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Folder Title: President Wolfensohn - Media Coverage and Interviews - Interview - James D Wolfensohn [JDW] Interview for the Uganda Film - September 19, 1996

Folder ID: 30485746

Series: Media coverage and engagement

Dates: 09/16/1996 - 09/19/1996

Subfonds: Records of President James D. Wolfensohn

Fonds: Records of the Office of the President

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THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C.

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The World Bank

1818 H Street NW

Washington DC 20433

Telephone: 202-473-1000

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Interview: Uganda Film

Thursday, September 19, 1996

11:00 - 11:30 am

JDW Office

DECLASSIFIED

WBG Archives

 Archives



30485746

R2002-036 Other #: 24 Box #: 186474B

President Wolfensohn - Briefings Books for Presidents Meetings - Meeting Materials
Interview - James D Wolfensohn [JDW] Interview for the Uganda Film - September

Archive Management for the President's Office

Document Log

Reference # : Archive-00878

1P-T3

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A. CLASSIFICATION

- ☒ Meeting Material
- ☐ Trips
- ☐ Speeches

- ☐ Annual Meetings
- ☐ Corporate Management
- ☐ Communications with Staff

- ☐ Phone Logs
- ☐ Calendar
- ☐ Press Clippings/Photos

- ☐ JDW Transcripts
- ☐ Social Events
- ☐ Other

B. SUBJECT: Mr. Wolfensohn's interview for the Uganda Film, 09/19/96

ATTENDEES: JDW, Tim Cullen

IBT Film Crew:

MR. GREG LANNING, OVERALL PRODUCER

MR. PETER CHAPPELL, CAMERAMAN

MR. TIM HUGHES, SOUNDMAN

MR. TODD BURGER (ASSISTANT CAMERAMAN)

DATE: 09/19/96

C. VPU

Corporate

- ☐ CTR
- ☒ EXT
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Regional

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- ☐ Inspection Panel
- ☐ Kennedy Center
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D. EXTERNAL PARTNER

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- ☐ MDB/Other IO
- ☐ NGO
- ☐ Private Sector

- ☐ Part I
- ☒ Part II
- ☐ Other

E. COMMENTS: Logged by: Wendy Plumley

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 16, 1996

TO: Mr. James D. Wolfensohn, EXC

FROM: Tim Cullen, EXTVP 

EXTENSION: 31782

SUBJECT: **Your Interview for the Uganda Film, September 19 at 11:00 a.m.**

The film the International Broadcasting Trust is making chronicling the Bank's relations with Uganda over the course of a year is now nearing completion. Several weeks ago, Peter Chappell, who has filmed you several times, interviewed President Museveni in Kampala, and Thursday's interview with you will complement Museveni's retrospective of the past year.

As you know, the film-makers have been given extraordinary access, both in Washington and Uganda, and they are very pleased with the footage they have obtained. They are delighted that the year they chose to film coincided precisely with your first year at the Bank, as this is now an important strand in the movie. Your conversation with Uganda's Finance Minister on debt, which they filmed during your visit to Uganda in June 1995, led them to follow the HIPC debt initiative closely throughout the year, and this has become another important theme in the film.

The interview is scheduled for 30 minutes in your office and will be conducted by Greg Lanning who is the overall producer, with Peter Chappell as cameraman, assisted by a soundman, and an assistant cameraman.

Attached is a set of questions on which they would like to touch during the interview. They are looking for a relaxed, reflective session from which they will extract some comments for the final two-hour program. I have discussed the questions on roads and military spending with staff working on Uganda. They tell me that the roads versus education issue is now a moot point as Museveni has made a strong personal commitment to primary education since the election campaign when, as he put it, he "listened to the people". On military spending, the answer should be as it would be for most countries. The Bank does not have the expertise to assess countries' defense needs, but we and other donors do become concerned when military spending crowds out social expenditures.

Attachment

cc: Messrs./Mmes. G. Bergen, J. Bassinette, J. Holden, A. Tsatsakis, (EXC);
M. Malloch Brown, J. Armitage (EXTVP); K. Bergman (EXTME)

Notes for Interview with James Wolfensohn

The form of the interview is connected to the filming we have done over the past year. This is not an interrogation on points of policy rather we are seeking a more reflective tone. Looking back on the year we have been filming in Africa and in Washington. This will join the interview we have done with President Museveni, in the same manner about three weeks ago.

First Day

We filmed your first day in office. Can you tell us what you felt that day and what your expectations were? The changes you wanted to bring etc,

First year

What objectives did you set yourself for your term at the bank?
Looking back on the first year how do you characterise that year?
How have your views changed over the last year?

Role of the Bank

What do you see as the role of the bank today in Africa and in the world?
You have spoken of the difficulty funding from the US Congress and other Western governments, what are the implications of this?

UGANDA

Could you tell us what struck you on your visit to Uganda?
You spent a day travelling and talking with President Museveni, what struck you about him and the country?

ROADS

President Museveni set a high priority on roads to develop the internal market
In New York we filmed a discussion with the President where you urged him to give a higher priority to education. What is the Bank's position? Is Museveni right?

MILITARY SPENDING

The Ugandan's have faced an upsurge in rebel activity in the North. The government wants to increase its military spending to meet this threat. Why are the donors and the World Bank so concerned about this spending? Doesn't it infringe on sovereignty?

AFRICA

For many years the World Bank has had an important role in shaping the economic policies of sub Saharan Africa. Yet in contrast to South East Asia, or South America, African economies have stubbornly failed to move ahead. You were quoted as saying "we will be judged by our success or failure in Africa"? Why?

Do you share the oft heard opinion that Uganda could be one of the first of the African Tigers, in other words that it is on the verge of spectacular growth?

DEBT INITIATIVE

While in Uganda you promised the Minister of finance you would do something about multilateral debt. Debt repayments are a heavy burden on Uganda, what progress have you made?

Can you tell us about the current state of the multilateral debt initiative?
What would you expect might be agreed in the next few days?

SCHOOL TO SCHOOL

We have followed the progress of the school to school project in Washington & Uganda. Can you tell the thinking behind this project, and what you hope to achieve?

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