

her intention."¹⁰⁴ The final version of the memorandum omitted the language regarding extreme pressure, but retained the language that the pressure was "perhaps unknown to the First Lady."¹⁰⁵

D. The Watkins Memorandum Was Not Disclosed to This Office or Congress Until January 1996.

Despite its responsiveness to requests from this Office and the Congress, the Watkins Memorandum was not produced to Congress until January 3, 1996 or this Office until January 4, 1996, more than two years after its preparation.¹⁰⁶ As part of its jurisdiction, this Office was charged with investigating possible obstruction of the Congressional investigation and was authorized to investigate any obstruction of justice arising out of its own investigation. Because the Watkins Memorandum appeared to confirm the First Lady's role in the Travel Office firings and because the Congress and this Office had requested documents related to the firings, this Office investigated the circumstances surrounding the failure to produce any form of the document until January 1996.

Suffice it to say, the delayed production of this memorandum until 1996 deprived Congress and other investigations of crucial evidence into the causes of the firings. The particulars of the discovery of the Watkins Memorandum are contained in Appendix D.

V. FACTUAL SUMMARY

With the background related to the alleged violations in mind, this section extensively summarizes evidence related to the actual firing of the Travel Office employees, which bears on the analysis of the alleged violations set forth in Section VI, beginning on page 216.

¹⁰⁴ GJ 95-2 Exh. 69-O at 3, 10.

¹⁰⁵ GJ 95-2 Exh. 69-T at 3.

¹⁰⁶ See H.R. Rep. No. 104-849, at 157 (1996).

First, this section summarizes the operation of the Travel Office under Billy Dale.

Second, this section describes the involvement in providing travel services to the Clinton-Gore Presidential Campaign during the 1992 campaign by various persons and entities who were interested in replacing the Travel Office employees.

Third, this section describes the actions of Darnell Martens, Harry Thomason, Catherine Cornelius, Clarissa Cerda, and others during the transition and the early days of the Clinton Administration, which reflected their individual interests in replacing the Travel Office employees in the Clinton Administration.

Fourth, this section provides a detailed chronology of events beginning in late April 1993, leading up to the Travel Office firings on May 19, 1993.

Fifth, this section summarizes the investigation conducted for the White House Travel Office Management Review.

Sixth, this section summarizes the investigations conducted by the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee, the General Accounting Office, the Office of Professional Responsibility, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

A. There Was Evidence of Mismanagement of Travel Office Funds at the Time of the Firings.

The question of Mrs. Clinton's role in the decision to fire the Travel Office employees turned, in part, on whether there was a basis for the firing in the first instance. If this Office had determined that no predication for the firings existed and that all of the allegations of fiscal mismanagement were unfounded (or even falsely generated), such a determination would bear substantially on the question of whether the firings were at Mrs. Clinton's (or some other person's) direction. On the other hand, to the extent that allegations of misconduct were