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Title: World Trade Organization's (WTO's) Third
Ministerial Conference, Seattle, WA, November 30
- December 3, 1999 [letter from Mayor Schell and
Chief Sewell to David DeCourcy]

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preparation, planning, equipment, budget,
operations)

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 **City of Seattle**
Paul Schell, Mayor
Office of the Mayor



September 13, 1999

COPY

David DeCourcy
Director, Region X
Federal Emergency Management Agency
130 - 228th Street SW
Bothell, WA 98021-9796

RE: WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION'S (WTO's) THIRD MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE, SEATTLE, WA, NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 3, 1999

Dear Mr. DeCourcy:

The WTO is an international group that essentially serves as the supreme court of international trade. This conference will bring together ministers and senior officials from over 130 countries to launch global negotiations directed at further opening markets in goods, services, and agricultural trade. It will be the largest trade event ever held in the United States and will inaugurate negotiations that will shape world trade for the next several years. With the importance of this conference to the United States, it is anticipated that the President and Vice President will attend opening and/or closing ceremonies, as will a number of Heads of State.

Given the international nature, high visibility, and security challenges posed by this conference, terrorism is a major concern. As a projected Special Security event, the City of Seattle has been working closely with the FBI, FEMA, USPHS, and the State of Washington on contingency planning. While our city has developed a "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (WMD) response capacity, a terrorism event potentially impacting thousands of conference attendees, as well as our own citizens and first responders, would exceed our current capabilities. Gaps exist in the areas of multi-site hazardous materials reconnaissance, group extractions, multi-site and hospital patient decontamination, and mass field care.

As you know, the threat situation for the conference is fluid and temperamental. While identified terrorist threat levels have initially been considered low, the media is reporting that several anti-trade groups are mobilizing thousands of members to conduct demonstrations at several venues. At the previous WTO conference in Geneva, a number of these demonstrations became public safety concerns. Of greater concern is the *unknown* threat, such as the Oklahoma City and the World Trade Center bombings.

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We are formulating plans to allow a reasonable but flexible response to any incident that should arise, including a terrorism incident. As a result of this planning, we are requesting assistance from the Federal government for additional health and medical assets to augment our WMD and EMS response capabilities. This would include health assets similar to those available during the NATO 50th Anniversary in Washington, DC and would allow the city to care for high numbers of casualties.

Specifically, the capabilities of these assets should include, but not be limited to:

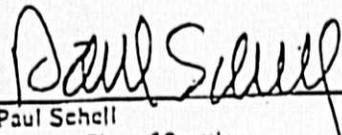
- Additional personnel, self-sufficient and self-contained, who could rapidly augment our existing Level A response, provide group extraction from the hot zone, establish multi-site decontamination, and provide field treatment (5,000 casualties).
- Additional pharmaceutical caches to allow treatment of 5,000 WMD casualties.
- Additional capability to detect and decontaminate all known military chemical agents.
- Additional capability to detect Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TIC's).
- Limited support (1-2 epidemiologists) to augment County Health Department surveillance activities during the event.

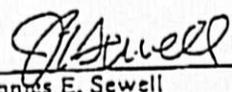
Additionally, we would ask that Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) assets be placed on alert during the conference. This would provide the ability to rapidly activate these teams if needed.

The liaison for Fire/HazMat/EMS coordination is Deputy Chief A.D. Vickery, Special Operations, Seattle Fire Department. He will be available to answer questions concerning this request.

November is approaching rapidly. Planning is underway and integration of these assets into our plan needs to be accomplished quickly. We are asking for your personal attention and assistance in securing these assets in support of the City's efforts to protect its citizens.

Very truly yours,


Paul Schell
Mayor, City of Seattle


James E. Sewell
Chief, Seattle Fire Department

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