sage received the Distinguished Service Award from the Council of Administrators of Special Education in 1990.

He has been a member of Phi Delta Kappa Educational Honorary Society for 48 years.

He has authored four textbooks in the field of special education administration.

Dr. Sage has been an active volunteer in his community.

He is a member of the May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society and is currently on the Board of Trustees. He participates in the Social Responsibility Committee with his church. Dr. Sage is active with local civil rights and labor rights groups.

His church feeds the hungry through a local kitchen whose shared responsibility includes numerous other local churches.

**Doris Sage**

As stated above, Doris Sage entered Federal prison March 23, 1998.

She is 68 years old. Doris comes from a family of four children and was born and (b)(6) One brother served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

In addition to being a wife and mother, Doris received a degree from Syracuse University in 1968 and her masters in 1975. She taught in the Syracuse City school system

for many years in special education, including eight years at Martin Luther King Elementary. Mrs. Sage is now retired and is a storyteller. She tells folk tales, fairy tales and has also written stories.

Doris is also an active volunteer both with her church and locally. She volunteers with jail ministers at the local city jail.

Doris has traveled to El Salvador and Guatemala. There she became interested in delegations for Witness for Peace and the SOA Watch.

### Randy Serraglio

On March 23, 1998, Randy Serraglio entered Federal prison.

Randy grew up in Cleveland, Ohio and has four brothers. His father served two tours in Vietnam for the U.S. Air Force. He was born (b)(6)

Randy is 34 years old. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Arizona. He received a B.A. in Latin American Services, and did a term with AmeriCorps, President Clinton's National Service Program. With AmeriCorps he did various service projects on the Hopi, Navajo and Apache reservations. This work included a sustainable agriculture project, which focused on efforts to reduce water usage, increase profitability and address rural poverty.

Randy has been an active member of the community. From 1994-1995, he was the assistant director of the Arizona League of Conservation Voters. He currently is a volunteer with Border Links and the Tucson Blue Society.

### Sr. Rita Steinhagen, CSJ

On March 23, 1998, Sr. Rita Steinhagen entered Federal prison.

Sr. Rita was born (b)(6) along with two siblings, a younger brother and an older sister. Her father served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in France during World War I. Her brother also served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Sr. Rita graduated in biology and chemistry from St. Catherine's College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Sr. Rita entered the Sisters of St. Joseph Carondelet of St. Paul Providence in 1951. She worked as a medical technologist in various hospitals from 1956-1969 in North Dakota.

In 1969, Sr. Rita returned to Minneapolis, Minnesota and started a "free store," that provided the needy with various donated goods. From there she developed an interest in

the "runaway youth," who frequented her store. Through much effort she opened the Bridge for Run-Away Youth, a group home for run-aways. This shelter provided a home and counseling to these troubled youngsters. This home has now expanded to three homes and they continue to provide professional counseling and assistance.

Sr. Rita and another nun also started St. Joseph's House in 1976, a Catholic Worker House in Minneapolis, for homeless women and children. It has expanded and grown into a community and continues to provide a home and counseling for people in need.

Sr. Rita is now 70 years old. She currently works with clients at the Center for Victim's of Torture, a center initiated originally by a committee formed under Governor Rudy Pertich. 400,000 victims of torture currently live in the U.S., 12-14,000 live in Minnesota. Her center provides counseling, specific to these issues, for 150 or so clients a year. Sr. Rita assists clients with housing and apartment furnishings.

#### Richard Streb, Ph.D.

Dr. Richard Streb is currently scheduled to report to prison September 21, 1998. He pled "no contest" on November 19, 1997 at his arraignment before Magistrate Slaughter and was sentenced to serve six months and pay a \$3,000 fine. (b)(6)

Magistrate Slaughter never advised Dr. Streb of his right to a pre-sentence investigation prior to being sentenced. Because of this error, Dr. Streb filed an appeal. He was scheduled to enter Federal prison March 23, 1998, regardless of the appeal. Due to his wife's health concerns, his attorney, Peter Thompson, negotiated a "deal." Dr. Streb would withdraw his appeal, and in return he could begin his prison term in September of 1998.

Dr. Streb is 72 years old. He was born (b)(6) and has eight siblings. He served three years in the United States Navy in World War II. As a result of his outstanding service, he received 13 Battle Stars, a Presidential citation from Harry S. Truman, and the Philippine Liberation Medal.

After World War II he acquired his high school diploma and entered Syracuse University. He received his masters in education from Columbia University.

Dr. Streb married his high school sweetheart, Rosemary Lavrer, in 1958. They have one daughter, who owns a horse farm, and is a tour leader in Lexington, Virginia.

Dr. Streb and his wife are retired teachers. Dr. Streb taught high school on Long Island for 25 years, until 1978. (b)(6) He retired from high school teaching (b)(6) he returned to teach Latin American Studies at the Teacher's College of Columbia University for nine years.

Dr. Streb has been active with civil rights issues since World War II. He has been an advocate to the homeless. He has assisted in Nicaragua.

As a teacher he took students to Nicaragua. As a person concerned with human rights and welfare he built schools and playgrounds and restored churches in Nicaragua.

Dr. Streb and his wife moved to Virginia in 1989 to be closer to their daughter.

He has published numerous books and publications.

### Ann Tiffany

On March 23, 1998, Ann Tiffany entered Federal prison.

Ann Tiffany, was born (b)(6). She has three siblings. Ann received her B.A. from Mt. Holyoke College in Massachusetts, her R.N. from Hartford Community Hospital and her M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Chapman College, Syracuse, New York.

Ann has worked as a public health nurse, a college health nurse, a community mental health nurse and as a clinical supervisor at Hutchings Psychiatric Center in Syracuse.

She is and has been an active volunteer. Some of her volunteer work include: The Living Room, a center for people with Aids, Witness for Peace, Peace Brigades International, Syracuse Peace Counsel, Caribbean Latin American Coalition and the SOA Watch.

Ann has four children and 12 grandchildren.

### Mary Trotochaud

Mary Trotochaud was born (b)(6). She has 10 brothers and sisters. Her mother was a homemaker and her father a business executive. Her father served with the U.S. Marines in World War II. Her oldest brother served in Vietnam.

Mary attended college for one year and discovered her calling as a potter. She had four years of training in pottery and has been a potter all her life. She also does catering.

Mary is 47 years old and has lived in Atlanta, Georgia for the past 38 years. She has 25 nieces and nephews. All of her siblings live near or around Atlanta, with the exception of one sister in Pittsburgh. Several sisters are nurses in Atlanta, one of those is the head nurse at Children's Hospital in Atlanta. Her sister in Pittsburgh is a mother and nurse. Another sister is a primary school teacher. Two brothers own small businesses in Atlanta.

Another brother is an electrical engineer. One sister is a mother and homemaker and another sister is a chef.

Several nieces and nephews attend colleges in Atlanta and Athens, Georgia.

Mary is a talented event organizer. She has used these skills to assist not only her family, but events with the SOA Watch.

Mary is close to and actively involved with her family. Her first priority is to her family.

### Judith Williams

Judith Williams entered Federal prison March 23, 1998.

Ms. Williams was born (b)(6). She has one sister and one brother.

Judith received her master's degree in music at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in 1981 and graduated with honors. She is a music therapist.

She has three children and six grandchildren. One daughter is a widow with four children and is currently a senior at the University of Wisconsin. Her son is an emergency medical technician, and lives in Wisconsin. Her other daughter is a Fullbright Scholar, has two children, and works with her husband at his veterinarian clinic.

Judith is currently the executive director of the Catholic Worker House in Waukesha. This house brings patients from Central America to Waukesha for surgery. As executive director, Judith is directly responsible and involved with making the meals for these patients, taking them to their hospital visits and overseeing their care.

Judith is also involved with the Prison Ministry at the County Jail and plays the organ for the Sunday jail services.

As a music therapist, Judith uses music as a treatment form. She works with children with learning disabilities and also with nursing home patients.

Judith was awarded the YWCA, "Peacemaker of the Year Award" in May 1997.

She is an active grandparent and provides full time care every Thursday to her two grandchildren living in Madison.

Her total income is (b)(6) a year. "I live close to the bones, so I can be helpful to other people."

### Ruthy Woodring

Ruthy Woodring is a 24 year old student at the University of Illinois. She is a Spanish major on the Dean's Honor List. Currently, she is a member of the St. Francis Catholic Worker House. Ruthy began serving her six month sentence on March 23, 1998.

She was born [REDACTED] (b)(6) and is the youngest of eight children. Her father served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and is now a Presbyterian minister. Her mother is a family practice physician. Her siblings hold various occupations. Her oldest brother lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with his wife and two sons. He works in the field of animal research. Her sister Sarah also works in Raleigh. Her sister Ginny is a homemaker with three children, whose husband teaches in Bristol, Tennessee. Her brother Jonathan is a Presbyterian minister in Marietta, Ohio. Her brother Chris is in Bolivia with the Mennonite Central Committee and works in agricultural development. Her sister Juji attends nursing school at the University of Illinois. Sister, Debby, lives with her husband in New York and is a teacher.

Ruthy has been living and working at St. Francis Catholic Worker House in Chicago, Illinois for the past five years. St. Francis assists homeless men and women. Sometimes people are referred by local government agencies, but most are homeless people coming in off the streets who have heard of St. Francis by word of mouth.

Ruthy is a dedicated student and human rights activist.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1998

The Honorable Bruce F. Vento  
Member of Congress  
2304 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Vento:

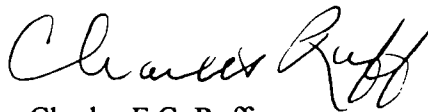
Thank you for your recent letter to President Clinton regarding the 25 individuals convicted of a trespass offense following a demonstration at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia. The President has asked me to respond on his behalf.

I have been informed by the Department of Justice that the Office of the Pardon Attorney has received a letter requesting commutations of sentence on behalf of all 25 individuals. I have also been informed that, under long-standing procedures established by the Department of Justice, these individuals are not yet eligible to apply for commutation of sentence because all are either appealing their convictions, or have not yet begun serving their sentences.

I have forwarded your letter to the Office of the Pardon Attorney so it will be included in their review of the matter, should those individuals decide to file applications once they are eligible.

Thank you again for contacting the President about this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles Ruff".

Charles F.C. Ruff  
Counsel to the President

cc: Roger C. Adams  
Acting Pardon Attorney

BRUCE F. VENTO  
4TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

2304 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-7304  
(202) 225-11631

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
GALTIER PLAZA  
176 FIFTH ST., E.  
RM. 727, BOX 100  
ST. PAUL, MN 55101  
(612) 224-4803

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
RESOURCES

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2504**

April 2, 1998

Honorable Bill Clinton  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to bring to your attention a case of considerable interest.

As you may know, the U.S. Army School of Americas (SOA) was established in 1946 to train military officers from Latin American countries. To date, nearly 60,000 military personnel from various Latin American countries have attended the SOA. Unfortunately, upon returning to their home countries, many graduates have instigated challenges to self-determination and participated in the overthrow of democratically elected governments and have been implicated in the broad abuses of human rights. It is apparent that the SOA did not teach its students proper and ethical conduct, rather perverse lessons were learned, which have historically been used to abuse the people of Central and South America.

Recently declassified documents has revealed the profoundly anti-democratic methods used to train Latin American militaries at the SOA. The Pentagon has released seven training manuals demonstrating that as recently as 1992, the SOA was distributing materials which instructed the student trainees in execution, extortion, and torture.

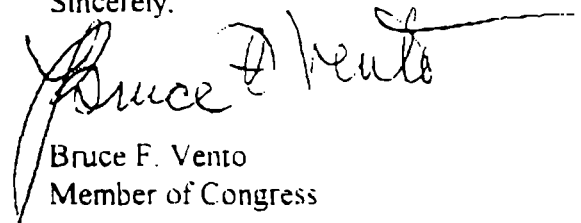
Over 600 arrests occurred on Sunday, November 16, 1997. 2000 people gathered at the main gate of Fort Benning, Georgia for a prayer vigil and memorial service marking the eighth anniversary of the massacre of six Jesuit priests and two women in El Salvador in 1989 by graduates of the SOA. One of my constituents, Sister Rita Steinhagen, was among 25 people found guilty January 21, 1998 in a Federal court in Georgia of trespassing at the SOA. Currently, these Americans, who have devoted their lives to alleviating social injustice, are serving six months in Federal prisons throughout the United States. These arrests at the SOA are the largest number of nonviolent civil disobedience arrests at one time in the U.S. in over a decade. It is indeed ironic that people such as these can be sent to prison for having the audacity to repeatedly and peacefully protest the SOA while the SOA's graduates outrageous conduct remains unpunished.

Mr. President, I know you share with me the responsibility to uphold the law and ideals of social

justice. We must honor and respect the men and women who have sacrificed their lives for the well being of others and those willing to raise their voices to the contradiction within our system. Justice will not be served by the imprisonment of these peaceful demonstrators. The core values of our society have been ill served by the tragic consequences of the SOA operation.

Therefore, I urge you to consider calling for an early release of all 25 Americans currently imprisoned during this altercation with the SOA. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce F. Vento", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bruce F. Vento  
Member of Congress

BFV.ms

BRUCE F. VENTO  
4TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

2304 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2304  
(202) 225-6631

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
GALTIER PLAZA  
176 FIFTH ST. E  
RM. 727, BOX 100  
ST. PAUL, MN 55101  
(612) 274-4502

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
RESOURCES

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2304

***FAX COVER SHEET***

To: White House - Dawn Shirwa

From: Marc Smith

Fax: 202-456-1647

Date: 4-2

Pages 3

**Comments**

*\* (Time Sensitive) \**  
*Urgent*  
*- Formal Letter will Follow*

If you receive this fax in error, please call (202) 225-6631. Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 12, 1998

The Honorable Joseph P. Kennedy II  
Member of Congress  
2242 Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Kennedy:

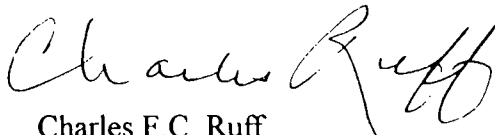
Thank you for your recent letter to President Clinton concerning commutations for the 26 men and women convicted of a trespass offense for events that occurred at the U.S. Army School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia. The President has asked me to respond on his behalf.

According to long-standing guidelines established by the Department of Justice, any person seeking a commutation of his or her sentence must file an application with the Pardon Attorney at the Justice Department. The Justice Department then conducts an extensive investigation of those applications, and then forwards them to the President along with a recommendation as to whether the petitions should be granted or denied.

I have been informed that none of those 26 individuals to whom you refer in your letter has filed an application with the Pardon Attorney. Accordingly, whether to commute any of their sentences is not currently pending before the President. Should any of those individuals decide to apply for a commutation, forms and information on the clemency process are available from the Office of the Pardon Attorney, Department of Justice, 500 First Street, N.W., Fourth Floor, Washington, D.C., 20530. I will forward your letter to that office so it will be included in any review process undertaken by the Department of Justice in the future.

Thank you very much for taking the time to share with the President your views on such an important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Ruff", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles F.C. Ruff  
Counsel to the President

cc: Roger C. Adams  
Acting Pardon Attorney

JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II  
6TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

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## Congress of the United States

### House of Representatives

2242 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2108  
(202) 225-5111

SUITE 605, THE SCHRAFFT CENTER  
529 MAIN STREET  
CHARLESTOWN, MA 02129  
(617) 242-0200

801(A) TREMONT STREET  
ROXBURY, MA 02118  
(617) 445-1281

March 5, 1998

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20502

MAR 10 4 11 PM '98

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to request that you commute the sentences of 26 men and women who were convicted in federal court of charges arising from protests at the U.S. Army School of Americas in Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Their acts of civil disobedience were courageous statements of conscience aimed at righting a fundamental wrong: The training of Latin American and Caribbean military officers at a facility that has amassed a disgraceful record among its graduates of oppression, torture, extortion, murder, and other human rights abuses.

Among the emerging democracies of our hemisphere, our country should be associated with the rule of law and respect for democracy, not the law of might over right and complete disregard for human life. Though steps have reportedly been taken to reform the curriculum at the facility, follow-up reports by the Inspector General of the Department of Defense have shown that the school continues to lack the oversight and monitoring needed to ensure that the men we train use their skills to uphold rather than trample on the human and civil rights of their innocent countrymen.

Whatever purpose the School of the Americas may have served during the Cold War, the utility of the school in the East-West struggle has long since passed into the twilight of history. It is time to uphold democracy in our hemisphere and end our nation's association with such SOA graduates as death-squad leader Roberto D'Aubuisson of El Salvador, convicted drug-dealer Manuel Noriega of Panama, and Haitian coup leader Raoul Cedras.

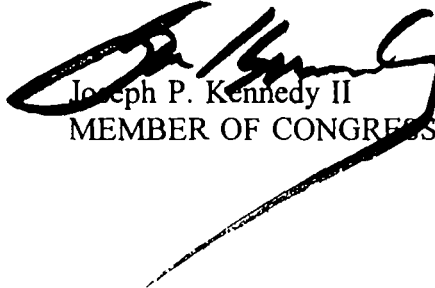
As you know, support has been growing in the U.S. Congress to shut down the School of Americas. The protesters -- who include combat veterans of the U.S. armed forces, clergy, and teachers from around the country -- are not criminals but deeply principled witnesses for peace and justice who support our efforts in Washington to close down the school.

President Clinton  
Page Two  
March 5, 1998

It was 228 years ago today that a group of brave Bostonians stood up to a squad of British soldiers outside the State House in Massachusetts to protest unlawful taxation, expropriation of private property, and the abuse of civilians by the military. It is entirely appropriate that we recall the sacrifice of these heroes in appealing to you, Mr. President, to show mercy to these protesters.

Mr. President, you have spoken out forcefully and eloquently on our nation's historic standing as a beacon of liberty and justice to people throughout the world. Commuting the sentences of the 26 protesters would send the message that our nation treats its citizens with the kind of generosity of spirit and respect that is so lacking in the graduates of the School of Americas.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Kennedy II  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

JPK/boc



U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Pardon Attorney

Thank you for your recent correspondence to the Attorney General concerning the 25 persons recently sentenced in the Middle District of Georgia for a trespass offense at Fort Benning, Georgia, involving what has been termed a protest against the continued presence of the School of the Americas at that military base. The Justice Department has received numerous letters similar to yours suggesting that the Attorney General should "investigate" the sentences imposed in these cases and that she recommend a Presidential pardon.

Sentencing is purely the prerogative of the court. Moreover, many of these persons still have appeals of their sentences or convictions pending and the Department does not discuss ongoing cases with persons other than the defendants or their attorneys.

As for a Presidential pardon, under the Department's regulations governing executive clemency, a person currently serving a prison sentence is not eligible to apply for a full pardon, although he may apply for clemency in the form of commutation (reduction) of his sentence if he is not presently challenging his conviction or sentence through appeal or other court proceeding. To date, none of these individuals has applied for clemency, and, as noted, they may not be eligible to apply because of the pendency of an appeal. You should be advised that commutation of sentence is an extraordinary remedy that is very rarely granted. However, all petitions are carefully considered.

We appreciate your time and thought in writing to the Attorney General.

3/10  
no petitions on file  
2 letters have been  
sent, but no  
applications -



## U. S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

APR 15 1998

Debra K. Hannula, Esq.  
Committee for Clemency/Pardon of the SOA Protesters  
1315 Madison Street #286  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Dear Ms. Hannula:

We have received your letter of April 3, 1998, concerning the 25 individuals convicted and sentenced in the Middle District of Georgia for a trespass offense at Fort Benning, Georgia, on November 16, 1997, involving a demonstration against the continued presence of the School of the Americas at that military base. In your letter, you have requested that the sentences of all of these individuals be commuted, and you have indicated that you represent all 25 persons in connection with the clemency request.

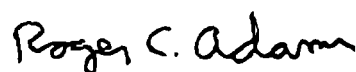
It is our understanding that all of these individuals, with the exception of Dr. Richard Streb, are presently appealing their convictions and sentences. Following my conversation with you on April 13, 1998, in which you represented that your clients are appealing only the fines imposed and that you seek on their behalf commutation of their prison sentences, this Office confirmed with the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Georgia that the notices of appeal filed by local counsel for your clients in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit indicate that they are appealing both their convictions and sentences. We assume that you will be in contact with their local counsel in Georgia regarding this matter. In addition, we have learned that Father Bichsel, Sister Eilerman, Mr. Kinane, and Ms. Trotochaud have not yet begun serving their sentences because they are awaiting sentencing in another case. We also understand from your submission that Dr. Streb's reporting date to begin service of his sentence has been postponed until September 21, 1998.

Pursuant to well-established clemency procedures, a request for commutation of sentence is not entertained when the petitioner has alternative relief available through appeal or other court proceeding or before the petitioner has begun service of his sentence. See § 1.3, Rules Governing Petitions for Executive Clemency; ¶ 2, Information and Instructions on

-2-

Commutations and Remissions (copies enclosed). Under the circumstances, none of the 25 individuals you represent is presently eligible to apply for commutation of sentence. In the event that some or all of your clients wish to apply for such relief when they become eligible to do so, you may contact this Office for further information regarding how to proceed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger C. Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Roger C. Adams  
Acting Pardon Attorney

Enclosures

**White House Rally**  
at Lafayette Park  
(Penn. Ave. at 16th Street NW)  
Sunday April 26  
12 noon - 5 PM

US Capitol  
Vigil & Lobby Action  
(East Center Steps)  
Monday & Tuesday  
April 27-28  
10 AM - 6 PM

[Click here for lodging information](#)

[Click to send email if you need a ride or can offer a ride to the DC protest in April](#)

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[SOA Watch Home Page](#) - [Send Email to SOA Watch](#)



## U.S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

500 FIRST STREET, N.W.  
FOURTH FLOOR

Washington, D.C. 20530

## TELECOPIER COVER SHEET

(202) 616-6070

FAX: (202) 616-6069

4/15/98

DATE

5:50 P.M.

TIME

TO: MEREDITH CARR

FROM: ROGER ADAMS

PHONE NO.:

456-7984

FAX NO.:

456-2146

SUBJECT:

A COPY OF MY LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY  
FOR THE SOA 25, AND AN INTERNET  
NOTICE OF THE WH RALLY ON  
4/26

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET

4

THE ORIGINAL OF THIS DOCUMENT WILL

WILL NOT

Y

FOLLOW.