

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. draft	Draft of Hillary Clinton's remarks (3 pages)	n.d.	P5
002. memo	Ellen McCulloch-Lovell and Leela de Souza to Hillary Rodham Clinton re: Next Millennium Evening at the White House (1 page)	12/22/1998	P5
003. draft	Talking Points for HRC Opening Remarks - 1/25/99 Millennium Evening (2 pages)	n.d.	P5
004. draft	Talking Points for President Clinton, Millennium Evening, The Meaning of the Millennium, With Professors Natalie Davis and Martin Marty (2 pages)	n.d.	P5
005. draft	Hillary Clinton's remarks (3 pages)	01/24/1999	P5, P6/b(6)
006. draft	Taling Points for HRC Opening Remarks - 1/25/99 Millennium Evening (2 pages)	n.d.	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 First Lady's Office
 Speechwriting (Laura Schiller: Events, Awards, Lectures, 1/99-3/99)
 OA/Box Number: 24625

FOLDER TITLE:

Millennium Evening-1/25/99

Kara Ellis
 2006-0504-F
 ke22

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]
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Rough early draft

Welcome to the world -- as it was seen by people 1,000 years ago. They saw everything pointing toward the East...for that is where the Garden of Eden could be found. They saw the Holy City of Jerusalem at the very center of the world. Now, as the map turns, Europe is shown as a large land with well-known contours. But they pictured the unknown -- Afria and Asia -- not only as incomplete masses, but filled with two-headed creatures and valleys full of devils. And then there were miscellaneous places it seems they weren't quite sure what to do with. So they spread them out as islands and stuck them in the dark sea. Ireland, or as it was called then, Scotia, even ended up off the coast of France somewhere. And, the new world is still no where to be found. How we draw our world depends upon how we imagine it.

Think about how differently we imagine it today. Tonight's fifth Millennium Evening at the White House will explore the meaning of the Millennium -- both the last one and the one about to arrive. With the calander recently flipping to 1999, there has already been a lot of talk about the Millennium...most of it centering on: how do we spell Millennium?...when can we celebrate it? Where will the biggest New Years Eve Party be? What is a Y2K bug and does it have anything to do with the Apocalypse? And, will there be enough Champagne to go around?

But tonight, we wanted to take a moment and go beyond some of these topics -- and answer some fundamental questions about how we can find meaning in this time -- and all time. How did people live 1,000 years ago? Did they approach it with fear or optimism? What is our Millennial thinking today? ~~How do we view it -- from a Chrisitan perspective and a humanistic one?~~ Do we see it as an end, a beginning, or both? ~~How do we make sense of our brief stay on earth...~~ and how do use this unique milestone to help understand our past...and prepare for the future?

As we answer these questions -- and pose new ones -- we are very fortunate to have two extraordinary speakers to guide us -- Natalie Zemon Davis and Martin Marty. And I am very thankful to everyone who has helped make this evening possible, especially our sponsors -- The National Endowment for the Humanities, the Howard Gilman Foundation, and John Leahy and all of Sun Microsystems who are responsible for the technology that is bringing this event to millions around the world via satellite and the internet.

Many people were responsible for the wonderful sights and sounds that are accompanying us on this journey. I'd like to thank the Library of Congress, for bringing the displays you saw in the gallery. The White House curators provided these historic clocks that have, through the ages, helped us keep track of time. I want to thank the Walters Art Gallery and NASA for providing the video images used in this evening's program. I want to thank Ex Umbris, for the music that so beautifully set the Medieval Mood in the East Room. And, fast fowarding into the future, I want to thank the team at Pioneer New Media Technology. They provided these plasma screens you see on both sides of the stage -- ~~which are the only ones capable of displaying~~ high-definition television.

the latest technology to

This White House Millennium lecture is part of a on-going series designed to spotlight the words, ideas, scholarship, science, creativity, and innovation that tell the story of who we are as a nation -- and who we want to be. [Professor Bailyn explored the origins and ideals of our Republic. Stephen Hawking uncovered the possibilities of science in the 21st century. Our Poets laureate celebrated the words that unite us and define us. And Wynton Marsalis helped us hear jazz as an expression of our democracy. In each case, it seemed that we were hosting the largest number of historians, physicists, poets, and jazz musicians ever at the White House. Tonight we continue that tradition. Because I think it is safe to say that we have in the East Room the largest gathering of Medievalists and Theologians ever to assemble at the White House.]

It is all part of the White House Millennium Program that the President and I created two years ago. We knew the turn of the century would mean great New Years Eve parties. We knew there would be Millennium toothpaste and potato chips and every other product you can imagine. But, we thought we had an opportunity for not just a celebration, but a conversation -- about the history, culture, art, values that bind us together -- and must stay with us forever. The theme we've chosen is Honor the Past; Imagine the Future. And that is exactly what we will try to do tonight.

The Roman Playwrite Terence said, "nothing human is alien to me." If we were transported back in time, there's quite a bit that would look familiar. University students writing home asking for their parents to send more money. Children praying not for world peace -- but for school to be cancelled. Parents desperate to find babysitters for their children. People laughing and loving, living and dying, just as they always have.

If we were transported back in time, we'd see some of our first town planners, property developers, and shoemakers -- who helped shape the world we inherited. We'd see the contributions of all cultures and all people, women and men, whose stories weave together our past -- and must be told and retold in the future. And if we were transported back to the Middle Ages, we'd see a very different way of measuring and accounting for time. There were no birthdays -- no one kept track of how old you were.

Time was slower. People traveled by cart and foot and ship. They could spend two whole years on a Pilgrimage to Jerusalem. And, of course, there were no telephones, e-mail, or beepers to interrupt them along the way. Something all of us have longed for at times. The ability to stop the clock and look more carefully around. Something all of us can try to incorporate into our lives today.

Because, even as we look at how we count time, we know that our challenge is to make time count in the future. Which is not a job for computers or clocks...but rather for human beings. Just as there were those who preached the end of the world at the last Millennium, we have no shortage of negative images from popular culture about the future. Most of the movies about the future show aliens descending from outerspace determined to blow up the world. And somehow they usually begin or end with Washington, D.C.

But, just as there were people preaching peace and unity and hope 1,000 years ago, we too have an opportunity to create a positive image of the future. So that, 1,000 years ago, when scholars are on this stage, they will not only shake their heads and wonder how we got anything done with our quaint satellite and internet technology. They will also talk about how we stopped the clock for a moment. How we took a look backwards and forwards. And found the hope to ~~discover the cures~~, to preserve our cultural and historic treasures, and create a world of peace for all children to inherit. Just as those who drew the map I showed earlier did for us today.

in
POTUS
remarks

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote:

"We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time."

No one has helped us look at these footprints... [in] [5]

image. Image of the future? Peace amidst violence...unity amidst dissent...We need a positive

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, White House Millennium Council
 Leela de Souza, White House Fellow

SUBJECT: Next Millennium Evening at the White House

DATE: 12-22-98

Melanne
 Capricia
 Patti
 Anne
 Leela

On New Year's Eve, the world will see the calendar flip to 1999. When all those nines line up, it will be a startling reminder that the year 2000 is nearly upon us. Many Americans, realizing that the next year is the millennial year, will begin to ask questions about what the millennium is, what it means and why the world is paying so much attention to this measure of time.

We propose that the fifth Millennium Evening at the White House be held January 25, 1999 to illuminate and prompt thoughtful discussion of the millennium. The working title is: **The Millennium: Making Meaning, Marking Time.** The idea is to have two distinguished scholars examine the millennium from several perspectives. One is religious - what the millennium means to Christians, both in reference to Biblical texts and as a contemporary time of renewal of faith. Another is humanistic: how do people mark time; why are commemorations important to people and societies; and fundamentally, how do we make meaning of our span on earth? Then, we would like to look at the year 1,000, the last millennium. From the perspective of a respected medievalist, how did the Christian world at that time react? Was it a time of fear, of apocalypse, or was it predominantly a time when Europe was emerging from the Dark Ages, beginning new forms of learning and commerce? The overall conclusion of both speakers would be that humankind must make meaning of life through time, and that we shape our future by the acts and commitments we make today, and through hope.

We recommend two speakers for this Millennium Evening -- one for the religious and humanistic viewpoints and one for the historical perspective. **Martin Marty** directs the Public Religion Project at the University of Chicago where he has taught for 35 years. He is professor emeritus of history of religion and refers to himself as a cultural historian. He has authored more than 50 books on modern American religion, and humankind's search for meaning. In 1997, Marty received the National Humanities Medal at the White House. He is known as a powerful and engaging public speaker, and can present both the religious and philosophical views.

Carolyn Bynum was recently named University Professor at Columbia University. She is a medievalist, a scholar of cultural and religious history, with an emphasis on women's spiritual experiences. She has authored at least ten books and won the MacArthur "genius" grant in 1986. She was recommended to the Millennium Council as one of the most respected medievalists who could set the historical context, describing the world at 1,000, and how we think differently approaching 2,000. Bynum will be the NEH Jefferson Lecturer in 1999. Information on both speakers is enclosed. We would like to formally invite the speakers next week.

The Social Office and we will be discussing a format that will work to present two speakers, as well as incorporate dynamic discussion and Internet questions.

___ Agree

___ Disagree

___ Let's discuss

Talking Points for HRC Opening Remarks-1/25/99 Millennium Evening

• GENERAL WELCOME/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



-Welcome to the WHO for the 5th Millennium Evening--The Meaning of the Millennium. People everywhere are awaiting the arrival of the millennium with growing anticipation--some are busy planning the greatest New Year's Eve party ever, while others warn of a coming apocalypse or at least a massive technological failure. But most regard the turn of the millennium as a time of great opportunity: to reflect on the past, assess the present, and make new commitments to the future. ✓

-This evening continues a series of lectures and cultural showcases at the White House with artists, scholars, scientists, and creative individuals from many fields whose ideas will help us honor our past and imagine our future as we approach the new millennium and mark this historic milestone in human history. As the oldest, continuous venue of significance for the arts in America, the White House will continue to showcase, as host of Millennium Evenings, the nation's recognized masters and our new talent.

-Tonight's program continues our commitment to cybercast the Millennium Evenings from the East Room of the White House. Internet users worldwide will be joining us by logging on to the White House or Sun Microsystems web sites and we will take questions from some of them during the program. Tonight's program is also being broadcast on CSPAN and via satellite to audiences worldwide. ✓

-ACKS: I want to extend a special thanks to all our sponsors. The National Endowment for the Humanities and the U.S. Department of Education, with major support from Sun Microsystems and further support from the Howard Gilman Foundation, join with the White House in co-sponsoring this evening's discussion. I also want to thank the Library of Congress for the exhibits on display in the grand foyer, The Walters Art Gallery and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for the video images used in this evening's program and Ex Umbris for the musical accompaniment. People? ✓

• WHY ARE WE HERE?/ PURPOSE OF MILLENNIUM COUNCIL

-My husband and I created the White House Millennium Council in 1997 to harness this millennial spirit. White House millennium programs invite all Americans to participate in activities that celebrate our democracy, strengthen communities, and give lasting gifts to the future. Many cities and towns are already creating "Year 2000" committees to plan events, and the White House Millennium Council, in cooperation with local elected officials, will award "Millennium Community" designations to cities, towns, counties and Native American communities that take a leadership role in marking the new millennium.

-The White House Millennium Council launched a national public-private partnership to "Save America's Treasures." The President proposed and Congress has approved a millennium fund to

preserve the nation's documents, artifacts, monuments and historic sites most in danger of deterioration. Federal funds are being used to preserve such treasures as the Star-Spangled Banner, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution before these precious founding documents and artifacts are at serious risk. Already, the private Save America's Treasures Committee organized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation has contributed over \$30 million for the restoration of national and regional treasures.

-While celebrating American achievements, the White House Millennium Council will also mark the international significance of the millennium. With countries worldwide, the Council will develop projects that emphasize preservation of cultural and natural resources, encourage tourism and the imaginative use of technology, and engage children in creating a positive vision for the future.

• THE MILLENNIUM IS HERE/TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

-This New Year's, as the calendar flipped to 1999 and those three nines lined up, I and citizens throughout the world began to think about the turn of the millennium more seriously than ever. Profound questions beg answers at this momentous time: What characterized the year 1000 AD? What are the differences between religious and non-religious interpretations of the millenniums past and present? Why are commemorations important to people and societies? ✓

-Citizens worldwide look to mark time in their own way; they understand the power of rituals that get us through the passage of time. That is why a look at the past will help us to make sense of today. [SEE SPEAKERS PREPARED REMARKS, references to the ideas will fit well here. Hint at millennial mood-- apocalyptic vs. hopeful and religious vs. secular.] need

-Tonight we are privileged to have professors Natalie Davis and Martin Marty host this evening's program as we explore these and other questions about the meaning of the millennium. [SEE DAVIS AND MARTY BIOS TO ADD A FEW HIGHLIGHTS HERE ON THEIR DISTINGUISHED CAREERS.] Through this discussion with these celebrated scholars, we hope to better understand how humankind makes meaning of life through time, and how we shape our future by the acts and commitments we make today.

-I look forward to our discussion that will follow our speakers remarks. Thank you for joining us tonight and I hope you enjoy the program!!!

TALKING POINTS FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON
MILLENNIUM EVENING
THE MEANING OF THE MILLENNIUM
WITH PROFESSORS NATALIE DAVIS AND MARTIN MARTY

Thank you both for making us all think about things we probably never thought of before. It is easier to look back a thousand years than to look ahead into a new millennium, but in your astute remarks you have managed to do both. Mainly, you have brought us back to the great lesson of the psalmist: that we must number our days - and know how brief they are - if we are to find the heart of wisdom. That wisdom, I believe, is that we must seize every day, and use it for good -- for it is in the ideas and actions of today that we create the tomorrow that is often so hard to see.

Natalie, tonight you destroyed some popular myths about the millennium. Clearly, people were not giving away all their possessions, cowering in churches, waiting for the world to end. I was impressed to be reminded of the bold voyages of discovery in that era, and the spread of knowledge -- it turns out there were book clubs 1,000 years ago!

People then, as now, also were seeking peace. As I see many struggles for reconciliation (or to end violence) - in No. Ireland, in the Mid-east, in Bosnia - I was fascinated to hear about the medieval Peace of God movement. It gives me hope that people - the serfs of then and the ordinary citizens of today - have the power to make their leaders heed their desires for peace.

→  Natalie was right to remind us of the peace-making role of women -- often women of faith -- in our own age.

Martin - who is known by all his friends as Marty, asks so many of the questions swirling around us today about the millennium, whether in Time magazine's new "guide to millennium madness", or the Wall St Journal's edition, dated January 1, 1,000, or on the "millennium minutes" now broadcasting on radio and tv. When is it? Does it matter? Is it religious or secular or both? The answers you hint at are as old as humankind. How we measure time matters, because it gives our lives goals, anniversaries, and meaning. In fact, you seem to be saying that the way we infuse life with meaning is by knowing it will end. That, and our religious faith, which assures us that we are here for a reason, even if we cannot know the Deity's plan, if a thousand years is but a blink of an eye in His sight. (Check quote - also from Psalm 90.)

(I was struck by another observation: while acknowledging pockets of apocalism, which includes some folks who believe the world is about to end, or seek to bring the end, both of you assure us of the positive aspect of the millennium. Humanity needs a vision -- a vision that lasts beyond our lifetimes. Yet both of you warn that millennium vision can be dangerous if it does not make room for diverse views, and ends up excluding, or even repressing others. As we cross over into a new century and the next millennium, creating a common vision for America means reaffirming our own motto: E Pluribus Unum. That is our gift, that is our challenge - to tell the common story and find the common ground, while still welcoming "the many."

Finally, you both end with hope. As Marty said in his inspired conclusion -- that is what no one

can take away from us. And that is, I believe, an intrinsic part of the American spirit -- that great optimism that we can discover the cures, assure the well-being of all children, preserve our cultural and natural resources, and keep a safe world for others to inherit. We can learn from the past - as violent and unjust as it sometimes has been -- we can carry our values and history forward - we can prove the doomsayers wrong.

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Talking Points for HRC Opening Remarks-1/25/99 Millennium Evening

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104 satellite sites
used next to day -
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