

FOIA Marker

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Records Management, White House Office of
Subject Files - FG001 (President of the United States)

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
W	10	6	5	2	12201	25064	11954	11816

Folder Title:

452835

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Card	[Thank You] - To: POTUS - From: Wes Fuller	1	11/19/2001	PRM;
002	Handwritten Note	[Note] - To: POTUS - From: Michael M. Wood	1	11/16/2001	PRM;
003	Handwritten Note	[Note] - To: POTUS - From: Deni Mineta	1	11/19/2001	P6/b6;
004	Fax Cover Sheet	Re: Advance Announcement [with attachment] - To: POTUS - From: Mrs. Waltraud Prechter	2	11/12/2001	PRM;
005	Letter	[Thank You] - To: POTUS and FLOTUS - From: Bill and Judy Pollard	1	11/19/2001	PRM;

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

Deed of Gift Restrictions

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Records Not Subject to FOIA

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45283555
FG001



Nov. 11, 2001

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Mr. President,

Given our conversation last week, I thought you might enjoy this article from the Financial Times.

11/12/01
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

10W

Where zeal meets realpolitik

Tony Blair's commitment to the war is intended to ensure that Britain retains influence on both sides of the Atlantic



PHILIP STEPHENS

He is vainglorious. Naive. Britain's self-appointed president and Washington's willing poodle. At one moment arrogant, at the next an innocent abroad. No. Here at last is a politician of conviction. Brave, resolute. A man who can spot history's turning points and place himself at their centre. A leader ready to bet his reputation on his principles.

We have not lacked for commentary on Tony Blair's breathless diplomacy as cheerleader for America's war on terrorism. Nor for opinions on what has driven Britain's prime minister to spend much of the past month seeking to persuade the good, the bad and the downright ugly to make common cause against Osama bin Laden.

Missing has been an adequate explanation of Mr Blair's motives, of his sense of how the kaleidoscope is turning. Instinct obviously plays a part, as does revulsion at the enormity of the crime committed on September 11. So too does a deep-seated belief that the west in general, and Britain in particular, has a moral duty to confront chaos beyond its borders.

Wars used to be about frontiers. In Mr Blair's reworking of the Gladstonian tradition, they are about values.

But where do belief and temperament meet political strategy? Where is the cold calculation? Here after all is a leader ignoring one of politics' cardinal rules. Never take risks when someone else determines the outcome. Avoid responsibility when power resides elsewhere.

Mr Blair, of course, has reaped short-term rewards. The occasional glitches – a public dressing down in Damascus, a private

humiliation in Riyadh – have been worth it. His personal ratings are Churchillian. The British have still fully to come to terms with the retreat from empire. They like watching European leaders queuing up at the door of 10 Downing Street to claim a seat at the prime minister's table.

But wars, we know, do not deliver much in the way of permanent political dividends. Mr Blair was indisputably brave during the Kosovo conflict in 1999. Only two years ago that war was forgotten as soon as it was over. Most voters would be hard-pressed to say what it was about or whether it mattered.

Much closer to home, the prime minister has invested inordinate time and energy in the frustrating business of building a political settlement in Northern Ireland. Instead of plaudits, the grinding progress towards peace has been greeted with a shrug.

Afghanistan promises still less in the way of obvious paybacks. Most people agree that Britain should offer solid backing to its American cousins. They feel queasy about the bombing but understand that the US must act. Mr Blair's place, they would say, is indeed alongside George W. Bush. The prime minister, though, has placed himself several paces ahead.

His personal commitment to the military campaign goes far beyond what you might call a proportionate response. Watching him in the White House on Wednesday evening talk about how we would defeat the Taliban, one sometimes felt that this was a war being fought by Britain with modest help from America.

Here is where the moral zeal (which I do not



BROMLEY

underestimate) meets the realpolitik. Mr Blair, I think, does not delude himself about the limits of Britain's influence. He leads a middle-ranking power with a serious voice, but no more than that, in Washington. But he also understands the dynamics of politics. By presenting himself as the most articulate spokesman for America's war, he has amplified that voice and maximised the chances that the US administration will listen. The US is in control – but Britain can help shape its choices. So far it has

worked pretty well. Mr Blair has reinforced those in Washington arguing against a widening of military action beyond Afghanistan. His visits to the Middle East have stepped up the pressure on Washington to re-engage in the peace process. And he has set the defeat of the Taliban in the context of a long-term commitment to the region. What is visible here is the way in which Mr Blair's sometimes seemingly naive internationalism dovetails neatly with a hard-headed assessment of Britain's

strategic goals. The right thing to do becomes the astute thing to do. The prime minister saw more quickly than most how profoundly the destruction of the World Trade Center would change America's view of the world – and of its own place in it. He grasped too how that could be turned to Britain's advantage. For all its aspirations to develop a common defence strategy, Europe still depends on the US for its security. Solidarity in the fight against global terrorism is an investment.

At the very least, the events of September 11 arrested the slide in Washington towards unilateralism.

Fortress America loses its logic when a handful of terrorists can kill thousands of innocent citizens. From Mr Blair's perspective, Britain's interests lie in US multilateralism. Its security – not least against further terrorist outrages – depends on the transatlantic alliance. The coalition against al-Qaeda thus becomes a vehicle to draw America back to a posture of permanent engagement.

There is another gain for Britain here. Mr Blair has long seen the strength of Britain's twin relationships with the US and continental Europe as mutually reinforcing. Influence in Washington translates into authority in Paris or Berlin and vice versa. It works. On one level, the clamour among European leaders to attend last Sunday's Downing Street dinner was a diplomatic disaster. On another, it made Mr Blair's point for him. I do not recall scuffing on the doorstep of No. 10 when John Major, or for that matter Margaret Thatcher, was in residence.

All this, of course, is about power, or at the very least, influence. There is ample room for the moral impulse. But it is the prime minister's job, Mr Blair once said to me, to promote and project British power.

This takes us to the broader judgment. As I understand it, this sees September 11 as one of those moments in history where principles and pragmatism sit in happy coincidence. Nations make the connection between chaos elsewhere and security at home. It happened after the second world war, when the allies built a new multilateral order. The opportunity was lost after the end of the cold war when, we may now recall, Afghanistan was left to rot. Mr Blair does not want to see such a chance slip away a second time. We cannot know whether history will prove him right. But he is right to want to be part of it.

philip.stephens@ft.com



11/19/01
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

Oct. 11, 2001

Dear Mr. President:

I want to thank you and Mrs. Bush for attending the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

Your words and your presence truly helped the healing process for the families of our fallen firefighters. Many told me how proud they were that you would take the time to be with them.

I am very grateful to you and Mrs. Bush because you cared so much for our firefighters and their families.

Respectfully, and with best regards
Hal Bruno

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12201

OA Num.:

11816

NARA Num.:

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FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0155-F

2014-0215-F 1

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11/19/01
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN



Norman Y. Mineta
Deni Mineta

Dear Mr. President,
I have wanted to share these thoughts with you for a while. I hope I can do so with this note.

Norm has been putting into his speeches the story of you going to a Mosque shortly after Sept. 11th. He reminds people how you have never confused Middle Eastern Americans with our true enemies. He often wonders aloud how many Japanese Americans might have lived different, better lives if FDR had taken the same actions. You won Norm's respect long ago. I want you to know you have won his heart as well. We both are so very proud to have you as our nation's President.

Please thank Mrs. Bush for her radio address. I am sure women around the world are grateful for her compassionate words.

With Great Affection,
Deni Mineta

Deni Mineta

(b)(6)

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JACK NICHOLSON

November 13, 2001

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

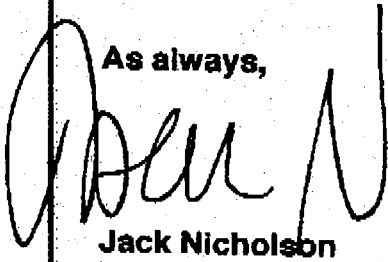
**President Vladimir Putin
C/O The White House
Washington, D.C.**

Dear President Putin:

Thank you and congratulations.

**Please send my regards to President Bush whom I
haven't met, but like all Americans admire from afar.**

As always,



Jack Nicholson

FAX NO. 310/858-7118
PHONE 310/275-4115

DAWN PERLIN
ASSISTANT TO JACK NICHOLSON

TELECOMMUNICATIONS COVER PAGE

TO: *President Vladimir Putin*
C/o The White House (202/456-2461)

FROM: *Jack Nicholson*

DATE: *November 13, 2001*

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES: (INCLUDING COVER PAGE) (1)

Please deliver the attached letter to President Putin.

Thank you very much,

Dawn Perlin