

1996
Scripts

JOHN MARTIN

1996 TV STORIES BROADCAST (PARTIAL)
WORLD NEWS TONIGHT: 25

#	DATE	SUBJECT	PROGRAM
01	JUL 08	MONEY: REBUILDING VIRGINIA BEACH	WNT
02	JUL 09	SMART WEAPONS TOO EXPENSIVE: GAO	WNT
03	JUL 15	MONEY: UNUSED NAVY FITNESS CENTER	WNT
04	JUL 22	MONEY: BUREAUCRAT SAVES MOVING FUNDS	WNT
05	JUL 29	MONEY: COURTS AREN'T COLLECTING FINES	WNT
06	JUL 30	ELECTION AGENCY SUES CHRISTIAN COALITION	WNT
07	AUG 05	MONEY: U.S. SUBSIDIZES NRA GUN PROGRAM	WNT
08	AUG 19	MONEY: U.S. PRIVATIZES GOVT INVESTIGATORS	WNT
09	SEP 02	MONEY: FOREST SERVICE BUNGLES TREE SALES	WNT
10	SEP 09	MONEY: CONGRESS ORDERS SHEEP SUBSIDIES	WNT
11	SEP 16	MONEY: IRS BUNGLES CYBERFILE PROGRAM	WNT
12	SEP 23	MONEY: PENTAGON INSURING WEAPONS NEEDLESSLY: GAO	WNT
13	SEP 30	MONEY: MOVING RADIO AND TV MARTI TO MIAMI?	WNT
14	OCT 07	MONEY: STADIUMS COSTING PUBLIC BOND TAX REVENUE	WNT
15	OCT 14	MONEY: BORDER PATROL 'UNCONTROLLABLE' OVERTIME	WNT
16	OCT 21	MONEY: PENTAGON BUYING UNNEEDED MUNITIONS: GAO	WNT
17	OCT 28	MONEY: U.S. SUBSIDIZES BILLIONAIRE CATTLE RANCHERS	WNT
18	NOV 11	MONEY: PENTAGON SELLS SCRAP GOODS TOO CHEAPLY	WNT
19	NOV 18	MONEY: BYRD'S HIGHWAY NOBODY NEEDS	WNT
20	NOV 25	MONEY: COMPANIES PAYING PENNIES FOR GOLD MINE LAND	WNT
21	DEC 01	MONEY: GAO FAULTS \$3 BILLION ANTI-TANK MISSILE BUY	WNT
22	DEC 09	MONEY: WHY NOT A CHEAPER SECOND INAUGURAL?	WNT
23	DEC 16	MONEY: HOW GOVERNMENT COULD CUT PRINTING COSTS	WNT
24	DEC 23	MONEY: UNCLE SAM PAYING FOR TEAMSTER ELECTIONS	WNT
25	DEC 30	MONEY: LOOKING BACK, SOME SAVED, SOME WASTED	WNT

----- Segment Number: 3 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - REBUILDING VIRGINIA BEACH

Air Date: 1996-07-08

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

And now we think you will find a particular timeliness tonight to our report on how the government spends your money because it is all about hurricanes and the debate over whether it makes any economic sense to build up the shorelines that lie in their path.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Listen to the voices of summer along the ocean at Virginia Beach, Virginia.

MEYERA OBERNDORF, MAYOR

If it will help to eliminate some very drastic storm damage, it would make good business sense to do it.

ROBERT DEAN, COUNCILMAN

There's no way in the world this project is going to be able to stop the winds, nor is it going to be able to stop the rains.

CARL THOREN, BEACH MANAGEMENT ENGINEER

The money is going to be spent somewhere. In my view, we are as deserving as the next guy.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) What they are talking about is who should pay to protect the sand and businesses that keep tourists coming back every summer. For years, the taxpayers of Virginia Beach have paid to clean and replenish the sand, even operating their own dredge. But last year, the city convinced the federal government to help pay for a \$102 million sea wall and boardwalk project that will not only maintain the beach, but double its width. The biggest share of the cost - \$67 million - will be paid by federal taxpayers. The city says this is only fair because in the event of a hurricane, the new sand, sea wall and boardwalk will reduce damage on shore, and the city will not have to ask for as much federal disaster assistance.

CARL THOREN

Anything that we can do to lessen that risk, which includes this project, is to the federal advantage.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But Professor Orrin Pilkey of Duke University, who studies beach erosion, warns that this project and others under way along the East Coast are committing federal taxpayers to spend vast sums of money for very little protection.

PROF ORRIN PILKEY, DUKE UNIVERSITY

I would anticipate most of that width of the beach, it will be back to here within two or three years.

JOHN MARTIN

Two or three years?

PROF ORRIN PILKEY

Two or three years, yeah.

JOHN MARTIN

They'll spend \$100 million to get a 300 foot beach for a couple of years?

PROF ORRIN PILKEY

That's right. The federal government has no business being here. The folks that want the tourist industry should be paying for it, not the taxpayer in Omaha.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But Congress has already approved the first installment of \$1.1 million to begin the Virginia project.

(on camera) So, to protect these beaches and the tourism industry of this community, the federal government is planning to spend \$67 million.

(VO) It's your money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

PETER JENNINGS

In Washington today, there's been another of those government reports that give us a profile of the nation at work - in this case, those who hold the most dangerous jobs in America.

(VO) The report puts taxi drivers at the greatest risk of being murdered - 60 times the national average. The study says that one million Americans are the victims of violence on the job every year, and 1,000 of them die. So many taxi drivers are victims for fairly obvious reasons - they work alone, at odd hours, they handle cash and they're obliged to drive in areas of high crime. Sales clerks and

security guards often die for most of the same reasons. The overall risk of being murdered on the job is three times greater for men than it is for women.

As for those who genuinely risk their lives on the job every day, this report says being a police officer is becoming safer. It has to do with better training.

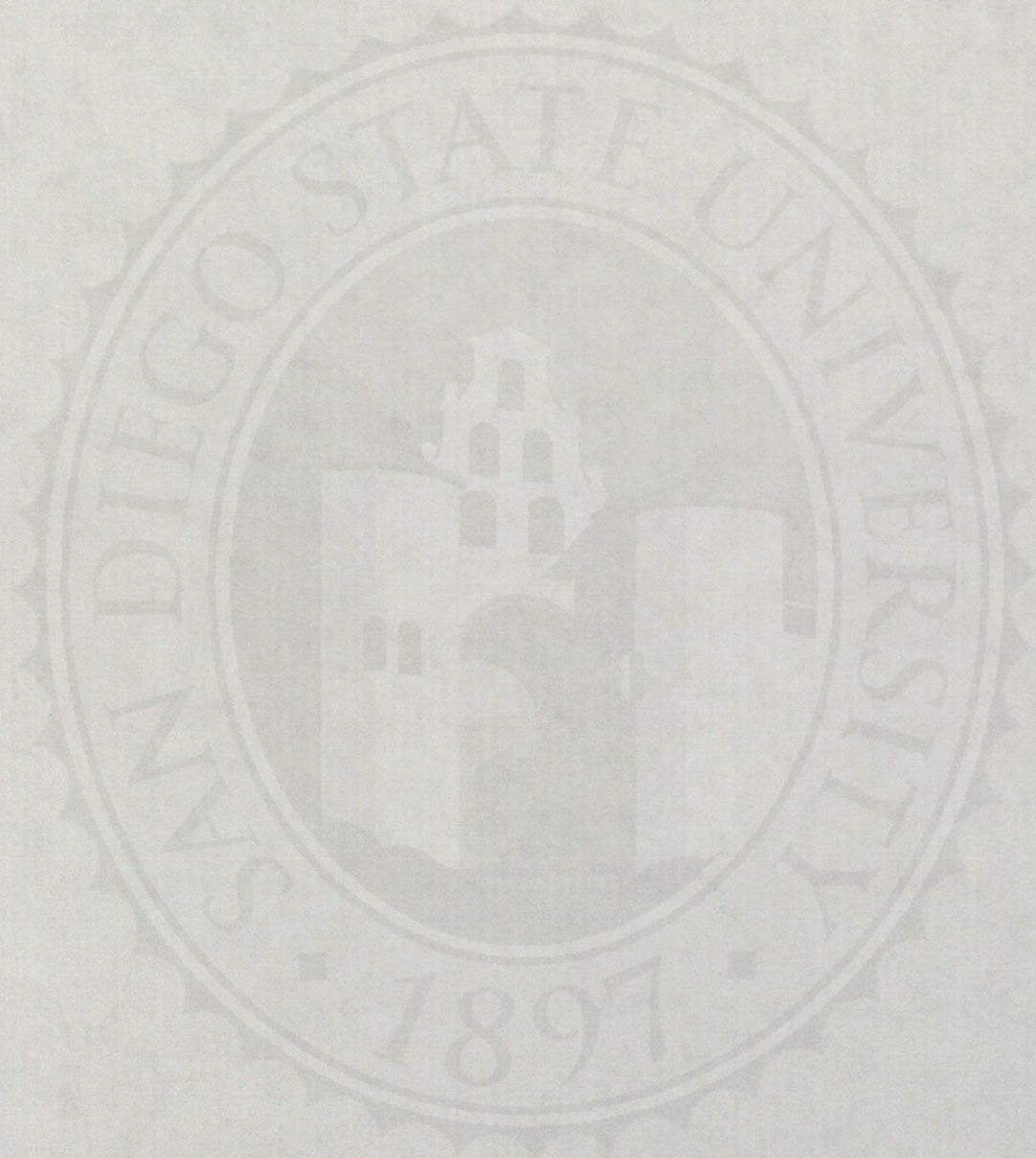
(on camera) There's a resignation of note today from the woman who said she would not set foot on a ValuJet plane even before the crash.

Mary Schiavo was the outspoken inspector general for the Department of Transportation. She was severely critical of the Federal Aviation Administration at the time of the crash. She held the job for almost six years. She told us today she was not being forced out, she wants to write and to speak.

When we come back-

(VO) -tracking the guns that the children use.

(Commercial break)



----- Segment Number: 1 -----

Story Name: GAO REPORT CRITICIZES COST OF HIGH-TECH WEAPONS

Air Date: 1996-07-09

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

As we said briefly at the beginning, the Pentagon's performance five years ago, during the Persian Gulf War, has come under very sharp attack. Congressional auditors in the Office- in the General Accounting Office, accused the military of grossly over selling the effectiveness of the sophisticated and very expensive weapons used against the Iraqis.

Here's ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** on the GAO report.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) The 20,000 so called 'Smart' weapons used by the United States were hugely expensive - \$1.75 billion. But the GAO report says they weren't always more valuable than less expensive weapons, or more accurate.

During the Gulf War, daily briefings featured stunning video of what the American military claimed were examples of pinpoint accuracy. But the GAO report says it found many claims about sophisticated planes and laser guided weapons were over stated, misleading, inconsistent with the best available data or unverifiable.

Higher cost aircraft, among them the Stealth F 117, were not always more capable than lower cost aircraft, such as the B 52 bomber. The Smart bombs and missiles comprised only 8 percent of the munitions fired but cost 84 percent of the money spent.

REP **JOHN DINGELL**, (D), MICHIGAN

It would be wonderful if we could be sure that the missile was going to cost less than the target.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Despite these findings, the report says the Pentagon is now spending \$58 billion to buy 33 different kinds of Smart weapons for the future. The report concludes that the Pentagon's increasing reliance on guided munitions may not be appropriate. The Air Force disagreed.

LT GEN **JOHN JUMPER**, DIRECTOR OPERATIONS, US AIR FORCE

I could tell you that the pilots who put themselves in harm's way would vote overwhelmingly for precision guided munitions over non precision guided munitions.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) That may be, but a central finding of this report is that the Pentagon may be able to protect its forces just as effectively in the future while spending much less money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - NAVY EXERCISE CENTER

Air Date: 1996-07-15

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Well, the baseball star Cal Ripken's streak as Baltimore Orioles' everyday shortstop is over. In an effort to stop the team's slump, manager Davey JOHNSon has moved Ripken to third base for tonight's game. He had played 2,216 consecutive games at shortstop. The other records stay intact.

Time for our Monday look at how the government uses some of your money. Tonight, it's the high cost of exercise. Certainly the military wants its men and women to be fit and healthy, but you may wonder about this particular \$10 million fitness center.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) The Concourse is a converted movie house at the Puget Sound Naval base and shipyard in Bremerton, Washington. What goes on inside might make a movie itself, but nobody would believe it. The 10,000 sailors stationed here barely use this gymnasium, but the government is building them a new one for more than \$10 million.

In a recent survey, fewer than 150 people used the gym at peak hours on an average day. Despite this colossal lack of interest in the basketball courts, the exercise gym and this adjacent swimming pool, the Navy is creating a big new facility. The base commander stoutly defends the project despite admitted low turnouts.

(interviewing) You still can't tell me how many people will use this facility on an average basis each month?

CAPT DALE BAUGH, BASE COMMANDER

No, I can't. I think our challenge is to make it available and get as many people in here as we can, and then we'll see.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) True, Navy regulations now make it more important that sailors stay fit. They can lose pay if they do not.

True, the existing facility is old - built in 1942. True, Navy guidelines say a base with 10,000 sailors could use a bigger gym. But with so little interest shown by the sailors themselves, you might ask why spend the money?

REP NORM DICKS, (D), WASHINGTON

(June 20, 1995) This is one of those things where we've just got to try to do the right thing.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Bremerton Congressman Norm Dicks chose not to be interviewed about his bill which provides funding for the gym.

Consider a different movie, set in one of these private fitness gyms in the area. If it chose, the Navy could buy memberships in these clubs for sailors who want a more modern facility. The cost would be low. At this one, with a military discount, each pays about \$30 a month.

But Congress has already written the final script. Instead of sailors receiving a small subsidy so they can exercise off base, construction crews will soon build a new facility on base for those who may or may not choose to use it. Based on that script, a ticket to this movie costs \$10.4 million federal tax dollars.

It's your money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Bremerton, Washington.

PETER JENNINGS

A lot of news about money today.

(VO) In Asia, the world's richest man threw himself a birthday party. The Sultan of Brunei, absolute ruler of the oil rich enclave on the island of Borneo, turned 50. Britain's Prince Charles was there and so, reportedly, was Michael Jackson - paid \$15 million, we are told, to give a free concert for 30,000 people.

(on camera) Now stay tuned for some real superstars.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - GOVERNMENT RELOCATION BONUSES

Air Date: 1996-07-22

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: CATHERINE CRIER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: CATHERINE CRIER

There's a twist tonight to a story on how the government spends your money. Usually we tell you about wasteful government programs. But this time, we found a new program that actually encourages government employees to make the more economical move.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) For years, most government workers who were moving did not sell their homes through a real estate broker, but used relocation companies like this one hired by the government to help them.

RELOCATION EMPLOYEE

Are you planning on buying?

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) It was easier this way, but also very expensive for taxpayers. To buy and sell a \$100,000 house, the government typically pays a relocation firm \$25,000 taxpayer dollars. But when Eric and Carrie Muller moved last year from this house outside Baltimore to this house in Sacramento, they took advantage of a new government incentive - it gives a bonus to employees who do not use a relocation service.

ERIC MULLER

And I was surprised that there was something as common sensical as having an incentive for being able to save the government some money.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) By using a broker, the Mullers did save the government money - \$13,000. For this they received \$2,500 in bonus pay. The idea to award bonuses came from Kevin Lannigan, a manager at Social Security headquarters in Baltimore.

KEVIN LANNIGAN, SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

I began to look at are there ways that we can actually entice them, reward them for the effort that we want them to undertake?

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) It wasn't easy. Lannigan spent months poring over government regulations.

KEVIN LANNIGAN

There is authority to pay employees for achievements - special achievements. And this was a part of the law that had been used in one area but had been overlooked for this area of travel.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Lannigan then had to consult agency lawyers who ultimately agreed that employees who do not use a relocation firm are eligible for cash awards.

Last month for his efforts, Lannigan got his award - a \$1,000 bonus.

(on camera) So far, Lannigan's idea has saved his agency more than \$1 million. Used government wide, he estimates it could save \$140 million a year. That's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

CATHERINE CRIER

Now to the Olympic Games, where it was a very disappointing day for American swimmer Janet Evans.

(VO) The four time gold medalist expected to qualify for the 400 meter freestyle finals. She holds the world record in that event. But Evans placed ninth, and only eight women can swim for medals in the finals.

(on camera) When we come back, remembering.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - COST OF SYSTEM TO IMPOSE FINES

Air Date: 1996-07-29

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: FORREST SAWYER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: FORREST SAWYER

In our report tonight on how the government spends your money - good intentions gone bad. Criminals are often charged fines by the courts that convict them, but what happens when they won't pay up?

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** tonight on the collection agency that became part of the problem.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) This is the administrative office of the federal court system in Washington. It is usually quiet behind these glass walls, but recently Congress shattered the calm.

SEN BYRON DORGAN, (D), NORTH DAKOTA

We just said 'This isn't going to continue. We're going to shut off the money. You can't do this anymore.' And we kind of, by fiat, shut this project down and said 'This is over.'

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The project they shut down was the National Fine Center, created by Congress eight years ago. It was supposed to develop a nationwide system to help track and collect fines imposed by the 92 federal courts for everything from savings and loan fraud to stock price manipulation. The money was to go to help crime victims, for example, this shelter in Virginia, which cares for battered women and their children. Hundreds of millions of dollars did reach victims from fines collected in individual court districts, but the system kept losing ground. In eight years, the uncollected debt rose from \$300 million to \$5.6 billion, with still no way to monitor it nationally.

Federal court administrators spent \$6 million for a computer system they then had to scrap as unreliable, leaving workers to blow the whistle.

FEDERAL COURT EMPLOYEE

There's no accountability in the courts and they don't have a handle on the financial side of the problem or the technical side of the problem.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) That led senators to order an outside audit which confirmed numerous flaws and recommended shutting down the operation.

NAFTALI BENDAVID, 'LEGAL TIMES'

Nobody figured out exactly what the Fine Center was supposed to do. The training was poor. And, in general, it was pursued in kind of a chaotic way.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Court officials say they faced an impossible task, trying to impose a complex national system on individual courts.

CLARENCE LEE, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, US COURTS

We feel guilty. We feel saddened. Any time you try something and you're not successful at it, it's regrettable.

JOHN MARTIN

Regrettable and costly. This episode squandered \$13 million that were supposed to go to crime victims. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

FORREST SAWYER

A sad note to report tonight. The man who loved birds and taught millions of Americans to love them, as well, has died. Roger Tory Peterson wrote and illustrated field guides that made it easy to identify birds, so easy that he helped create generations of eager bird watchers.

(VO) For 60 years, Roger Tory Peterson combined an artistic talent and a scientific fascination with birds to write, illustrate and edit 15 books that sold millions of copies.

ROGER TORY PETERSON

When I was a teenager, birds to me symbolized freedom. And the mere sight of a bird would excite me so much that I simply couldn't control it.

FORREST SAWYER

(VO) Peterson would later revolutionize bird watching with his easy to use field guides and his own richly detailed drawings. He added arrows to highlight distinctive markings. And instead of using scientific jargon, he used brief, colorful descriptions. A purple finch, according to Peterson, is 'like a sparrow dipped in raspberry juice.'

Yet, to the end, Peterson said he was still learning about his favorite subjects.

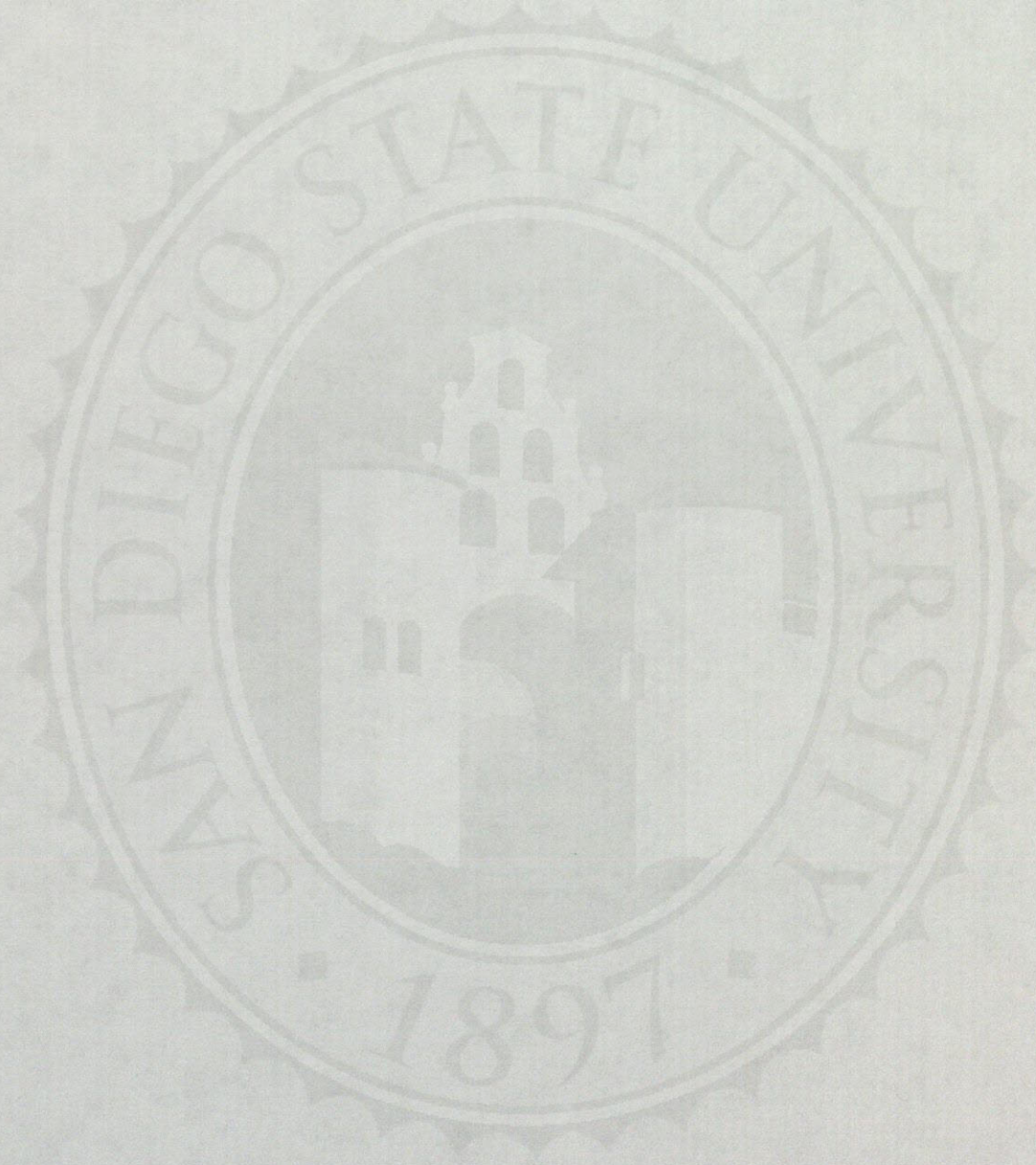
ROGER TORY PETERSON

The thing is that the older I get, the more I realize what I don't know about birds and they are very mysterious creatures in some ways.

FORREST SAWYER

(VO) Roger Tory Peterson, who taught so many of us about the mysteries of birds, has died of complications from a stroke. He was 87.

(on camera) And when we come back, the legend leaves Los Angeles.
(Commercial break)



----- Segment Number: 3 -----

Story Name: FEC LAWSUIT AGAINST CHRISTIAN COALITION

Air Date: 1996-07-30

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: FORREST SAWYER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: FORREST SAWYER

Brit Hume, at the White House. Thank you, Brit.

Now to Los Angeles, today. Bob Dole on Hollywood.

(VO) As he did last year, Dole urged a group of filmmakers to produce more uplifting and wholesome movies and he criticized the industry for making films he calls 'tawdry and degrading.' But Mr Dole has softened his message since the last speech. He even praised a number of Hollywood hits, including Apollo 13 and Independence Day.

(on camera) The government filed a major lawsuit today against Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition. The Federal Election Commission charges that the Coalition, which claims to be educational and nonpartisan, violated the law by spending millions of dollars to promote Republican candidates for president and for Congress.

ABC's JOHN MARTIN has more.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) The voter guides handed out by the Coalition in churches in recent years are at the heart of this complaint.

MINISTER

There is a voter guide on the back of this insert today-

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The Coalition says there is nothing illegal about these guides.

But the government says they take sides and are not neutral. It cited their use in several campaigns. The 1990 Senate race of Jesse Helms in North Carolina - the Coalition mailed 750,000 voter guides and made nearly 30,000 phone calls. All of this, the government says, to rally votes for Helms.

The 1992 presidential campaign of George Bush - the Coalition mailed 28 million voter guides favoring him, the government says, and financed drives to identify and turn out Republican voters on election day.

The 1994 Senate campaign of Oliver North in Virginia - the Coalition mailed 1.7 million voter guides, which the FEC says promoted his candidacy.

The Coalition called the suit baseless and frivolous and vowed to mount a vigorous defense. It acknowledges distributing the guides and making calls, but said it did not endorse candidates. It said the guides merely listed issues important to the Coalition and its members.

JAMES BOPP, CHRISTIAN COALITION ATTORNEY

Citizens are allowed to discuss the positions of candidates on issues and that's all this is.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But a scholar who studied the Christian Coalition says the guides lead voters to support candidates, almost always Republicans.

PROF LARRY SABATO, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

There are some exaggerated and distorted charges about some candidates, mainly Democratic candidates.

JOHN MARTIN

The FEC has lost many cases but if it wins this one, the Coalition could be forced to pay fines and wind up losing its tax exempt status.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

FORREST SAWYER

Legal news at the latest Whitewater trial - in Little Rock today, a federal jury told a judge it is deadlocked. The judge then ordered the jurors to try again. This is the trial of two Arkansas bankers accused of illegally using their bank to funnel money to Bill Clinton's 1990 campaign for governor.

(VO) One more bit of news from the White House. President Clinton today signed a so called taxpayer's bill of rights into law. Among its provisions, taxpayers would be allowed to sue the Internal Revenue Service for up to \$1 million if they thought they were being unfairly treated. The bill also would establish an independent taxpayer's advocate to help people in their dealings with the IRS.

(VO) On Wall Street today, the Dow Jones Industrials gained 47 points, closing at 5,481. On the NASDAQ market, stocks gained 5.5 points.

In a moment, medical news on the American Agenda -

(VO) -remember shock therapy? It is still here.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - GOVERNMENT PROVIDES CIVILIAN WEAPONS

Air Date: 1996-08-05

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, CAMP PERRY, OHIO

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Yes, it is your money we focus on every Monday. And our report on how the government is spending your money this time looks at an area in which one of the most powerful lobbies in America - the National Rifle Association - is having its way again. This involves a program first introduced around the turn of the century.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) This is the World Series of shooting in America - the National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. The National Rifle Association runs these matches with the help of the Army as part of a government program to provide ammunition and encouragement to civilian sharpshooters and beginners alike.

This was probably a good idea when the program started nearly 100 years ago. The Spanish American war showed Americans were poor shots. But even the Army admits this is no longer true. It concedes it could spend the money - \$2 million to \$4 million a year - on something more important. But Congress - instead of eliminating the program, as the Army wanted to do, and allowing gun enthusiasts to run it at their own expense - Congress is creating something called the Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. Backed by the NRA, the corporation will be privately run, but as a parting shot, Congress is giving - that's right - giving it \$80 million worth of surplus Army rifles, ammunition, cash, government cars, computers and equipment, all bought and paid for by the taxpayers.

SEN PAUL SIMON, (D), ILLINOIS

(June 27) I have seen ridiculous things pass this United States Senate. I have never seen anything as ridiculous as this.

SEN FRANK LAUTENBERG, (D), NEW JERSEY

(June 27) We've seen enough of the gun influence in our society. And I just think that the federal government ought not to be a co conspirator.

SEN BOB SMITH, (R), NEW HAMPSHIRE

(June 27) It's not a gun control issue. The program promotes safety and conducts matches - national matches.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) As part of the program, the government will hand over more than 160,000 surplus Army rifles which are stowed here at the Anniston Depot in Alabama. The Rifle Association's chief lobbyist says giving the rifles free to the corporation will save taxpayers money.

TANYA METAKSA, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

It will save all the money from all the guns that would have to otherwise be stored or destroyed.

JOHN MARTIN

And that's how much?

TANYA METAKSA

I don't know how much it will be.

JOHN MARTIN

The Army says it could sell the rifles for about \$50 million or more. So the savings are minimal compared to what the government would receive if it sold them. But Congress has other ideas. Two months from now, thanks to the Senate Armed Services Committee and the House National Security Committee- (VO) -the private corporation which will help run these matches next year will begin receiving government property worth \$80 million. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Camp Perry, Ohio.

PETER JENNINGS

On Wall Street today- (VO) -the Dow Jones Industrials lost 5 1 / 2 points to close at 5,674. On the NASDAQ market, stocks lost about 4 points.

(on camera) In a moment, our first look at the dazzling splendor of King Snefru.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - PRIVATIZING FEDERAL PERSONNEL OFFICE

Air Date: 1996-08-19

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: DIANE SAWYER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: DIANE SAWYER

We have a success story tonight in our report on how the government is spending your money. It concerns part of a federal agency that has been eliminated.

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** on a small but successful example of privatization.

TAMMIE FERRARO, FORMER FEDERAL INVESTIGATOR

Hi, Mrs Grippo? Hi. My name is Tammie Ferraro. I'm a special investigator for the US Office of Personnel Management.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Tammie Ferraro has worked nine years checking the backgrounds of perspective federal employees for big agencies, including the Justice and Treasury departments. Last month, faced with smaller budgets, the Federal Office of Personnel Management eliminated her job and the jobs of 724 fellow investigators. But Ferraro and most of the others are still at work. They are part of something new - a public agency gone private to save federal tax money.

TAMMIE FERRARO

I'm grateful that I have a job. I like the kind of work that I do. I'm happy to be able to continue doing this kind of work.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) That's right. Ferraro is now with a company called US Investigations Services. The firm is run from this converted Pennsylvania coal mine. Working in these underground offices, the employees save your tax money by working for other people, too. They have signed contracts worth \$160 million over three years to conduct investigations for state and local governments, as well as private firms. CEO Phil Harper says this gives the company enough revenue so it charges the federal government less than the government was paying these workers - \$5 million a year less.

Not everyone is happy. One investigator, who refused to join the new firm, worries about the privacy of those interviewed.

DEBORAH APPERSON, FORMER FEDERAL INVESTIGATOR

To me, it is an inherently governmental program that should not be out in the private sector.

SEN PAUL SIMON, (D), ILLINOIS

I think it can lead to real mischief and real abuse.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But federal agents say they can avoid mischief or abuse because the government still controls all access to the facility.

PHIL HARPER, US INVESTIGATIONS SERVICES

I sort of reject out of hand that only the people who work in the government are the ones to be trusted. I mean, the rest of us are very trustworthy. After all, we make up the government. Who are these government employees, except us?

JOHN MARTIN

So, by using private investigators to work for public agencies, the Federal Office of Personnel Management expects to save \$25 million over the next five years. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

DIANE SAWYER

On Wall Street today-

(VO) -the Dow Jones Industrials gained nearly 10 points to close at 5699. On the NASDAQ market, stocks lost more than 2 points.

(on camera) Former President Ronald Reagan's cherished ranch is for sale.

(VO) It's the 688 acre ranch in the Santa Ynez Mountains north of Santa Barbara, where Mr Reagan was seen so often horseback riding, chopping wood, when he would get away from the pressures of Washington. Since Mr Reagan was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he has been staying close to this home in Los Angeles.

(on camera) The ranch is expected to sell for about \$5 million.

In a moment, 4,000 less expensive reasons-

(VO) -to reach for your wallet - the world's longest rummage sale.
(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 7 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - FORESTRY SERVICE ERROR COSTS MILLIONS

Air Date: 1996-09-02

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: CATHERINE CRIER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, EL DORADO NATIONAL FOREST

Content: THIS SEGMENT IS ON LEGAL HOLD. PLEASE CONTACT THE
NEWS LEGAL DEPARTMENT IF YOU WISH TO USE.

CATHERINE CRIER

Now to our regular report on how the government is spending your money. Tonight we turn to the US Forestry Service, which manages the nation's natural resources - or is supposed to.

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** on the spiraling cost of one entirely avoidable mistake.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) California's El Dorado National Forest, a vision of morning mist, stately trees, sparkling streams and seething anger.

CRAIG THOMAS, FRIENDS AWARE OF WILDLIFE

Taxpayers need to demand that Congress hold the Forest Service accountable for what's happened here.

JEFF RUCH, PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ENVIRONMENT RESP

It wasn't just a mistake, it was a whopper of a mistake. And it was such a big mistake that the only way the Forest Service could maintain a straight face was by acting as if nothing was wrong.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The mistake happened when the Forest Service agreed to sell large stands of timber here to five logging companies. The sales would have raised \$49 million for the US Treasury. But the agency acted without reviewing its new environmental factor, including the presence of the spotted owl. When citizens groups found out and protested, the Forest Service had to suspend the contract. This meant the timber companies had to buy more expensive trees elsewhere.

So they sued the government, which concedes it will have to pay the companies for some losses. If so, the Forest Service has only itself to blame for mishandling timber sales for which damage claims now total between \$20 million and \$30 million.

Yet the agency showed a curious way of holding people responsible. It shifted Forest Service resource officer Peggy O'Connell, who reportedly opposed the sales as improper, to a different job and ordered her not to talk to ABC News.

No such transfer for the timber manager at the time, Rex Baumbach. He insists he did nothing wrong, but won't discuss the case because of the lawsuit. An employee group complains that he has been rewarded.

JEFF RUCH

The timber manager who pushed through this bill was promoted. And the biologists who raised the issues were stripped of authority.

JOHN MARTIN

Wait a minute - the manager was promoted?

JEFF RUCH

Yes. He was given another grade increase and sent to Washington, DC. He himself explained it by saying in the Forest Service, when you screw up, you move up.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The Forest Service declined all comments. But as they say, money talks. There are the millions of dollars the government won't collect in the El Dorado timber sales, the half a million dollars it has already spent investigating its mistake and paying out claims, and the \$25 million it could end up paying the timber companies.

It's your money. **JOHN MARTIN**, ABC News, Placerville, California.

CATHERINE CRIER

Overseas again. Russian television showed pictures it said were taken today of President Boris Yeltsin with his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin. The Russian news agency says that Mr Yeltsin is feeling fine but has had diagnostic and preventive treatments. No explanation of what those treatments were.

When we come back, the race for respectability - who's been spinning their wheels in the streets of San Francisco?

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 4 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - SUBSIDIZING DECLINING SHEEP INDUSTRY

Air Date: 1996-09-09

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, CRAIG, COLORADO

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Our report on how the government is spending your money tonight, a regular Monday feature, looks at a new program to keep alive a very old industry. But is Congress legitimately trying to help a declining business get back on its feet or is it pulling the wool over the taxpayers' eyes? It's your money.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) To support the American Wool and Sheep Industry, Congress gave it \$3 billion in subsidies over 40 years. In 1993, after complaints that the money could no longer be justified, Congress canceled the program. This April, the government sent out the last subsidy checks.

(on camera) But the sheep industry argues that it needs a final payment of \$20 million to \$50 million for investments to prove that it can operate without government assistance.

(VO) Steve Raftopoulos runs a family sheep and cattle business in Colorado. He is president of the American Sheep Industry Association. Five months ago, he and his group persuaded Congress to spend taxpayers' money on something called the National Sheep Industry Promotion Center.

STEVE RAFTOPOULOS, AMERICAN SHEEP INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

The intent is to have a pool of dollars that would help with the infrastructure development.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) To start, Congress has filled that pool with \$20 million and authorized spending \$30 million 20more. It's an unusual arrangement.

Raftopoulos says the private center will act like a bank, lending money for business ventures, research and promoting and marketing products. The difference is they will be using federal tax dollars.

(interviewing) Why wouldn't a banker want to finance this?

STEVE RAFTOPOULOS

Then they say, 'Why should I invest in an industry that's on the decline?' This gives us the ability to get some loans out to help stabilize that industry and move it back up.

SEN RICHARD BRYAN, (D), NEVADA

It is a subsidy. And if you can justify a subsidy for this program, I suppose you can justify a subsidy for every declining industry in America.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Not only that, but the whole idea runs against the mood in Congress. So who quietly inserted the money in the farm bill? Conservative Senator Larry Craig of Idaho, which has 1,300 sheep ranches. His staff insisted he has little interest in the bill and he showed no interest in talking to ABC News about it. The bottom line is that Congress has ended wool subsidies, yet given America's sheep ranchers a parting handshake worth up to \$50 million. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Craig, Colorado.

PETER JENNINGS

On Wall Street today-

(VO) -the Dow Jones Industrials gained nearly 74 points to close at 5733. On the NASDAQ market stocks gained just about 9 points.

(on camera) In Little Rock, Arkansas, today, one of the President's former Whitewater business partners reported to jail.

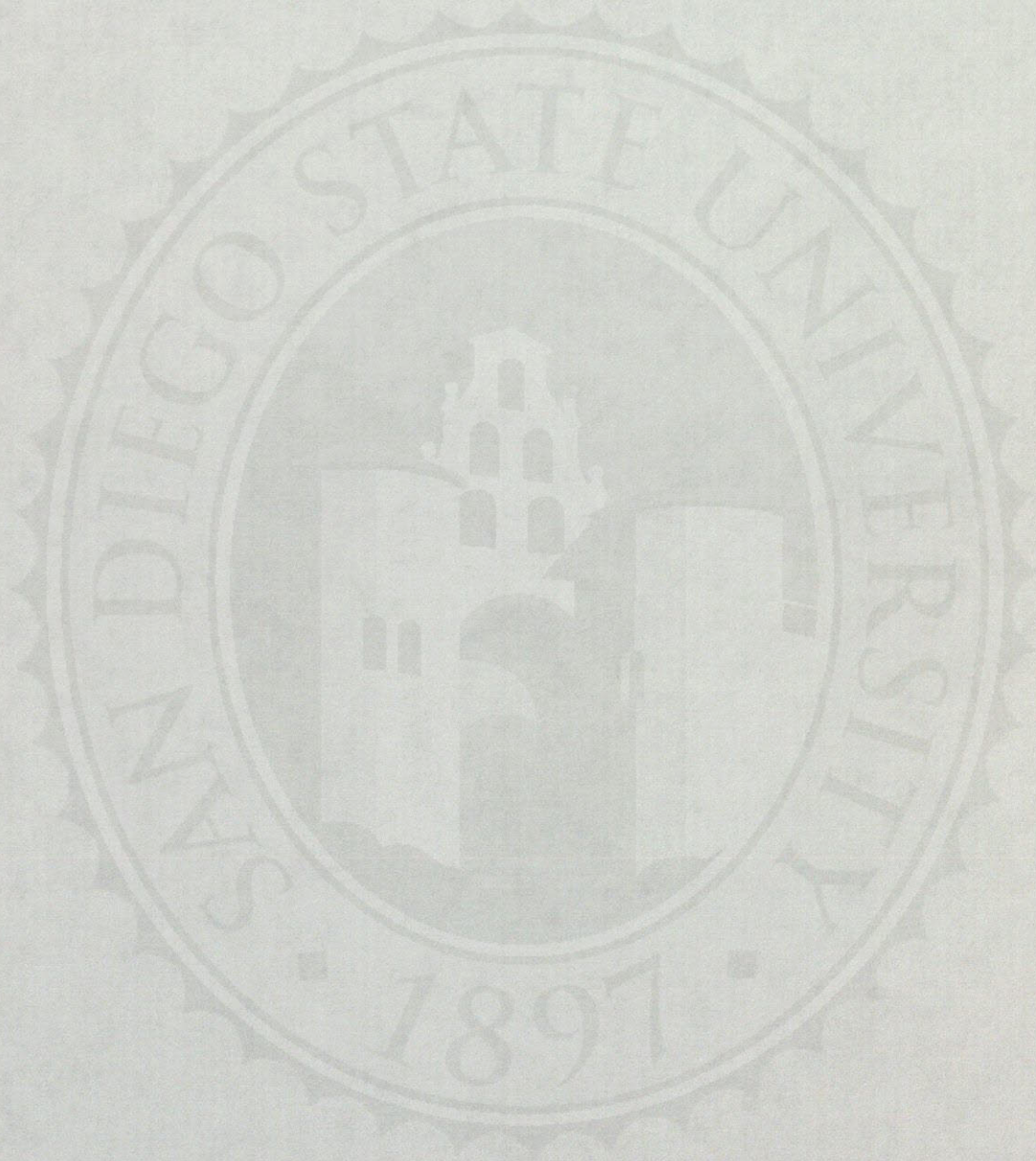
(VO) Susan McDougal said she would rather go to jail than answer certain questions in front of a grand jury looking into the Whitewater real estate deal. Mrs McDougal, already convicted on Whitewater related charges, says prosecutors are pressuring her to testify against the Clintons.

(VO) President Clinton has asked Congress today for more than \$1 billion to guard against terrorism and increase security at the nation's airports. Among the proposals, which were actually recommended last week by a committee led by the Vice President, 54 high tech scanners capable of detecting plastic explosives; 114 bomb sniffing dog teams; a system which would ensure that passengers were matched to their bags; background and fingerprint checks of airport employees.

In a moment, counting the latest fighting in Iraq-

(VO) -counting the American losses, that is.

(Commercial break)



----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - IRS CYBERFILE

Air Date: 1996-09-16

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Well, there is a reasonable chance today that astronaut Shannon Lucid will soon be on her way home. At least her ride is on the way.

(VO) The space shuttle Atlantis lifted off from Cape Canaveral this morning on its way to pick her up. She has been on the Russian space station Mir since last March. Technical and weather problems have kept her in space for nearly seven weeks longer than expected. We're told she's impatient.

(on camera) On our report about how the government spends your money, we're going to turn tonight to a favorite whipping boy, especially in this political year - the Internal Revenue Service. Almost everyone wants to change it; Ross Perot says do away with it entirely.

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** tonight on one of those bungled projects that gives the IRS' critics so much ammunition.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) This underground room contains the remains of Cyberfile - an Internal Revenue Service project that was supposed to help taxpayers file returns from home by computer. Four months ago, after spending \$17 million, the IRS pulled the plug on it before a single taxpayer ever got to use it.

(on camera) Maybe this was because it was such a cockeyed arrangement to begin with - the kind that seems to happen only here in Washington. The IRS hired the Commerce Department to run this project from space here in the Agriculture Department.

(VO) Even more cockeyed, the Commerce Department believed it could make it work in less than six months despite the complexity of the project and the tax code.

(interviewing) What caused you to claim to the IRS that you could do this in six months?

MARY GOOD, UNDERSECRETARY OF COMMERCE

Well, because we thought we could. We had all of the tools and the people.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Undersecretary Good insists it can still work but Congress is far from convinced. In fact, when a Senate committee met here last week to find out what happened to Cyberfile, the IRS was hit from all sides.

RONA STILLMAN, GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

We reported that when the IRS had developed Cyberfile they did it bass-ackwards.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The GAO said the computer system was not secure from tampering. The committee chairman complained to deputy IRS commissioner Michael Dolan that the IRS hired Commerce with a vaguely worded contract which led to \$6.3 million in unauthorized spending.

SEN TED STEVENS, CHAIRMAN, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Do you bind- you bound the government to a contract that was insufficient to accomplishments that you set forth? Now that's mismanagement.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Dolan denied the IRS mismanaged the project. But IRS officials told ABC News that because of concerns about protecting taxpayer information, the agency has now decided to drop Cyberfile completely. Total cost - \$17 million.

It's your money. **JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.**

PETER JENNINGS

There was another record high on Wall Street today.

(VO) The Dow Jones Industrials gained more than 50 points to close at 5,889. On the NASDAQ market, stocks gained about 5 points.

In Detroit this afternoon, Ford and the United Auto Workers say they have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract. The two sides provided no details but the key issues in negotiations have been entry level jobs- entry level wages, job security and what is known as outsourcing - the practice of contracting out for auto parts.

(on camera) Coming up next, music to our ears.
(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 4 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - DEFENSE WARRANTIES

Air Date: 1996-09-23

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, THE PENTAGON

Content:

PETER JENNINGS

Every Monday, we take this look at how the government is spending your money. And we're going to focus tonight on an idea that on the surface seemed pretty smart. Every time the Pentagon buys an important new piece of equipment, it's required to take out what amounts to an insurance policy to make sure that the equipment, the hardware, performs up to expectations. Sound investment? No, not necessarily at all.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) The Pentagon spends \$270 million a year on warranties for its weapons systems - everything from jet fighters to battle tanks. In return, manufacturers promise to repair or replace anything defective.

Question - what does the Pentagon get for its money? Answer - according to the General Accounting Office - practically nothing.

Example - the F 15 fighter. The Air Force paid McDonnell Douglas \$12 million for warranties but only got back \$400,000 in repairs and parts.

Example - the multiple launch rocket system. The Army paid the Loral Corporation \$2 million for warranties to get back \$126,000 in repairs and parts.

Warranties are often cost effective for consumers, so why not for the military? Virginia Lutz is a college professor who studies warranties. She says that unlike consumers, the Pentagon has resources that make it unlikely the warranty will ever be needed.

PROF VIRGINIA LUTZ, VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

The Defense has got inspectors on site. And in addition, most military units have their own repair capabilities.

JOHN MARTIN

So, in general, do you think it's a good or a bad idea for the Pentagon to pay for warranties on its weapons?

PROF VIRGINIA LUTZ

I think it's a waste of money.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The Pentagon agrees, but is required by law to buy warranties on all systems costing \$100,000 or more.

(interviewing) Do you think the United States is getting better equipment as a result of having the warranties?

ELEANOR SPECTOR, DIRECTOR, PROCUREMENT DOD

Maybe in some cases we are. Um-

JOHN MARTIN

Maybe?

ELEANOR SPECTOR

Maybe. I couldn't conclusively say that we are in all cases. I don't think a mandatory warranty on every combat system is a good idea.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Even the retired senator who wrote the bill trying to hold manufacturers accountable says it might be better to repeal the law.

MARK ANDREWS, FORMER US SENATOR

If they can't clean it up, if they can't do it the way we intended it be done, certainly.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But the two congressional committees responsible - House National Security and Senate Armed Services - seem in no hurry to amend the law. A Senate aide said it's up to the Pentagon to suggest changes.

(on camera) The Pentagon says it's working on this. So at a time of tight budgets, the government is still spending funds it doesn't have for warranties it doesn't need - a quarter billion dollar's worth every year.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - RADIO-TV MARTI'S CREDIBILITY MORE IN DOUBT

Air Date: 1996-09-30

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, MIAMI, FLORIDA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

And now here is our regular Monday piece about your money. A woman in Attleboro, Massachusetts, told us yesterday she was glad we didn't say, 'Your money, your choice' anymore. She thought she didn't have a choice in how the government spends it, certainly not in this case.

The government has decided that it is going to move the headquarters of Radio and Television Marti from Washington to Miami.

In this report tonight, ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** raises the question of value for dollars.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) They work for Radio and TV Marti, which spends 25 million tax dollars a year to bombard Fidel Castro's Cuba with news, sports, talk and music. As a government operation, it has been based here in Washington since 1984. But last April, Congress quietly ordered it moved to Miami by next year, relocating up to 220 employees at a cost of \$8 million. Alberto Mora sits on its governing board.

(interviewing) Is this worth spending \$8 million for?

ALBERTO MORA, NTL BROADCASTING BUREAU

Why not concentrate the operation in Miami and get it far closer to the action?

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Some fear it may be too close to the action, further damaging the operation's credibility. TV Marti is jammed and never seen in Cuba, and moving to Miami will not change that. Taxpayers will simply continue paying \$11.6 million a year to beam signals from this blimp into thin air. Radio Marti is different. Cubans do listen, but staff members who oppose the move say that Cubans will be more suspicious if it is based in Miami.

RICHARD PLANAS, RADIO MARTI

Marti right now is politicized, and once in Miami, it will be politicized even more.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Some staff members worry that Fidel Castro will claim that Radio Marti is too much under the thumb of Jorge Mas Canosa, Miami's most powerful Cuban exile politician, and head of a foundation dedicated to Castro's overthrow. Mas Canosa did not respond to our request for an interview. Neither did Texas Senator Phil Gramm, who wrote the amendment ordering the move.

But David Burke, a former ABC News executive who chairs Marti's governing board, said he wishes Congress had left the operation in Washington.

DAVID BURKE, NTL BROADCASTING BUREAU

I'm convinced that its credibility is put in great jeopardy if it moves to Miami.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) What seems clear is that by relocating to Miami, Radio TV Marti sets itself up to lose a propaganda fight with Castro.

(on camera) If so, it will not only cost the agency its credibility, but \$8 million to move it here. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Miami.

PETER JENNINGS

And now we go back to Washington again. In Washington today-

(VO) -they were mourning the 40,000 Americans killed by guns every year, and every death symbolized by a pair of shoes. It is called 'The Silent March,' a once a year expression of national grief and rage. The survivors come from every state, unpacking terrible memories of someone they lost, sometimes an entire family wiped out, victims of every age and all walks of life, all represented by the shoes they left behind.

(on camera) Half of them are homicides, and half of them are suicides.

Back in just a moment.

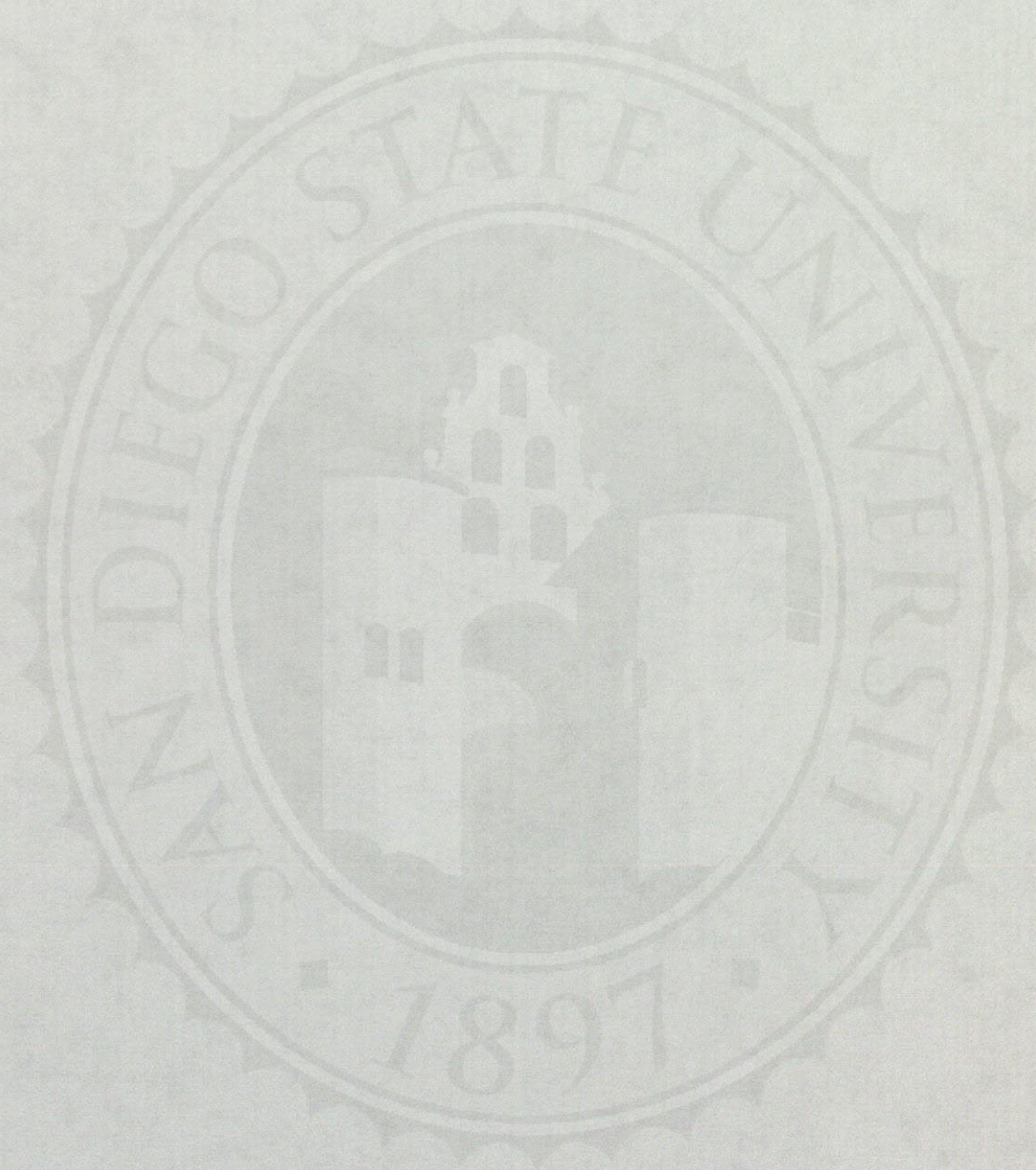
(Commercial break)

PETER JENNINGS

Just before we leave Boston tonight, we can tell you what tomorrow's headlines will surely say here, that the Boston Red Sox fired their manager, Kevin Kennedy, today. Boston has failed to make the playoffs this year, reminding their fans that for the 78th consecutive October, the Red Sox are not going to win the World Series. The last time was 1918. Ever since they sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees

at the end of the season in 1919, an awful lot of Boston fans have believed in the curse. Baseball is not easy here. On the other hand, they like it that way.

That is our report on World News Tonight. Nightline later. I'm Peter Jennings. Good night from Boston.



----- Segment Number: 7 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - TAX-EXEMPT BONDS FOR BUILDING STADIUMS

Air Date: 1996-10-07

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Finally this evening, with all the interest in sports this time of year - baseball, soccer, football, hockey all going strong - our regular look at how the government spends your money. And we focus on the most expensive seats in town. They're the ones at those new sports stadiums that often lure professional teams to jump from one city to another or the ones that may mean a difference in keeping a team where it is.

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** tonight on who is really footing the bill.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Americans love professional sports so much that the country is on a building binge. Since 1990, nearly 30 communities have constructed new sports stadiums and arenas; more are coming. Besides the fans, the people who have the most to cheer about are the owners and players, who benefit from the boom with ever bigger profits and salaries.

(on camera) But what most people don't realize is that practically every major professional sports team in America has an extra player in the lineup - the federal taxpayer, who subsidizes the bonds that are used to finance these stadiums.

(VO) Federal tax laws allow states, counties and cities to construct stadiums by selling tax exempt bonds. That means people who buy the bonds don't pay income taxes on the interest, money that would have gone to the US Treasury.

SEN DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, (D), NEW YORK

The Treasury loses \$15 million a year and rising because these are tax exempt bonds, even though they are used for a private commercial purpose.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) In Atlanta, the Georgia Dome, home of the Falcons. Your cost - about \$141 million in lost taxes over the life of the bonds. In Baltimore, a new stadium for the Ravens. Your cost - about \$40 million in lost tax revenue. In Jacksonville, renovating the Gator Bowl for the Jaguars. Your cost - about \$39 million.

Some argue that stadiums revitalize cities.

FRANK SHAFROTH, NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

In some cases a stadium appears to do more to bring back and make a city a live, vibrant place than subsidizing a steel factory or a prison or something else.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But Senator Moynihan says cities can borrow only so much money.

SEN DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

If you build a stadium, you don't build a school. Indeed, you don't build 50 schools.

JOHN MARTIN

So, along with the touchdowns and the tax breaks come the costs, with nearly 40 more sports facilities planned in the coming decade, unless Congress reforms the law, the loss to the US Treasury over 30 years could be \$1 billion.

It's Your Money. **JOHN MARTIN**, ABC News, Washington.

PETER JENNINGS

And that is our report on World News Tonight. Later this evening on Nightline, a Monday night political special following up on the debate. And tomorrow, here on Solutions, the public high school that has beaten the problem of teenage drug abuse. It has worked in one place, and it may well work in your community.

I'm Peter Jennings. We'll see you tomorrow. Good night.

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - INS OVERTIME ABUSE

Air Date: 1996-10-14

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, FLORENCE, ARIZONA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

When this next report first came up we were reminded that one of the complaints that makes everyone's blood boil is that while you are working your head off, somebody else is dogging it and getting paid handsomely in the process. That's what our report on how the government spends your money is all about this week.

ABC's **JOHN MARTIN** reports on the Immigration and Naturalization Service, where some people earn their overtime, without question, but too many others do not.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Greg Kurupas is a border patrol supervisor working the night shift out of Nogales, Arizona. He is a soldier in the war to control immigration on the Mexican border, a war of night scopes, spotlights and patrols often taking 15 hours a day.

GREG KURUPAS, BORDER PATROL SUPERVISOR

If you're in the middle of performing a duty, you cannot drop what you're doing and walk away from there.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) That's why field agents like Kurupas are allowed to assign themselves up to 20 hours a week of special overtime. The Immigration and Naturalization Service admits it spent more than \$45 million last year on what it calls 'Administratively Uncontrollable Overtime,' originally intended for federal agents working undercover or on surveillance.

But what INS doesn't say is that some of that money went here, to officers on jobs for which it was not intended - jobs at detention and processing centers where officers are told to put in for special overtime, even though they hold positions with regular schedules.

VOICE OF INS EMPLOYEE

(Voice Altered) They're on the clock.. whether it's in the office.. or running errands.. picking up airline tickets.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) This employee says some, not all, take the money for doing nothing.

VOICE OF INS EMPLOYEE

Sitting at desks with their feet propped up..playing video games on computers.

JOHN MARTIN

How do the officers feel about this?

VOICE OF INS EMPLOYEE

That they're entitled to it. They brag about it.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But not Dennis Porter, a spit and polish officer who refused the money.

DENNIS PORTER, DETENTION ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Well, it just seemed so wrong that I felt that at some point somebody from the government was going to come and take all that money back and everybody was going to get in trouble.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Porter was so upset he went to Senator **JOHN McCain**, who forced INS to investigate.

SEN JOHN MCCAIN, (R), ARIZONA

What we have found, and more importantly, the inspector general has found, is a widespread pattern of abuse throughout the INS.

JOHN MARTIN

We wanted to ask the commissioner of INS to explain this policy. But the agency turned us down and told officials not to talk to us. Commissioner Doris Meissner won't stop the pay pending a study, says INS. So we asked Agent Kurupas about it.

(interviewing) Nobody would put in for it if they didn't actually earn it?

GREG KURUPAS

It would be stealing.

JOHN MARTIN

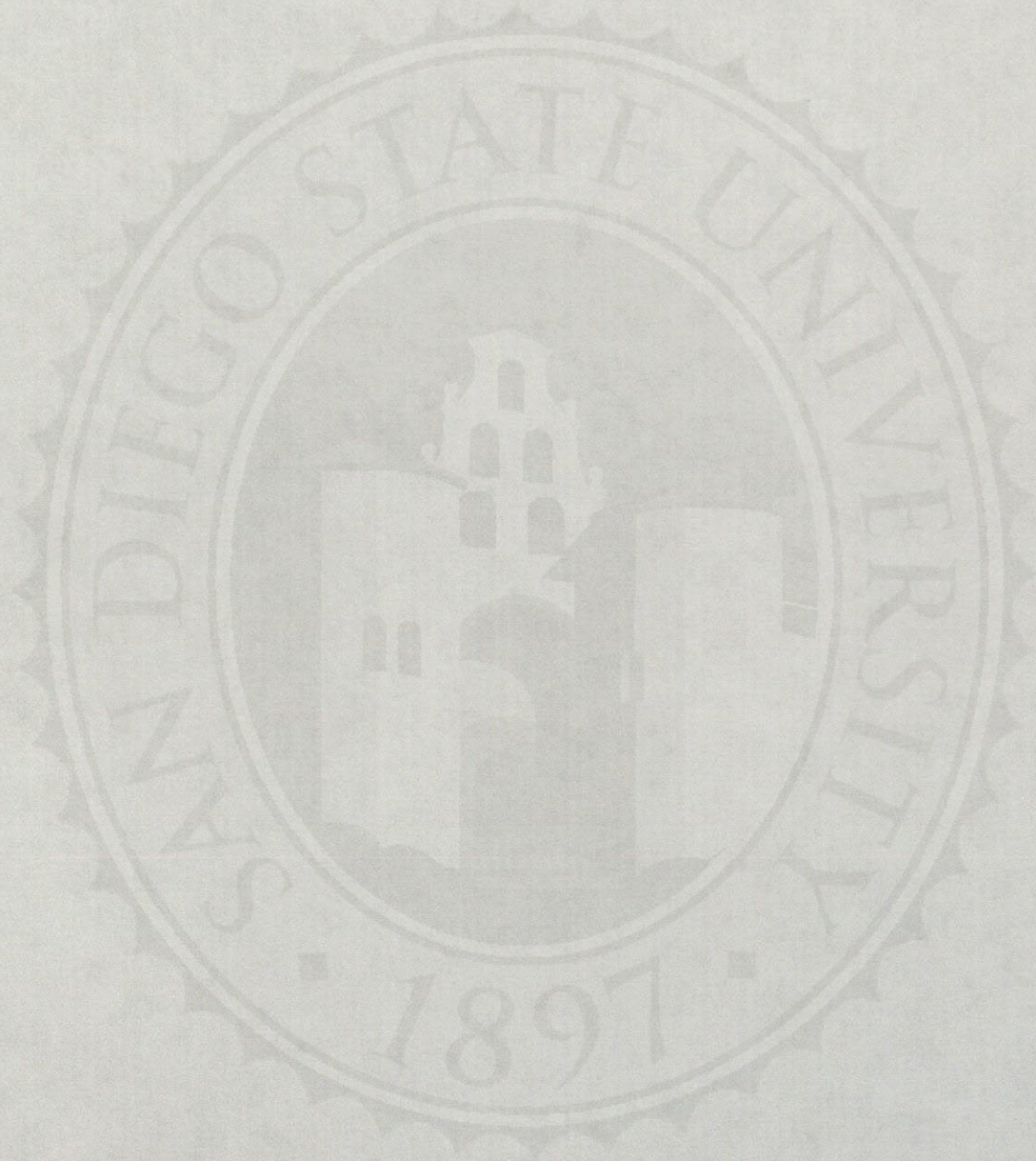
(VO) INS won't say how much of the special pay is genuinely uncontrollable, but in four years the total was \$231 million. It's your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Florence, Arizona.

PETER JENNINGS

When we come back-

(VO) -the 'get out of jail' card could yet spring dozens of illegal immigrants from prison.
(Commercial break)



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Asset Type: Transcript
Air Date: 1996-10-21

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - MILITARY INVENTORY

Air Date: 1996-10-21

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, HERLONG, CALIFORNIA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

For our regular money report on Your Money - poor housekeeping in the military. To appreciate just how poor, imagine that everyone in your family kept buying vast quantities of food with no regard at all for what was already in the refrigerator. In essence, this is how the Pentagon spends your money on ammunition.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) These civilians are on a mission for the US Army - taping mines onto these 750 pound bombs, preparing to dispose of them by blowing them up.

(on camera) These explosions symbolize a paradox. The Pentagon keeps buying munitions although it already has nearly twice what it needs and can't destroy what it doesn't need fast enough.

(VO) According to the General Accounting Office, the United States has three million tons of bombs, shells and ammunition, enough to fill a line of boxcars stretching from Washington, DC, to Orlando, Florida.

Some has to be destroyed because it is old and dangerously unstable. But some is destroyed to make room for an inventory that just keeps growing. That's because the Army keeps buying ammunition for itself and the other services every time there's a request without keeping track of what's already on hand. The general in charge insists this is okay because the customer is always right.

LT GEN DENNIS BENCHOFF, ARMY MATERIAL COMMAND

We would assume that if they know what they have and they are asking to buy more, that that's a valid requirement.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But that's not valid, says the GAO. It reports that some military units hold up to 500 times more ammunition than they need, yet still buy more.

This GAO auditor found one service buying shells another had too many of.

MARK GEBICKE, GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

The Army has it available; the Marine Corps is out buying the same stuff. And if we just had a way of talking to one another, there's \$185 million taxpayer dollars that didn't have to be spent.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) So why don't the services talk to each other? In this letter to the GAO, Assistant Deputy Undersecretary James Emahiser admits improvements are needed. But when we wanted to talk to him about this, he wouldn't talk to us.

So they keep working, destroying the old to make room for the new they may not need. On average, the Army destroys 1,300 tons of ammunition a week. And it's expensive. This year, \$100 million federal taxpayer dollars will go up in smoke. mIt's Your Money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Herlong, California.

PETER JENNINGS

International news today, the US envoy Dennis Ross has decided to come home from the Middle East. For two weeks he has tried to galvanize the stalled peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians. But the two sides still cannot agree about when and how Israeli soldiers should withdraw from the West Bank town of Hebron.

In Nicaragua today, all indications are that the conservative former mayor of Managua, Arnoldo Aleman, has won yesterday's presidential election. Since they started counting the votes, he has maintained about a 10 point lead over the former Sandinista leader, Daniel Ortega. Mr Ortega, however, still refuses to concede defeat.

In a moment, the latest fashion for advertising. In other words, the latest way to make a buck at the ballpark.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - FEDERAL SUBSIDIES TO CATTLE RANCHERS

Air Date: 1996-10-28

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, PAYOLA, OKLAHOMA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

On Your Money tonight, getting fat off federal land - and we do not mean cattle. During the height of the Depression, in order to save small ranchers from going under, Congress passed legislation which let them graze their cattle on government land for very little money.

Today, some 60 years later, those laws are still on the books.

And if you think it's only the little guy who is getting a break, well, here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JR SIMPLOT

Oh, I'm a farmer. You might say a big farmer.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) JR Simplot is a billionaire Idaho potato farmer who supplies much of America's french fries. But consider this - even though he's one of the wealthiest men in the country, he receives a federal subsidy. That's right - Simplot and other wealthy corporate cattle ranchers pay a subsidized rate when they graze their herds on federal land. Instead of paying the private rate of \$100 per cow per year, they pay a federal rate of only \$16 to \$18.

Congress set the fee low to help ranchers all over the country, although fees in the East don't qualify because there's not much federal land there.

(on camera) But the picture here in the West is much different - there's much more federal grazing land and many more corporate cowboys, so the loss to the federal taxpayer is much higher.

(VO) Here's how much the big ranchers control. Of 270 million acres of federal grazing land, 60 percent is leased by just 9 percent of the ranchers. Tom Basabe runs Simplot's cattle. He says the low federal fees are justified because Simplot must pump water, plant grass and mend fences - costs often covered by private landlords. One proposed reform would require big corporations to pay more than small ranchers. Basabe says that's not fair.

TOM BASABE, JR SIMPLOT COMPANY

That would be the same as having two prices for a loaf of bread or two prices for a car.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But Jim Baca, once head of federal land management, says the low fees hurt the people paying the bills.

JIM BACA, LAND USE CONSULTANT

The price has to be higher because the American taxpayer is really taking it in the ear on this.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Senator Dale Bumpers proposed that big corporations pay the higher rates that states charge. But westerners in both parties defeated the idea, arguing this would hurt ranchers who worked for the big corporations.

SEN CRAIG THOMAS, (R), WYOMING

(September 16) I don't think this is corporate welfare. I can't imagine that term being used in this instance.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But this rancher can imagine it. He has no federal land nearby, so he can't qualify for the low fees paid by the big companies.

DAVID SHEEGOG, OKLAHOMA RANCHER

This is another form of corporate welfare that affects people on the soil, like myself.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) If Congress raised fees just for corporations, the US Treasury would gain \$8 million a year. It's Your Money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Payola, Oklahoma.

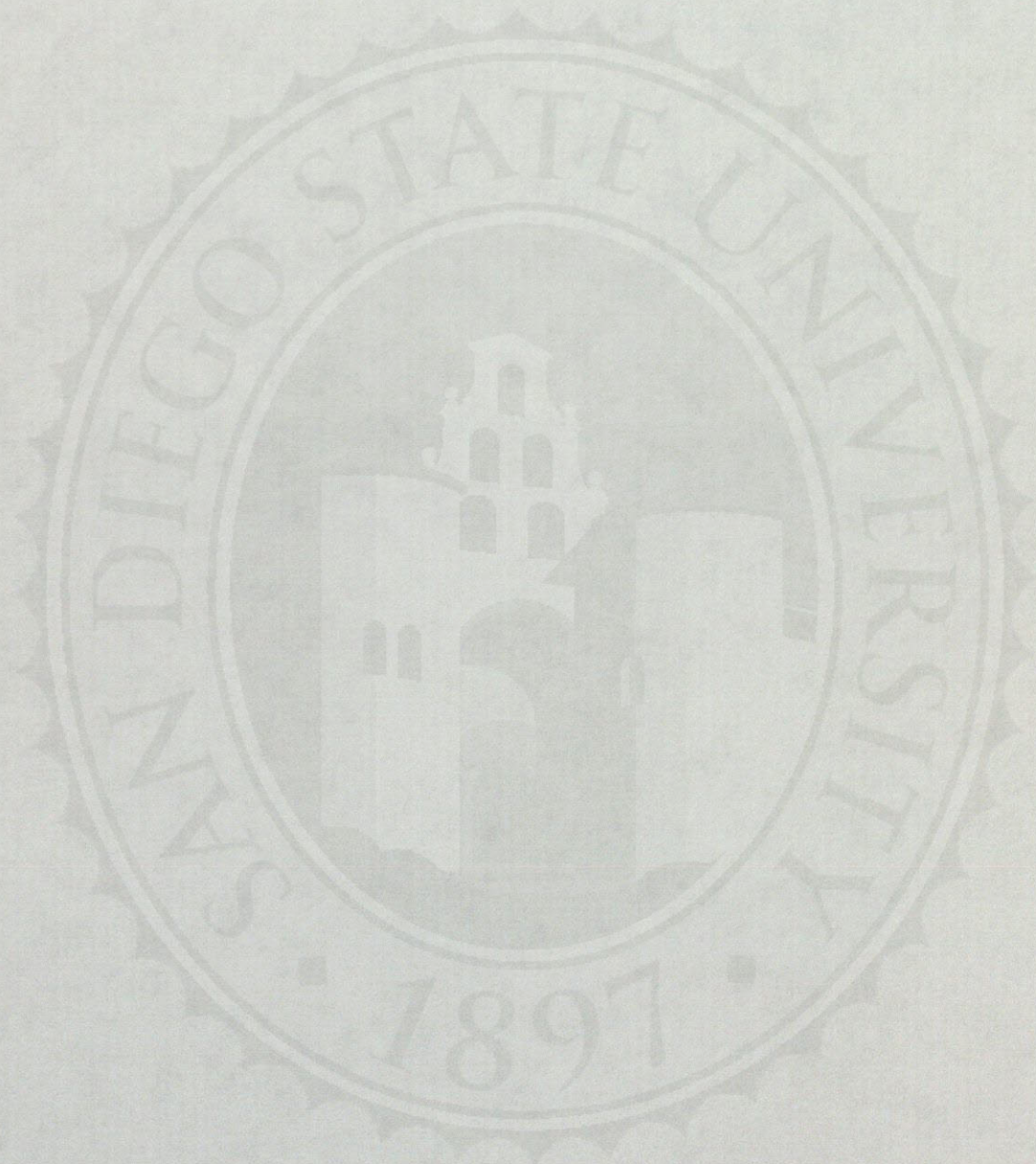
PETER JENNINGS

On Wall Street today-

(VO) -the Dow Jones Industrials lost about 34 points to close at 5,972. On the NASDAQ market, stocks lost more than 6 points.

(on camera) In the OJ Simpson civil trial today, testimony from the policemen who were the first to arrive at the murder scene. The officers said they arrived two hours before Detective Mark Fuhrman showed up. And in that time, they noticed blood on the back gate and only one glove at the crime scene. That could make it very difficult to prove that Mr Fuhrman found two gloves at the scene, took one and planted it at Mr Simpson's house.

When we come back-
(VO) -sweating off the weight, one pushup at a time.
(Commercial break)



Document ID: WNT19961111
Library: NEWS-NY
Asset Type: Transcript
Air Date: 1996-11-11

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - PENTAGON SURPLUS SALE

Air Date: 1996-11-11

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, FT. MEADE, MARYLAND

Content: PETER JENNINGS

For our regular report on how the government is spending your money, we're going to take a slightly different approach tonight. You've heard a lot about waste when it comes to buying things. Tonight, what happens when the government gets down to selling things and recovers as little as two cents on the dollar.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) This is an auction showroom for one of the world's biggest sellers of scrap and surplus goods - the Pentagon. Last year, selling everything from cameras to combat boots, the Pentagon says it took in nearly \$255 million.

(on camera) But people in the business world say the Treasury loses up to \$200 million a year that could be collected in sales but is not because the government does a poor marketing job.

(VO) One complaint is that these monthly auctions reach too narrow a clientele - at best, 30,000 mostly small traders. Entrepreneur Steve Ludsin says that for a commission he can reach 10 times that number with his special computer operation. He says he can put the Pentagon's entire surplus inventory in front of investors by using a computer network run by Bloomberg, a business news service.

STEVE LUDSIN, NEW YORK ENTREPRENEUR

I'm targeting it to specific buyers who would logically be interested in this.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) In 1993, when Tom McInerney was an Air Force general, he served on a commission that recommended privatizing the work. He says private firms - he was briefly a consultant for one - could bring in 10 times the current rate of return.

THOMAS MCINERNEY, BUSINESS EXECUTIVES FOR NATIONAL SECURITY

You could get upwards of 20 or 30 percent on a dollar if a private sector company was doing it and had the right incentives.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Even the colonel who commands the operation agrees that privatization is the wave of the future, but says that test comparisons don't bear that out just yet, so he is delaying a decision.

While the colonel tries to make up his mind, here at headquarters in Michigan and around the world, the staff will continue cataloguing items and staging monthly auctions for these small traders. That will cost \$58 million taxpayer dollars this year. Add that to the \$200 million more the private marketing firms say they could bring in and it's all Your Money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Fort Meade, Maryland.

PETER JENNINGS

On Wall Street today, the Dow Jones Industrials gained more than 35 points to close at a record 6,255. On the NASDAQ market, stocks gained about 5 points.

There were two explosions today at oil refineries-

(VO) -one at a Texaco plant near Los Angeles this morning. Thick black smoke and flames reached about 100 feet in the air. No one was hurt. In Mexico, this afternoon, a PEMEX gasoline storage tank exploded and four people were injured there.

(on camera) When we come back on this Veteran's Day, one of Vietnam's most famous victims talks about forgiveness.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 7 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - WEST VIRGINIA HIGHWAY

Air Date: 1996-11-18

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN,

Content: PETER JENNINGS

Finally from us this evening, our regular report on how the government is spending your money. We mean a billion dollars in this case. It is for a highway that is the pet project of a very powerful senator, never mind that it will cause a lot of destruction and its usefulness is in question.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Right now it is a scenic country road in West Virginia, but soon it will be a four lane expressway. Timber and poultry interests want it for a faster route to markets in the East That will take it near Bonni McKeown's farm and she doesn't like it one bit.

BONNIE MCKEOWN

I don't call this progress. I call this a very clunky waste of taxpayers' money.

JOHN MARTIN

This isn't just any highway. In 114 miles, it will cross two national forests, two civil war battlefields - this is one of them - and 41 rivers and streams. It will cost \$1 billion of your money.

(VO) Not only that, it will run parallel to two existing highways. And hard as this is to believe, it won't go anywhere. When it reaches the Virginia border, it will end, becoming a two lane country road again. That's because Virginia refuses to build a four lane expressway to meet it.

ROBERT MARTINEZ, VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY

Why would we bear the financial cost, as well as the environmental damage, to do something that has no transportation justification?

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Why, indeed? But what are such concerns to Senator Robert Byrd, the political king of West Virginia? As a monarch who has held office here for no less than half a century, Byrd has been promising this highway to his constituents for 30 years. The senator, who calls reporters 'buzzards and vultures' for questioning his actions, declined to be interviewed.

But two years ago, Bonni McKeown and a band of protesters videotaped his response to their concerns about wasting money on what is called Corridor H, the highway to nowhere.

SEN ROBERT BYRD, (D), WEST VIRGINIA

Let me say to my critics you don't deter me one bit.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) So West Virginia is poised to do the king's bidding - build a highway that is supposed to speed goods to eastern markets along a route that more or less stops at the state line. Cost - \$1 billion.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Elkins, West Virginia.

PETER JENNINGS

And that is our report on World News Tonight. Later this evening on Nightline, gambling and collegiate sports.

I'm Peter Jennings. Have a good evening. We'll see you tomorrow. Good night.

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - ROYALTIES FOR MINING COMPANIES
Air Date: 1996-11-25
Start Time: 00:00:00
End Time: 00:00:00
Run Time: 00:00:00
Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA
Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, EL JARA, COLORADO
Content: PETER JENNINGS

Overseas again, two massive public demonstrations designed to move governments today.

(VO) In France, thousands of truck drivers were on strike, demanding shorter hours and higher pay. Their strategy is to cripple French trade, blocking off border crossings into Germany and ports to the English channel.

In the Serbian capital, Belgrade, 150,000 people demonstrated against a decision by the courts which are controlled by President Slobodan Milosevic to overturn the apparent victory of opposition parties in dozens of local elections. These people are the losers.

(on camera) On Your Money tonight, why you are still subsidizing what may be the oldest form of corporate welfare. Back when Ulysses S Grant was president, Congress decided to lure mining companies out West by giving away federal lands for practically nothing. But why is that loopholes are still on the books nearly 125 years later?

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) It's a golden giveaway. There's \$10 billion in gold in this mine outside Elko, Nevada. And the United States is giving it away for pennies. The land for this high technology venture was given to the American Barrett Mining Corporation for \$5 an acre - that's the same fee Congress set in 1872 to encourage mining.

In the last two years alone, the government gave mining companies in Arizona, Idaho and Nevada a total of \$15 billion in minerals for \$16,000.

BRUCE BABBITT, SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

The mining companies are not paying their fair share. All we're asking for the taxpayer is a reasonable return of the same kind that takes place in the private marketplace.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Secretary Babbitt wants to charge a royalty for minerals mined from public land of 4 to 8 percent. The mining industry says that's too high, but does not object to a royalty.

STUART SANDERSON, COLORADO MINING ASSOCIATION

We think the time has come. The real question is what should the amount of that royalty be?

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Congress set the amount very low last year, siding with the mining industry. So the President vetoed the bill.

(on camera) But there's more than just mining fees at stake here. This is downstream from the Summitville Gold Mine in Colorado. What has happened up there is going to cost you more than \$100 million down here.

(VO) That's because the mining company, Galactic Resources, left behind 200 million gallons of toxic water. And the government can't recover the cleanup cost because the company went bankrupt. Farmer Alan Miller and his wife, Maya Terkyle, a soil scientist, say the water killed fish, rusted out culverts and corroded sprinklers.

ALAN MILLER, COLORADO FARMER

When you start looking at what they do and what we get out of them and what they're actually doing to the environment and what they're paying to the government for these permits and stuff, I think it's really unfair and unjust

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) And very expensive. If the government had charged mining the royalties Secretary Babbitt wants, it already would have collected more than enough to pay the bill so far for the Summitville mine cleanup - \$101 million.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, La Jara, Colorado.

PETER JENNINGS

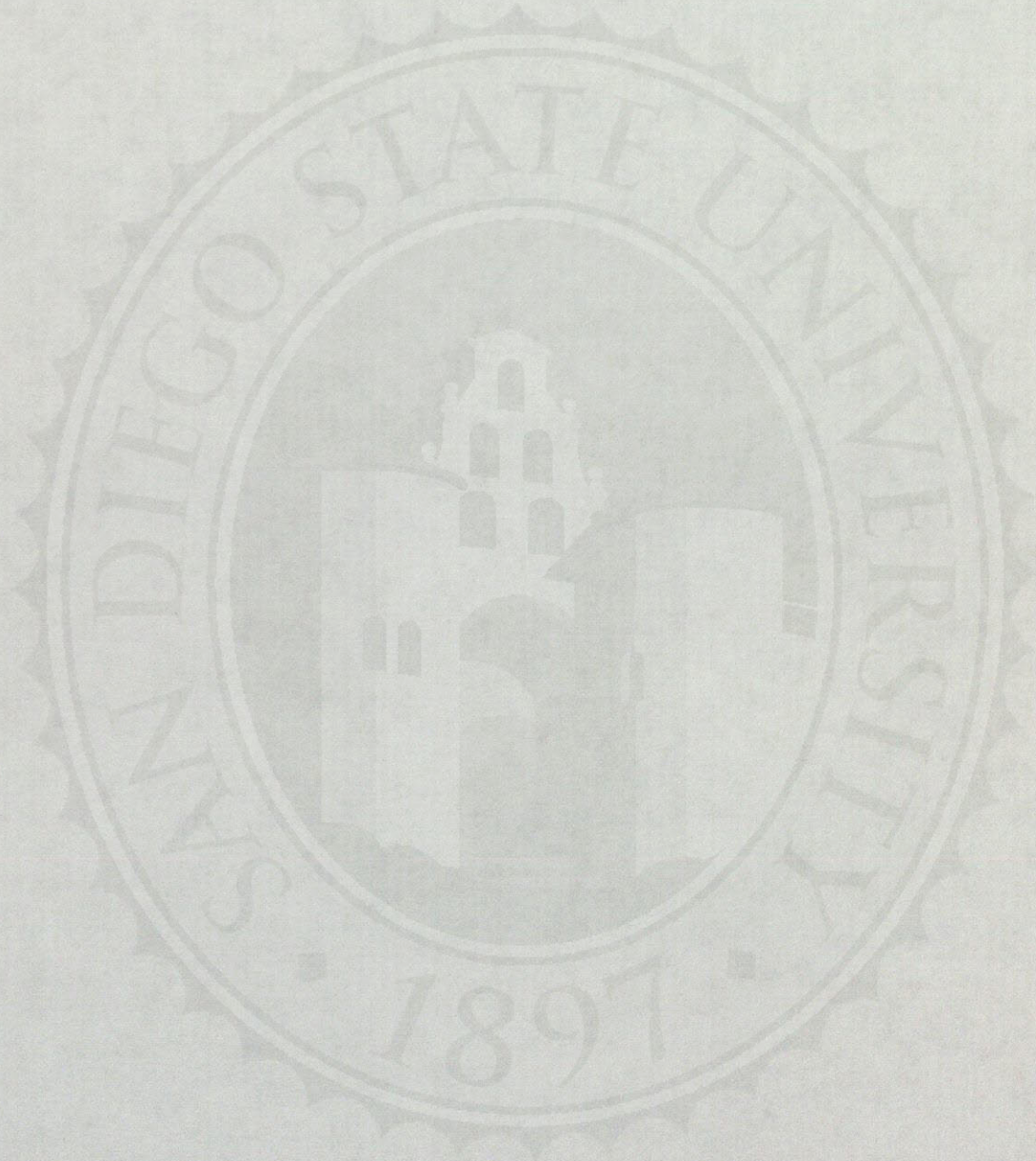
On Wall Street again today-

(VO) -the analysts are wondering how high can it go? The Dow Jones Industrials gained 76 points today, to close at 6,547. On the NASDAQ market, stocks gained by 6 points.

(on camera) We're not sure there's a connection, but the Food and Drug Administrator, the commissioner, said he was going to resign today. He was anti tobacco. Tobacco stocks went up.

When we come back, the house that is only for the very thin and the rich.

(Commercial break)



Document ID: WNT19961201
Library: NEWS-NY
Asset Type: Transcript
Air Date: 1996-12-01

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - ARMY WEAPONS SYSTEM HAS PROBLEMS

Air Date: 1996-12-01

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: THIS IS AN UNCORRECTED COPY. NOT A FINAL VERSION.

PETER JENNINGS

On Your Money tonight, talk about jumping the gun. Think about yourself first - can you imagine plunking down good money to buy outright a new car with a history of design problems without, at the very least, giving it a road test? That is essentially what the Pentagon wants to do with a very expensive new weapons system.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) It is one of the most expensive hand held battlefield weapons ever produced. Each Javelin anti tank missile costs \$70,000. After spending 10 years and a billion dollars to develop and make a small number of Javelins, the Army now says it is going to buy \$3 billion worth.

NARRATOR

(Department of Defense Video) The Javelin is the anti armor weapon of choice.

JOHN MARTIN

It may be the Army's choice, but not the General Accounting Office's choice. Officials here say the weapon isn't ready for production because there are problems.

(VO) In some tests, motors that launch the missiles misfired. In others, the missiles sometimes simply flew past the target. Even more troubling, the Army has not fully tested the weapon incorporating all 50 design changes it ordered over the last two years.

In one test the Army did conduct, gunners took 30 minutes to line up the shot.

LOUIS RODRIGUES

We're ought to make sure it works and buy the system out in the most cost effective possible method.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Army officials declined to be interviewed by ABC News, but told the GAO they have conducted enough tests and that buying the Javelin now would be the most cost effective method. That's because the manufacturers - Texas Instruments and Lockheed MARTIN - are offering a \$1.4 billion discount if the government commits now to a nine year production program. But an analyst says the expected savings are an illusion.

BARBARA STARR, JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY

If the military finds that it is cutting corners by putting things into the field too soon without proper testing, they have to go back and fix them. And it just winds up costing the taxpayer more money.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Unless the Secretary of Defense or the appropriations committees in Congress order the Army not to spend the money, early next year it will buy a weapons system that is not fully tested for \$3 billion.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

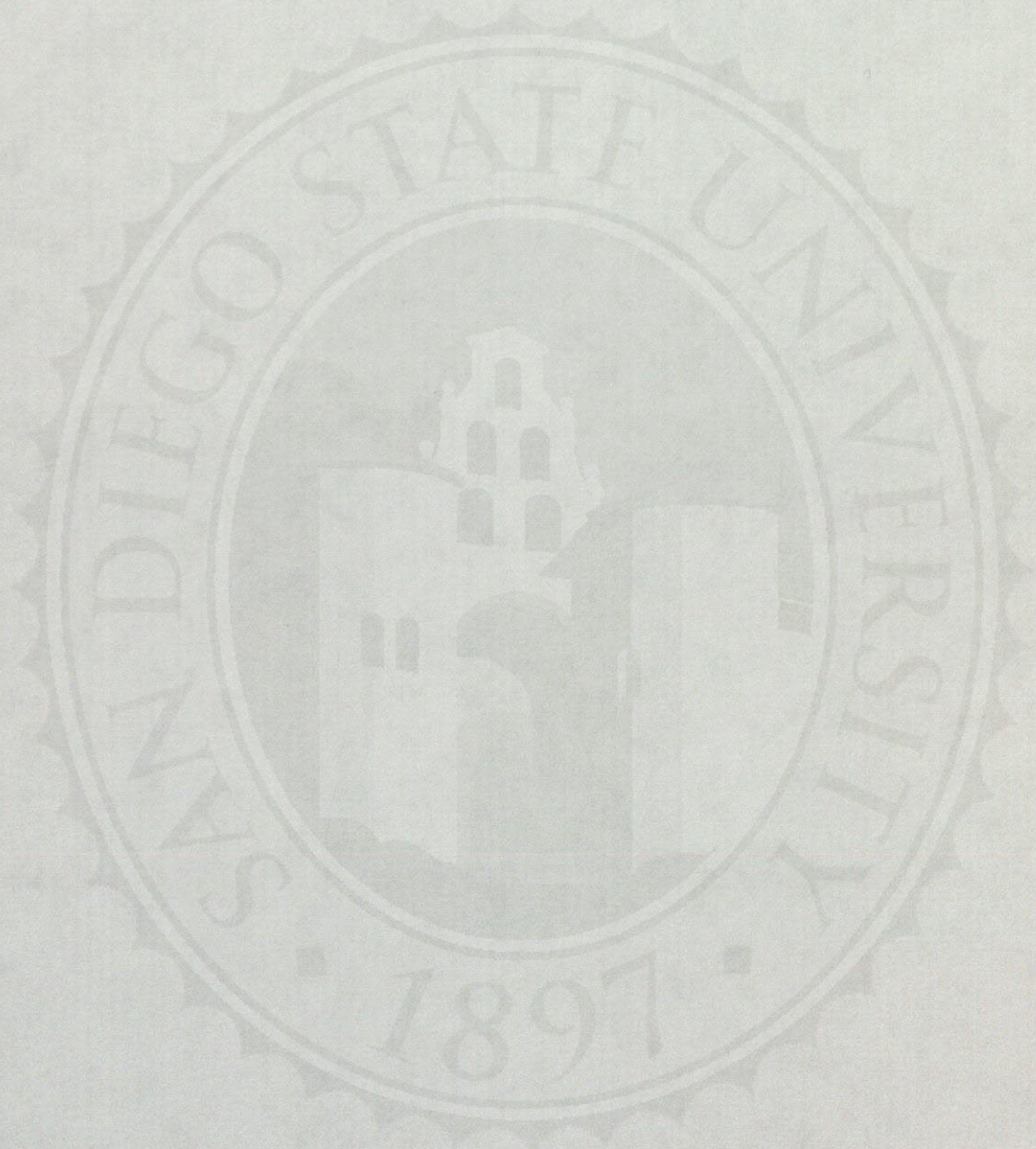
PETER JENNINGS

A couple of other items of interest about the military. Tomorrow, the US Naval Academy will name its first distinguished professor of ethics. She is Dr Nancy Sherman, a philosophy professor at Georgetown University. It has special significance at the Naval Academy, which has had its fair share of ethical problems, from cheating to sexual harassment.

Next item. In Washington today, Shannon Lucid became only the 10th astronaut and the first woman to receive the Congressional Space Medal of Honor. Earlier this year, Dr Lucid made the longest American space flight ever; some of it involuntarily. She spent 44 days longer than she had planned to on the Russian space station Mir, when weather and technical problems delayed the shuttle which was sent to bring her home.

And here's big news. They've discovered ice on the moon. The space agency and the Pentagon, in a joint satellite project, have discovered ice is actually buried there. It's in a crater twice the size of Puerto Rico and deeper than the largest mountain on earth. They believe the water - actually, the frozen water - is trapped molecules of hydrogen and oxygen from the tails of various comets that have passed the moon during its four billion year lifetime.

When we come back, earth again - Four Corners.
(Commercial break)



----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - INAUGURAL CEREMONY
Air Date: 1996-12-09
Start Time: 00:00:00
End Time: 00:00:00
Run Time: 00:00:00
Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA
Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA
Content: THIS IS AN UNCORRECTED COPY. NOT A FINAL VERSION.

PETER JENNINGS

Finally this evening, Your Money and Inauguration Day. Ever since George Washington traveled from his home in Mt. Vernon to take the oath of office in New York City, with crowds cheering him all along the way, the inauguration of a president has been a very important celebration. It has also become increasingly lavish and expensive.

Now, we do not mean to be spoil sports, but we did wonder how much of your money the government might save if just once they decided to stick to the basics.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) The carpenters have started work here at the Capitol and the inaugural, America's party, is on track for another round of celebration like the one four years ago.

PRES BILL CLINTON

I, William Jefferson Clinton.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But imagine what might happen if the President, who after all is already the president, decided to hold a no frills inauguration this time around.

Rather than staging the spectacle at the Capitol, which requires grandstands, special seating and an army of congressional workers costing \$950,000, suppose the President just invited the chief justice to the White House - taxi fare, \$5.

(on camera) The chief justice could step onto the back lawn and administer the oath. In a ceremony here, a poem could be read, the President would give a little speech about what lies ahead and then go back to work.

(VO) Eliminating the parade down Pennsylvania Avenue would save much of the \$5.7 million the government pays the District of Columbia for the police to provide extra security and crowd control. And much of the \$600,000 tax dollars paid to the park police for extra duty.

With no parade, would we need the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee? It is a military unit formed 40 years ago for President Eisenhower's second inaugural. Budget - \$4.7 million to supply escorts and drivers and to stage the parade. And if there was no parade?

MAJ GEN ROBERT FOLEY, MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

I think you could cut the budget down because you would not need the- certainly you would cut the number of personnel down.

JOHN MARTIN

Cut it by 50 percent?

MAJ GEN ROBERT FOLEY

At least by 50 percent. I think you could do that.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) The inaugural balls and celebrity gala would go on, of course, they are paid for privately. And the tradition would remain. The President swears allegiance to the Constitution, then celebrates.

So as the reviewing stands go up again, consider this - if a second term president ever did decide to keep it simple, it could save a healthy share of \$11 million tax dollars. It won't happen, not this time anyway. But you can imagine. After all, it's Your Money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

PETER JENNINGS

On the other hand, it does show the world how well and how peacefully the United States does things.

That's our report on World News Tonight. I'm Peter Jennings. Have a good evening and we'll see you tomorrow. Good night.

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - COST OF LOW-TECH CONGRESS

Air Date: 1996-12-16

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: PETER JENNINGS, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: PETER JENNINGS

We have some news today about very high technology and some low. The Intel Corporation and the government say they have built together the world's fastest super computer. You're looking at it. It consists of 9,000 microprocessors - listen to this - capable of performing a trillion operations every second - 667 million calculations in the time it takes a bullet to go one foot. So they tell us.

The low tech is in the Congress. ABC's JOHN MARTIN tonight on how some of your money is being wasted the old fashioned way.

1ST CONGRESSMAN

Colleagues, the House will come to order.

2ND CONGRESSMAN

Thank you, Mr Speaker, I will be very brief.

3RD CONGRESSMAN

I urge my colleagues to support this conference report.

4TH CONGRESSMAN

So many as are in favor say aye.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Every day when Congress is in session, tens of thousands of words are spoken on the floor of the House and taken down the same way they were in 1876. A stenographer takes notes and send transcripts to the members for changes and corrections.

Several times a day, the transcripts are picked up and carried by van to the government printing office to be published the next morning in the congressional record. The head of the printing office says this costs more than a million dollars a year more than necessary because the texts, often with handwritten corrections, come in as late as midnight and must be deciphered by 140 extra workers. They type them into computers so they can be proofread, printed and sent out.

A better way, he says, would be to use computers to transmit the speeches directly to the printing office.

(on camera) As we stand here today, you could save a million dollars a year if the House sent you all its materially electronically?

MICHAEL DIMARIO, PUBLIC PRINTER

We believe so. Yes. And we're prepared to receive it.

JOHN MARTIN

What's holding it up?

MICHAEL DIMARIO

The House does not have the trained staff to prepare the material and send it over to us in electronic form.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Vernon Ehlers is a Michigan congressman with a PhD. in physics. Two years ago, Speaker Newt Gingrich assigned him to computerize the House, which he says is happening. But he says that transmitting speeches electronically to the printer will take two years more.

(interviewing) Why has it taken so long?

REP VERNON EHLERS, (R), MICHIGAN

Making changes in the federal government is sort of like trying to steer a supertanker with a canoe paddle.

JOHN MARTIN

Do the members realize they could be saving money if they did this?

VERNON EHLERS

They understand that. And we will be saving money. But you also have to recognize that when you're in Congress you worry about saving billions and so this gets to be a little lower priority.

JOHN MARTIN

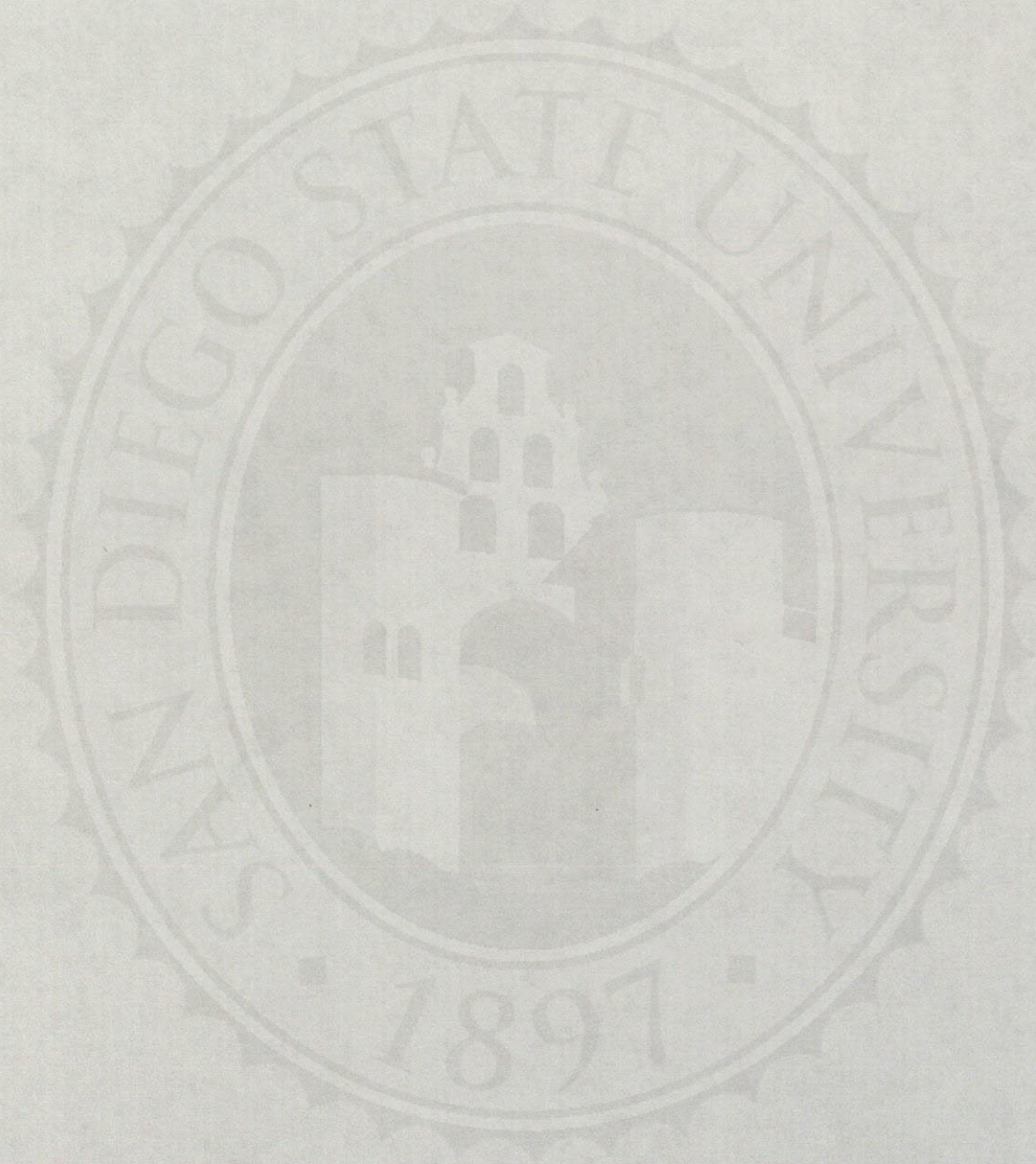
Still, at a time when members say they are looking to cut federal spending wherever possible, the House is asking taxpayers to overlook the fact that it is wasting a million dollars a year while it gets its own electronic house in order.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

PETER JENNINGS

There was a clue from the post office today what many people spent at least part of the weekend doing. The post office figures that Americans will mail a total of 275 million Christmas cards and letters by the end of today, for one day - the busiest day, they estimate, of the whole year.

When we come back, why learning in this particular classroom is
also a lesson in commerce.
(Commercial break)



Document ID: WNT19961223
Library: NEWS-NY
Asset Type: Transcript
Air Date: 1996-12-23

----- Segment Number: 5 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY - REGULATING TEAMSTERS ELECTION

Air Date: 1996-12-23

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: FORREST SAWYER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, CAPITOL HILL

Content: FORREST SAWYER

On Your Money tonight, a union election that promises to remain in the news for some time to come. Both Congress and the Justice Department are being asked to investigate the election in the Teamsters Union, which incumbent president Ron Carey won by about 16,000 votes. His challenger, James Hoffa, son of longtime Teamster president Jimmy Hoffa, is charging there were serious irregularities. What's curious is who conducted and paid for the election? You did. Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) They were all Teamster presidents - Dave Beck, Jimmy Hoffa and Roy Williams. And they all went to jail for turning the union into a source of money for the mob.

RON CAREY

God bless you all and thank you so much.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) This year, Ron Carey claimed victory as president after a Teamster election run behind the scenes by the Justice Department and paid for with tax dollars. In 1989, the government won the right in court to take control of the ballot process, to rid the union of mob influence. The union paid for the 1991 election. But for this year's vote, the government agreed to pay, requiring taxpayers to furnish \$21 million over three years.

Example - 500 temporary workers to process the ballots, 60,000 a day. An election officer, Barbara Quindel, to supervise - \$492,000 in fees. Ballots and counting machines - \$700,000. Elections to choose delegates to this convention - \$811,000.

In Brooklyn, at the Association for Union Democracy, labor watchdog Herman Benson says the expense benefits everyone.

HERMAN BENSON, ASSOCIATION FOR UNION DEMOCRACY

I, myself, feel that the government should bear the cost because the reform of the Teamsters Union is in the intense interests of the entire public.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) But on Capitol Hill, congressman Peter Hoekstra and others object, citing a legal opinion that the government is not obligated to pay.

REP PETER HOEKSTRA, (R), ILLINOIS

Every time we run their election, we should bill them for the cost that we incur.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) For a time, Congress refused to appropriate any more money. But the Clinton administration insisted the government had a responsibility.

(on camera) This fall, in a marathon midnight negotiating session here in this room in the Capitol, White House chief of staff Leon Panetta announced that one of the things President Clinton wanted before signing an overall budget bill was more money from Congress for the Teamster election. So the committee chairmen agreed to a final installment of \$2 million.

In five years, the Teamsters hold their next election. And unless the government charges for its services, it will cost at least another \$21 million.

It's Your Money. JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, the Capitol.

FORREST SAWYER

And now, around the world. In Russia today, President Boris Yeltsin-

(VO) -was back at work in the Kremlin, seven weeks after his heart surgery and saying he is ready for battle. He faces two particularly troubled fronts - demands by millions of workers who haven't been paid in months, and new tensions in Chechnya.

US envoy Dennis Ross has brought Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat and the Israelis very close to a deal. It involves withdrawing Israeli troops from the West Bank city of Hebron. Mr Ross has persuaded Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu to sit down tomorrow with Mr Arafat and possibly to sign a final agreement.

(on camera) When we come back, Santa's unlikely elves-

(VO) -you won't believe where the workshop is located.

(Commercial break)

----- Segment Number: 6 -----

Story Name: YOUR MONEY UPDATE

Air Date: 1996-12-30

Start Time: 00:00:00

End Time: 00:00:00

Run Time: 00:00:00

Anchor: DIANE SAWYER, NEW YORK, NY USA

Correspondent: JOHN MARTIN, WASHINGTON, DC USA

Content: DIANE SAWYER

We have something a little different tonight for our regular report on how the government spends your money. Instead of a new case of questionable government spending, we're going to see what happened to some of the programs we've put in the spotlight during the year - what changed, what didn't.

Here's ABC's JOHN MARTIN.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC NEWS

(VO) Remember Jim Felsen, the government doctor paid to do nothing? Felsen filled his public health service office with coffee cups, up to and along the ceiling, to count the idle days he's spent receiving \$117,000 a year.

Well, he has a new government job now. He's not stacking coffee cups, he makes the same salary, but says taxpayers still aren't getting their money's worth.

DR JIM FELSEN, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Basically, I was assigned library work to do that I thought could pretty much be done by a junior health professional student.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) From a man who does too little to one who did too much. Remember the park superintendent here in Michigan who worked during the government shutdown? He thought he owed it to the taxpayers to stay on the job. Well, William Fink's actions produced a letter of reprimand from his bosses and a job change. Today he works as a mid level administrator, but says it doesn't bother him.

WILLIAM FINK, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

I decided that overall this new job was a nice new opportunity and I would be pleased to accept it.

JOHN MARTIN

(VO) Sometimes the bureaucrats win and so do the taxpayers. Kevin Lannigan is the social security administration manager who came up with cash awards as incentives for government workers to cut their relocation costs - the plan was so successful it has saved his agency nearly \$4 million - that two months after our story appeared, Congress passed a law extending it to all federal agencies. Expected savings - \$140 million a year.

Unfortunately, not all savings remain saved. In April, we reported that Congress had killed the Commerce Department's US Travel and Tourism Administration, saving \$16 million. But five months later, the same Congress passed a law creating a new agency - half private, half public - called the National Tourism Organization.

(on camera) And guess what? To promote travel, the new agency is asking Congress for a grant of \$5 million to \$10 million. It's still your money.

JOHN MARTIN, ABC News, Washington.

DIANE SAWYER

In case you wondered how President Clinton will spend New Year's, here's how - the first family left Washington this afternoon for a weeklong vacation. They're now in South Carolina for Renaissance Weekend, the invitation only gathering they've attended for years, which mixes discussion groups with recreation.

On Wall Street today, the Dow Jones Industrials lost 11 1 / 2 points to close at 6,549. On the NASDAQ market, stocks lost about 3 points.

When we come back, the football star who is headed for the Rose Bowl. We'll tell you about the man who has been his inspiration.
(Commercial break)