

Memorandum on Importation of RU-486

January 22, 1993

Memorandum for the Secretary of Health and Human Services

Subject: Importation of RU-486

In Import Alert 66-47, the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") excluded the drug Mifepristone—commonly known as RU-486—from the list of drugs that individuals can import into the United States for their "personal use," although the drugs have not yet been approved for distribution by the FDA. (See FDA Regulatory Procedures Manual, Chapter 9-71.) Import Alert 66-47 effectively bans the importation into this Nation of a drug that is used in other nations as a nonsurgical means of abortion.

I am informed that in excluding RU-486 from the personal use importation exemption, the FDA appears to have based its decision on factors other than an assessment of the possible health and safety risks of the drug. Accordingly, I hereby direct that you promptly instruct the FDA to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to warrant exclusion of RU-486 from the list of drugs that qualify for the personal use importation exemption. Furthermore, if the FDA concludes that RU-486 meets the criteria for the personal use importation exemption, I direct that you immediately take steps to rescind Import Alert 66-47.

In addition, I direct that you promptly assess initiatives by which the Department of Health and Human Services can promote the testing, licensing, and manufacturing in the United States of RU-486 or other antiprogestins.

You are hereby authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest an-

nounced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not including elsewhere in this issue.

January 20

Following the Inaugural luncheon at the Capitol, President Clinton and Hillary Clinton went by motorcade along the parade route to the White House, where they viewed the Inaugural parade from the viewing stand.

In the evening, President Clinton and Hillary Clinton attended several Inaugural balls.

January 21

In the morning, President Clinton and Hillary Clinton held an open house for the American people in the Diplomatic Reception Room at the White House.

In the afternoon, President Clinton met with senior staff members in the Roosevelt Room, after which he and Hillary Clinton hosted a reception in the State Dining Room for their family and friends from Arkansas.

January 22

In the morning, President Clinton met at the White House with Thomas F. McLarty, Chief of Staff to the President; Anthony Lake, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; Samuel R. Berger, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; and members of the CIA briefing staff.

Later in the morning, after the swearing-in ceremony for Cabinet members, President Clinton attended a reception for them and held a Cabinet meeting.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted January 20

Warren Christopher,
of California, to be Secretary of State.

Lloyd Bentsen,
of Texas, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Les Aspin,
of Wisconsin, to be Secretary of Defense.

Zoe Baird,
of Connecticut, to be Attorney General.

Bruce Babbitt,
of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Interior.

Mike Espy,
of Mississippi, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Ronald H. Brown,
of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary
of Commerce.

Robert B. Reich,
of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Labor.

Donna E. Shalala,
of Wisconsin, to be Secretary of Health and
Human Services.

Henry G. Cisneros,
of Texas, to be Secretary of Housing and
Urban Development.

Federico Peña,
of Colorado, to be Secretary of Transpor-
tation.

Hazel Rollins O'Leary,
of Minnesota, to be Secretary of Energy.

Richard W. Riley,
of South Carolina, to be Secretary of Edu-
cation.

Jesse Brown,
of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary
of Veterans Affairs.

Madeleine Korbel Albright,
of the District of Columbia, to be the Rep-
resentative of the United States of America
to the United Nations with rank and status
of Ambassador Extraordinary and Pleni-
potentiary, and the Representative of the
United States of America in the Security
Council of the United Nations.

Carol M. Browner,
of Florida, to be Administrator of the Envi-
ronmental Protection Agency.

Michael Kantor,
of California, to be United States Trade Rep-
resentative, with the rank of Ambassador Ex-
traordinary and Plenipotentiary.

Leon E. Panetta,
of California, to be Director of the Office
of Management and Budget.

Laura D'Andrea Tyson,
of California, to be a Member of the Council
of Economic Advisers.

Roger Altman,
of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of the
Treasury.

Hershel Wayne Gober,
of Arkansas, to be Deputy Secretary of Veter-
ans Affairs.

Madeleine Kunin,
of Vermont, to be Deputy Secretary of Edu-
cation.

Alice Rivlin,
of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy
Director of the Office of Management and
Budget.

Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.,
of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of
State.

R. James Woolsey,
of Maryland, to be Director of Central Intel-
ligence.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office
of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as
items nor covered by entries in the Digest of
Other White House Announcements.
