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March 5, 2003

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room TWB-204  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**EX PARTE**

Re: Petitions for Protection From Whipsawing on the U.S.-Philippines route – IB  
Docket No. 03-38

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, March 4, 2003, I met with Paul Margie of Commissioner Copps' Office, to discuss the above-referenced proceeding. In the meetings, we reviewed an "interim agreement" that WorldCom reached with PLDT and Smart Telecommunications in the Philippines on February 28, 2003, that is designed to resume direct services and bring the parties back to the negotiating table. I informed Mr. Margie that PLDT began completing WorldCom's traffic to the Philippines on February 28, 2003, as a result of the interim agreement.

We also discussed the Petition filed by WorldCom requesting that the Commission issue a "non-payment order" in response to disruption of WorldCom's traffic on the U.S.-Philippines route by carriers in the Philippines. WorldCom emphasized that it continues to support a strong Commission response to prevent whipsawing so long as any Filipino carrier continues to disrupt the service of any U.S. carrier.

One electronic copy of this Notice is being filed with the Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission in accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Shefferman", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott A. Shefferman

cc: Paul Margie