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TO: US Campaign FR: Jill Greenberg

Here is a not-so-complimentary article from Sunday's New York Times. Please see Caleb's note below regarding any letters you may want to send in response. Thanks.

Dear US Campaign Members:

Tim Rieser of Sen. Leahy's staff has asked me if campaigners could hold off from submitting letters or articles to the New York Times in response to today's (Sunday) article that gives such credence to US demands for exceptions to the Ottawa Treaty. He wants to make sure that the best response from the best possible source is what is provided to the NYT. I agree. Hope we can all wait a couple of days and see what he can put together. Best and congratulations for all the great work that made Clinton reverse course a bit and get involved in the Ottawa process.

Caleb Rossiter, Demilitarization for Democracy

August 24, 1997

One Step at a Time: Why Washington Likes Land Mines

By STEVEN LEE MYERS

WASHINGTON-The problem with land mines, for those who would like to banish them, is that they work so well. They are cheap, deadly and durable. They are also indiscriminate. This year in Egypt a girl was killed by a mine apparently buried in the desert by Rommel's Afrika Korps in 1942.

Last week, under growing diplomatic pressure, the Clinton administration reversed itself and said the United States would at last take part in negotiations to ban the use of anti-personnel mines, joining more than 100 countries expected to gather in Ottawa in December to sign a ban treaty.