

# FOIA MARKER

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Staff Office-Individual: Speechwriting-Orzulak, Paul				
Original OA/ID Number: 4022				
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# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	SSN's (Partial); DOB's (Partial) (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
National Security Council  
Speechwriting (Paul Orzulak)  
OA/Box Number: 4022

### FOLDER TITLE:

Vieques Remarks

2008-0702-F

jm230

### 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]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- 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]

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Referendum - key issue - unless  
people of Vieques decide differently

- Sys doesn't work
- Very ambiguous
- 

John

- 1) this is a way to resolve Vieques impasse
- 2) course of action that will resolve the  
Vieques impasse
- 3) economic package stuff is very important -  
characterize as how you rectify past wrongs,  
things we should have been doing  
all along - some sense that they are  
owed something -

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Scott Shrum

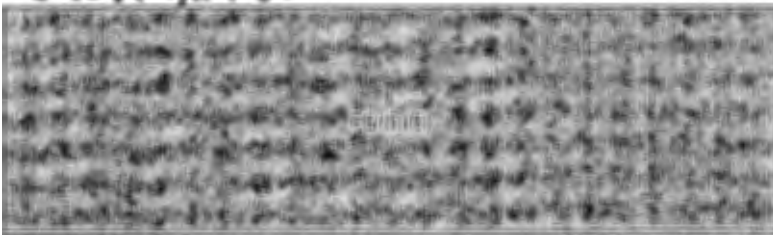
Patrick Mooney



[001]

Jack Danielson

Kathy Taylor



456-9210

1/30/00 3:00 p.m.  
Orzulak

JP  
BRB  
same JF

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
JANUARY 31, 2000**

My fellow citizens: last April, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. I mourned the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day.

That accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of the island about training operations there. It led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training on Vieques. I understand why many people feel that way.

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I must do all I can to ensure that our servicemen and women get the very best training possible. I know that <sup>you</sup> Puerto Rico understands that, ~~as well as anyone~~. Many Puerto Ricans have served with distinction in our armed forces. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the defense of our <sup>country</sup> nation.

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started with Vieques training. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, there are no alternative sites that ~~give training comparable to Vieques.~~ <sup>same</sup>

provide the combined training opportunities.

For the past nine months, we have been working closely with Governor Rosello and Resident Commission <sup>of</sup> Romero-Barcello to find a solution that meets ~~both~~ <sup>addresses fairly the</sup> our training needs and ~~the needs~~ <sup>concerns</sup> of the people of ~~Puerto Rico~~ <sup>Vieques</sup>. Today, I am announcing a course of action that will give the people of Vieques themselves the right to determine the future of the island while - at the same time -- assuring that our training needs are met.

mention  
of Vieques  
working group

~~By the first day~~ <sup>No later than</sup> of March in 2002 – and perhaps <sup>sooner</sup> ~~as early as this November~~ – the people of Vieques will vote. In that vote, the people of Vieques will be asked to choose between two alternatives. If they choose the first alternative, the Navy will cease all training on Vieques and leave the island by May 1, 2003. If they choose the other alternative, training will continue on Vieques on terms that will be presented at least three months before the vote.

I believe this is the best way to resolve the impasse over Vieques, because it gives the people most affected by this decision – the people who actually live on the island – the right to determine for themselves which course of action we should take.

In the meantime, until that vote is held, we are taking several other steps to ensure that our servicemen and women get the training they need, <sup>while addressing Vieques concerns.</sup>

First, during the period leading up to the vote, I am ordering that training done on Vieques will be limited to non-explosive ordnance – meaning there will be no live fire. I am also directing the Navy and Marine Corps to cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. In 1998, our <sup>✓</sup> troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. This year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our ~~essential~~ training needs. over

Second, to address the problems caused by past training, we will implement measures to meet the ~~economic~~ <sup>and economic</sup> health, safety, and environmental concerns of the people of Vieques. Measures we will implement include, ~~among other things,~~ development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, ~~an artificial reef to~~ <sup>ing</sup> create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fishermen, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, a job training program for young people, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study.

*transferring ownership of the western quarter  
seal and blinds, positioning Navy ships to  
reduce noise,*

Third, I will also ask Congress to begin transferring title to land on the western quarter of the island to Puerto Rico.

[ In the event that the residents of Vieques vote to continue training on the island, in recognition of the burden such training places on the community, we will increase the investment we make to meet infrastructure and development needs. ]

*As a Defense Department panel found,*

To make this solution work, I need your help. I understand the long-held views people have on this issue. I understand that for many residents, the accident re-opened old wounds about the effect that training was having on quality of life. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately has been building for decades. We have not always been good neighbors on Vieques. *Write this*

*✓* ~~solution may not meet local needs as immediately as some people would like,~~ *But* I believe this plan will help resolve the impasse over Vieques. ~~I believe it will do so~~ in the fairest possible way, because it gives the people most affected by this decision the ability to choose for themselves what the future of their island will be.

I hope I can count on the people of Vieques to participate when the vote occurs. I also hope I can count on ~~your~~ *the* cooperation *of all the people of PR* to implement the measure I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a responsible and much more limited manner during this period while addressing the long-time concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I very grateful for that. I hope that all of us can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan. Thank you and God Bless You.

*Thx Rossello*

*[And I thank Governor Rossello for his unceasing effort to work at this resolution to the impasse.]*

*W/ the Gov't of  
Governor of  
PR*

[ # 364-5790 ]

fax at home → fax to Podesta at home,

1/29/00 3:00 p.m.  
Orzulak

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
JANUARY 31, 2000**

→  
- talk about past months - over lat

↙

My fellow citizens: last April, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. I mourned the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day.

That terrible accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of the island about training operations there. For many residents, it re-opened old wounds about the effect that training was having on quality of life. These concerns cover a wide range of issues – from safety and health to the economy and the environment. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately, has been building for decades.

The accident led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training operations in Vieques. I understand that view.

→ must ensure our servicemen and women get very best training possible

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I cannot send our servicemen and women into harm's way if they have not been adequately trained. I know that Puerto Rico understands that as well as anybody. Puerto Rico has a proud heritage of sending its sons and daughters to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the burden of defending our country. Some of you have even trained on Vieques.

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started with Vieques training. It's no accident that our nation lost no pilots in Kosovo. The training they received helped save lives. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, some of this training can only be done on Vieques. There is no comparable alternative.

some like -  
New as no alternative sites that give training comparable to Vieques

At the request of Governor Rosello and Resident Commissioner Romero-Barcello, last year I asked Defense Secretary Cohen to convene a panel and come up with recommendations for the future of Vieques. That panel found that we have not always been good neighbors on Vieques and recommended that we work toward replacing the island as a training site.

One voice that has not been heard from completely in this process are the people most directly affected by this decision – the people of Vieques itself. That changes right now.

Today, I am announcing a course of action that will resolve the impasse over Vieques. This course of action will not come from the top-down, but from the bottom-up. Ultimately, it will be for you to decide for yourselves the course of action to take.

→ this is the path to solve - give right to people of Vieques. They right do determine while

By the first day of March in 2002, Vieques will hold a vote. In that vote, you will be presented with one of two alternatives. If you choose one alternative, the Navy will cease all training on Vieques by May 1, 2003. If you choose the other, training will continue on Vieques, including

assuring that our training needs are met in the interim we are not

live fire training, on terms proposed by the United States Navy. It has not been determined yet what day this vote will occur – but when it is, the people of Vieques will have at least three months to debate the question before voting.

In the meantime, we are taking several other steps.

*Squid here into 3 → coll opnc 1st  
second & third*

First, Navy training on Vieques will resume in March.

Second, I am ordering that the training done on Vieques in the period leading up to the vote will be limited to only inert ordnance – no live fire.

*- during period leading up to  
vote, I am  
ordering that Navy  
will be limited to  
non-explosive  
and 90 days  
a year*

Third, while the Navy and Marine Corps will resume training on Vieques, I have cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. Two years ago, our troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. This year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our essential training needs.

Fourth, to meet past wrongs, we will address the economic, health, safety, and environmental concerns that we should have been addressing all along. Measures we will implement include, among other things, development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, an artificial reef to create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fisherman, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, a job training program for young people, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study. To ensure these measures are taken – and that the missed opportunities of our 1983 agreement are not repeated – I will ask the Pentagon to establish a working group that will work with Vieques on all questions relating to the use of the range and coordination of these issues.

Fifth, I will also ask Congress to begin transferring title to land on the western quarter of the island to Puerto Rico.

This plan will help resolve the impasse over Vieques. While it will ultimately meet Puerto Rico's needs – whatever the will of the people eventually decide -- I recognize it will not do so as immediately as some in the islands might have wished. But I believe this is a fair solution that will provide the training necessary to ensure satisfactory Navy and Marine Corps combat readiness while also ensuring the safety and well-being of the people of Vieques.

To make this solution work, I need your help. I hope I can count on the people of Vieques to participate when the vote occurs. I also hope I can count on your cooperation to implement the measure I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a responsible and much more limited manner during this period while addressing the long-time concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

*I know it's  
been difficult,  
strong views  
out, believe  
best way out  
is to  
resolve  
impasse  
bee today.*

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I very grateful for that. I hope that all of us can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan. Thank you and God Bless You.

1/29/00 3:00 p.m.  
Orzulak

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
JANUARY 31, 2000**

Paul, I added this  
plus suggestions on  
page 2.  
Jeff Farrow  
65779

Federal Government will give up the  
Federal Government will give up the  
Additionaly the Navy's land on the  
island with the  
except for the conservation zone  
will be preserved

My fellow citizens: last April, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. I mourned the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day.

the accident  
was the straw that broke the camel's back regarding the target practices

That terrible accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of the island about training operations there. For many residents, ~~it re-opened old wounds about the effect that training was having on quality of life.~~ These concerns cover a wide range of issues - from safety and health to the economy and the environment. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately, has been building for decades.

for the rest of us, it

The accident led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training operations in Vieques. I understand that view.

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I cannot send our servicemen and women into harm's way if they have not been adequately trained. I know that Puerto Rico understands that as well as anybody. Puerto Rico has a proud heritage of sending its sons and daughters to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the burden of defending our country. Some of you have even trained on Vieques.

situations of potential harm's  
this many Puerto Ricans have served - and served with distinction

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started with Vieques training. It's no accident that our nation lost no pilots in Kosovo. The training they received helped save lives. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, some of this training can only be done on Vieques. There is no comparable alternative. It would take some time to develop one.

At the request of Governor Rossello and Resident Commissioner Romero-Barcello, last year I asked Defense Secretary Cohen to convene a panel and come up with recommendations for the future of Vieques. That panel found that we have not always been good neighbors on Vieques and recommended that we work toward replacing the island as a training site.

One voice that has not been heard from completely in this process are the people most directly affected by this decision - the people of Vieques itself. That changes right now.

After great deal of discussion

Governor Rossello and I have agreed on

Today, I am announcing a course of action that will resolve the impasse over Vieques. This course of action will not come from the top-down, but from the bottom-up. Ultimately, it will be for you to decide for yourselves the course of action to take.

By the first day of March in 2002, Vieques will hold a vote. In that vote, you will be presented with one of two alternatives. If you choose one alternative, the Navy will cease all training on Vieques by May 1, 2003. If you choose the other, training will continue on Vieques, including

the people most affected, it will not be imposed

not take more a little over three years from now.

The people of Vieques will decide

The people of Vieques

the other 100,000

Additionally, \$50 million will be provided to for infrastructure and housing in the land the Navy will transfer to local ownership on the western side of the island.

live fire training, on terms proposed by the United States Navy. It has not been determined yet what day this vote will occur - but when it is, the people of Vieques will have at least three months to debate the question before voting.

In the meantime, we are taking several other steps.

First, ~~Navy training on Vieques will resume in March.~~

Second, I ~~am ordering~~ <sup>have ordered</sup> that the training done on Vieques in the period leading up to the vote will be limited to only inert ordnance - no live fire <sup>and to 90 days a year - half of the 1998 level.</sup>

Third, while the Navy and Marine Corps will resume training on Vieques, I have cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. Two years ago, our troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. This year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our essential training needs.

Fourth, to meet past wrongs, we will address the economic, health, safety, and environmental concerns that we should have been addressing all along. <sup>Second address the</sup> ~~Measures we will implement include, among other things, development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, an artificial reef to create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fisherman, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, a job training program for young people, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study.~~ <sup>of the community</sup> To ensure these measures are taken - and that the missed opportunities of our 1983 agreement are not repeated - I will ask the Pentagon to establish a working group that will work with Vieques on all questions relating to the use of the range and coordination of these issues.

Fifth, I will also ask Congress to begin transferring title to land on the western quarter of the island to Puerto Rico.

This plan will help resolve the impasse over Vieques. While it will ultimately meet ~~Puerto Rico~~ <sup>Puerto Rico</sup> local needs - whatever the will of the people eventually decide -- I recognize it will not do so as immediately as some in the islands might have wished. But I believe this is a fair solution that will provide the training necessary to ensure satisfactory Navy and Marine Corps combat readiness while also ensuring the safety and well-being of the people of Vieques.

To make this solution work, I need your help. I hope I can count on the people of Vieques to participate when the vote occurs. I also hope I can count on your cooperation to implement the measures I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a responsible and much more limited manner during this period while addressing the <sup>standing</sup> long-time concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I very grateful for that. I hope that all of us can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan. Thank you and God Bless You.

solution to the impasse

also

way to resolve the dispute. It is also a

understanding and cooperation is needed.

ultimate decision is made by the residents of Vieques

1/30/00 2:00 p.m.  
Orzulak

*Carla K. Podesta, Beyer, Maria, Mara, revised draft*

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
JANUARY 31, 2000**

My fellow citizens: last April, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. I mourned the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day.

That terrible accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of the island about training operations there. It led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training on Vieques. I understand that view.

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I must do all I can to ensure that our servicemen and women get the very best training possible. I know that Puerto Rico understands that as well as anyone. Many Puerto Ricans have served with distinction in our armed forces. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the defense of our nation.

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started with Vieques training. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, there are no alternative sites that give training comparable to Vieques.

For the past nine months, we have been working closely with Governor Rosello and Resident Commission Romero-Barcello to find a solution that meets both our training needs and the needs of the people of Puerto Rico. Today, I am announcing a course of action that will give the people of Vieques themselves the right to determine the future of the island while – at the same time -- assuring that our training needs are met.

Today I am announcing that by the first day of March in 2002 – and perhaps as early as this November – Vieques will hold a vote. In that vote, they will be asked to choose between one of two alternatives. If they choose the first alternative, the Navy will cease all training on Vieques and leave the island by May 1, 2003. If they choose the other alternative, training will continue on Vieques on terms proposed by the Navy.

I believe this is the best way to resolve the impasse over Vieques, because it gives the people most affected by this decision – the people who actually live on the island – the right to determine for themselves which course of action we should take.

In the meantime, until that vote is held, we are taking several other steps to ensure that our servicemen and women get the training they need.

First, during the period leading up to the vote, I am ordering that training done on Vieques will be limited to non-explosive ordnance – meaning there will be no live fire. I am also directing the Navy and Marine Corps to cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. In 1998, our

troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. This year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our essential training needs.

Second, to meet past wrongs, we will address the economic, health, safety, and environmental concerns that we should have been addressing all along. Measures we will implement include, among other things, development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, an artificial reef to create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fishermen, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, a job training program for young people, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study. To ensure these measures are taken – and that the missed opportunities of our 1983 agreement are not repeated – I will ask the Pentagon to establish a working group that will work with Vieques on all questions relating to the use of the range and coordination of these issues.

Third, I will also ask Congress to begin transferring title to land on the western quarter of the island to Puerto Rico.

In the event that the residents of Vieques vote to continue training on the island, we will more than double the investment we make to meet infrastructure and development needs. If they say no, the federal government will also give up the Navy's land on the eastern side of the island, except for the conservation zone, which will be preserved.

To make this solution work, I need your help. I understand the long-held views people have on this issue. I understand that for many residents, the accident re-opened old wounds about the effect that training was having on quality of life. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately has been building for decades. We have not always been good neighbors on Vieques. We have not always done the right thing. While this solution may not meet local needs as immediately as some people would like, I believe this plan will help resolve the impasse over Vieques. I believe it will do so in the fairest possible way, because it gives the people most affected by this decision the ability to choose for themselves what the future of their island will be.

I hope I can count on the people of Vieques to participate when the vote occurs. I also hope I can count on your cooperation to implement the measure I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a responsible and much more limited manner during this period while addressing the long-time concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I am very grateful for that. I hope that all of us can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan. Thank you and God Bless You.

11/29/99 12:00 noon  
Re-drafted by Orzulak

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
NOVEMBER 29, 1999**

My fellow citizens: Six months ago, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. Hillary and I were greatly saddened by the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day. We remembered them in our prayers on Thanksgiving.

That terrible accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of residents of the island about training operations there. These concerns cover a wide range of issues – from safety and health to the economy and the environment. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately, has been building for decades.

The accident led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training operations in Vieques. I understand that view. I understand how much those of you who live near the firing range are concerned for your safety, and the safety of your children. I understand the feeling that the people of Vieques will never be able to fully build their economy or improve their quality of life if the situation doesn't change.

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I cannot send American servicemen and women into harm's way if they have not been adequately trained. I know that Puerto Ricans understand that as well as anybody. Puerto Rico has a proud heritage of sending its sons and daughters to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the burden of defending our country. Some of you have even trained on Vieques.

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started in Vieques first. It's no accident that our nation lost no pilots in Kosovo. The training they received there helped save lives. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, some of this training can only be done on Vieques. There is now comparable alternative. As President, while I want to fix this problem as quickly as possible, as Commander-in-Chief I recognize that we can't fix the problem overnight.

At the request of Governor Rossello and Resident Commissioner Romero-Barcelo, I asked Defense Secretary Cohen to convene a group of distinguished citizens to come up with a plan that addresses the concerns of the people of Vieques while meeting the national security needs of our nation. The Panel found that we have not always been good neighbors on Vieques and recommended that we work toward replacing Vieques in five years and reduce training involving bombing to 130 days a year.

Starting today, things are going to be different. I am announcing a course of action that would end live fire on Vieques, and commit to phasing out all training there. I will be directing the Defense Department to take concrete, and immediate steps to address the local community's concerns, while also giving our armed forces the time they need to transition to an alternative training site. Let me be very clear: during the transition period, the rules are going to be changing. This isn't just a change in policy – this is the beginning of a whole new relationship between our military and the people of Vieques.

The plan has four parts.

First, I'm ordering the Navy to cease training on Vieques within five years. I have asked the Navy to come up with a specific timetable to phase out operations there, and I am taking personal responsibility to make sure that timeline is met. We intend to begin transferring title to land to Puerto Rico as soon as possible -- beginning with the western quarter of the island. I am also directing the Pentagon to give me alternatives to Vieques training next year and begin to budget for it.

Second, I am ordering that the training done on Vieques during this transition period will be limited to only inert ordnance – no live fire.

Let me emphasize: the Navy will be ready to leave within five years. Only inert ordnance will be used in the transition period. Now, of course, if the people of Vieques decided to continue a relationship with the Navy down the road, on the same or different terms, that is their right.

Third, while the Navy and Marine Corps will resume training on Vieques during the transition period, I have cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. Last year, our troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. Next year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our essential training needs.

Finally, we will address the economic, health, and environmental concerns that the community has had for so long. Measures we will implement include, among other things, development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, an artificial reef to create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fishermen, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study. To ensure these measures are taken -- and that the missed opportunities of our 1983 agreement are not repeated -- I will direct the Pentagon to establish a working group that will include senior officials representing the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of Defense. They will work with Vieques officials on all questions relating to the use of the range and coordination of transition issues.

While this plan will meet Puerto Rico's goals, I recognize it will not do so as immediately as some in the islands might have wished. But your voices have been heard, and we are moving as quickly as we can. I believe this is a good compromise that will provide the training necessary to ensure satisfactory Navy and Marine Corps combat readiness while also ensuring the safety and well being of the people of Vieques.

To make this solution work, I need your help. I hope I can count on your cooperation to implement the measures I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a more responsible and much more limited manner during this transitional period while addressing the real concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I am very grateful for that. I hope that all of us now can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan.

Thank you very much.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Breakfast  
on  
Thursday

Thursday  
Eric  
+  
Bob

11/29/99 Final  
Re-drafted by Orzulak

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON  
VIDEO REMARKS TO THE  
PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO  
CONCERNING NAVY TRAINING ON VIEQUES  
NOVEMBER 29, 1999**

*Last April*

My fellow citizens: Six months ago, there was a tragic accident at the Navy range on Vieques. I was greatly saddened by the loss to the family of David Sanes (SAN-ness), and the suffering of the others injured that day. We remembered them in our prayers on Thanksgiving

That terrible accident focused attention on the longstanding concerns of residents of the island about training operations there. These concerns cover a wide range of issues – from safety and health to the economy and the environment. They reflect a distrust that, unfortunately, has been building for decades.

The accident led to a strong view in the Commonwealth that the Navy should end its training operations in Vieques. I understand that view (I understand that those of you who live near the firing range are concerned for your safety) and the safety of your children.

*→ without?  
Pen-hon noted  
it.*

At the same time, as Commander in Chief, I cannot send our servicemen and women into harm's way if they have not been adequately trained. I know that Puerto Ricans understand that as well as anybody. Puerto Rico has a proud heritage of sending its sons and daughters to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. You have never turned your back on your duty to share in the burden of defending our country. Some of you have even trained on Vieques.

- alternative training
- also give them

Resume training - just - only  
train 90 days a year -

↳ basically, 18 months from  
August

April, August

T  
what we expect  
to happen between  
now + an unclear  
end period

→ there changes, etc

Can they resume  
live fire training

→ determine if they  
are out, or stay and

Since 1941, every action that our Atlantic fleet has been involved in started in Vieques first. It's no accident that our nation lost no pilots in Kosovo. The training they received there helped save lives. The reason this is such a difficult issue is because right now, some of this training can only be done on Vieques. There is no comparable alternative.

At the request of Governor Rossello and Resident Commissioner Romero-Barcelo, I asked Defense Secretary Cohen to convene a group of distinguished citizens to come up with alternatives that address the concerns of the people of Vieques while meeting the national security needs of our country. The Panel found that we have not always been good neighbors on Vieques and recommended that we work toward replacing Vieques in five years and reduce training involving bombing to 130 days a year.

*dated - old group*

*- keep more open-ended depends on referendum*

Today, I am announcing a course of action that will end live fire on Vieques, and phase out training there. I will be directing the Defense Department to take concrete, and immediate steps to address the local community's concerns, while also giving our armed forces the time they need to transition to an alternative training site (Let me be very clear: during the transition period, the rules are going to be changing.) This isn't just a change in policy - this is the beginning of a whole new relationship between our military and the people of Vieques.

*(steps be taken)*

*→ not change? re-birth - they have deal with*

The plan has four parts. I want to thank the Secretary of Defense for working closely with me to develop it.

*look at dieche - referendum*

*Contingent on returning training activity*

First, I'm ordering the Navy to cease training on Vieques within five years. I have asked the Navy to come up with a specific timetable to phase out operations there, and I am taking personal responsibility to make sure that key deadlines are met while I am President. We intend to begin transferring title to land to Puerto Rico as soon as possible -- beginning with

*Threat is no longer ending live fire + leaving island*

*hinges on the referendum  
→ it may end sooner than 5 yrs*

*question is whether Navy can resume live fire training -*

*Vote over next 18 months - March 2001*

the western quarter of the island. I am also directing the Pentagon to give me alternatives to Vieques training and begin to budget for it.

Second, I am ordering that the training done on Vieques during this transition period will be limited to only inert ordnance – no live fire.

Let me emphasize: the Navy will be ready to leave within five years. Only inert ordnance will be used in the transition period. Of course, if the people of Vieques decided to continue a relationship with the Navy down the road, on the same or different terms, that is their right.

Third, while the Navy and Marine Corps will resume training on Vieques during the transition period, I have cut in half the amount of time they will spend training. Last year, our troops trained for 182 days on Vieques. Next year, they will be authorized for 90 days, which is what we need to meet our essential training needs.

Finally, we will address the economic, health, and environmental concerns that the community has had for so long. Measures we will implement include, among other things, development of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal, an artificial reef to create new commercial fishing areas, temporary compensation for fishermen, expanding and improving roads, a bioluminescent bay preservation program, providing land to extend the airport runway, and a Public Health Service Study. (To ensure these measures are taken -- and that the missed opportunities of our 1983 agreement are not repeated -- I will ask the Pentagon to establish a working group that will include senior officials representing the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of Defense.) They will work with Vieques officials on all questions relating to the use of the range and coordination of transition issues.

Pentagon  
work  
group

While this plan will ultimately meet Puerto Rico's goals, I recognize it will not do so as immediately as some in the islands might have wished. But your voices have been heard, and we are moving as quickly as we can. I believe this is a fair solution that will provide the training necessary to ensure satisfactory Navy and Marine Corps combat readiness while also ensuring the safety and well being of the people of Vieques.

To make this solution work, I need your help. I hope I can count on your cooperation to implement the measures I have outlined to allow the training of our troops to continue in a more responsible and much more limited manner during this transitional period while addressing the real concerns of the residents of La Isla Nena (la EES-la NEN-ya).

Puerto Ricans and the people of Vieques have contributed greatly to our country's security. And I am very grateful for that. I hope that all of us now can work together, with our Congress, to implement this plan.

Thank you very much.

## Presidential Directive 1001

By virtue of the authority vested in me and in order to further the interests of national defense and national security and to address the legitimate interests and concerns of the residents of Vieques and the people of Puerto Rico, I hereby direct the following:

1. The future of Navy training on Vieques will be determined by a referendum of the registered voters of Vieques using Puerto Rico electoral laws and regulations as they exist at the time of this order. This referendum will occur on May 1, 2001 or 270 days prior to or following this date, the exact date to be specified on the request of the Department of the Navy. (This specified date and the terms of the referendum must be requested at least ninety days in advance of the referendum.) It is understood that the execution of this memorandum is contingent upon the Government of Puerto Rico authorizing and supporting this referendum.

2. This referendum will present two alternatives. The first shall be that the Navy will cease all training not later than May 1, 2003. The second will permit continued training, to include live fire training, on terms proposed by Navy. Live fire training is critical to enhance combat readiness for all our military personnel and must occur in some location.

3. In the event the referendum selects the option of termination of Navy activities, then

(a) Navy lands on the Eastern side of Vieques (including the Eastern Maneuver Area and the Live Impact Area) will be transferred within one year to the General Services Administration for disposal under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, except for conservation zones which will be transferred to the Department of the Interior for continued preservation.

(b) The GSA will supervise restoration of the Eastern Maneuver Area to meet CERCLA environmental standards before it is transferred under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act. The Government of Puerto Rico may request transfer of the restored lands in accordance with this Act. The Live Impact Area will be swept for ordnance and fenced to meet the same range standards used

after the closure of the live impact area used by Naval Air Station, South Weymouth, Massachusetts.

(c) Under no conditions will the land described in this paragraph be returned to the Department of Defense or used for military training.

4. In the event the referendum selects the option submitted by the Navy, the U.S. government will further provide for the enhancement of infrastructure and housing on the Western portions of Vieques in the amount of \$50 million.

5. Between the date of this directive and the referendum, the following will occur:

(a) The Department of Defense and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will work in cooperation with relevant federal authorities to ensure the integrity and accessibility of the range is uninterrupted and trespassing and other intrusions on the range cease entirely by providing complementary support with federal, state and local jurisdictions.

(b) Navy training on Vieques will recommence, but it shall not exceed ninety days per calendar year and will be limited to non-explosive ordnance.

(c) The Navy will ensure that procedures are in place which will enhance safety and will position ships to reduce noise in civilian areas whenever possible.

(d) Before any major training occurs on the range, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, through its Secretary of State will be given fifteen days notification under the terms of the 1983 Memorandum of Agreement.

(e) The Office of Management and Budget will initiate a request to:

(1) fund a Public Health Service study in coordination with appropriate agencies to review health concerns raised by the residents of Vieques.

(2) To complete the conveyance of 110 acres of Navy property to extend the runway at the Vieques Municipal Airport to accommodate larger passenger aircraft. The Navy would provide training and

supplemental equipment to bolster the airport fire, safety and resource capability.

(3) maintain the ecosystem and conservation zones and implement the sea turtle, sea mammal and Brown Pelican management plans as specified in the memorandum of Understanding of 1983.

(f) Within thirty days of this directive, the Navy will submit legislation to Congress to transfer land on the Western side of Vieques surrounding the Naval ammunition facility (except 100 acres of land on which the ROTHF and Mount Pirata telecommunications sites are located). This legislation will provide for land transfer not later than December 31, 2000. This transfer will be to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the benefit of the municipality of Vieques as determined by the Planning Board of the Government of Puerto Rico. This land shall meet CERCLA standards prior to transfer.

6. This directive shall be published in the Federal Register and shall remain in effect.

## Presidential Directive 1002

By separate directive I have addressed the resumption of Navy and Marine Corps training on the island of Vieques.

1. Provided that training has resumed and is continuously permitted on Vieques, within 90 days of this memorandum, I direct the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to request authority and funding (which with funding for projects described in paragraph 5(f) of Directive #1001 will total approximately forty million dollars) from Congress for the following projects:

(a) To support the construction of a new commercial ferry pier and terminal by the Army Corps of Engineers.

(b) To establish an artificial reef construction and fish aggregation program to create substantial new commercial fishing areas for Vieques fisherman. Until such time as these new fishing grounds are operational, this legislation will authorize direct payments of an amount (to be determined by the National Marine Fisheries Services) to be paid to registered Vieques commercial fisherman for each day they are unable to use existing waters because the Navy is training.

(c) To support expanding or improving the major cross-island roadways and bridges on Vieques.

(d) To establish an apprenticeship/training program for young people on Vieques to facilitate participation in small-scale civic construction projects.

(e) To establish a program with the Government of Puerto Rico to preserve the Puerto Mosquito Vieques bioluminescent bay and to commit Federal resources to its preservation.

(f) To establish a professional economic development office for Vieques for the purpose of promoting Vieques and attracting jobs to the island.

2. This directive shall be published in the Federal Register and shall remain in effect.

## Letter from Governor of Puerto Rico to the President

Dear Mr. President:

The interagency memorandum you have issued regarding naval training on Vieques provides a fair and positive basis for resolution of a long-standing issue.

Recognizing the actions you have taken in that regard, I will commit that the resources of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico will be used in cooperation with relevant Federal authorities, to ensure continued training on the range within the limits described in your interagency memorandum. Specifically, we will not initiate litigation that would constrain use of the range, and we will support Federal efforts to assure that trespassing or other intrusions on the range cease entirely by providing complementary support required of state and local jurisdictions.

Further, I intend to appoint a Commissioner for Vieques to work with the Senior Naval Representative in Puerto Rico in implementing the steps we have agreed upon.

Sincerely

I am announcing a course of action to resolve the impasse over U.S. armed forces training at Vieques. This course will give the people of Vieques the right to determine the future of the island while at the same time assuring that our training needs are met. I have received a letter from the Governor of Puerto Rico endorsing this course.

I am issuing two directives. Under the first, no later than March 2002, and perhaps sooner, the people of Vieques will vote. In that vote, they will be asked to choose between two alternatives. If they choose the first, the Navy will cease all training on Vieques and leave the island by May 1, 2003. If they choose the other, training will continue on Vieques on terms that will be presented [by the Navy] at least three months before the vote. [live fire mention?]

In the meantime, until that vote is held, I am ordering several other steps to ensure that our servicemen and women get the training they need.

[take first, second, third points from script...]

Marge + John

↳ M

Farmy

Father Paul

Sat + Sun