

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	President Clinton to President Meidani (5 pages)	06/15/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20018

FOLDER TITLE:

Albania

2013-0534-S

ry1536

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

file albans

PAGE 01 OF 02

PRT: FIRSTLADY

SIT: BRADEN FLANAGAN HURLEY SCHULTE WEISS

SIT: NSC

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 211409Z APR 99

FM AMEMBASSY TIRANA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8230
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
UNCLAS TIRANA 001413

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE - HYDE

E.O. 12598: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, AL, SR

SUBJECT: LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON FROM
ALBANIAN FIRST LADY LIDRA MEIDANI

1. FOLLOWING IS A LETTER SENT TO THE EMBASSY APRIL 21 BY ALBANIAN FIRST LADY MEIDANI TO BE FORWARDED TO FIRST LADY CLINTON. THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH AND IS DATED APRIL 19.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MRS. CLINTON,

IT HAS BEEN WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE I HAVE HEARD OF YOUR PERSONAL ACTIVITY TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERINGS OF THE DEPORTEES FROM KOSOVA THROUGH COLLECTION OF AIDS FOR THEM AND THE SENSIBILIZATION OF THE PUBLIC OPINION ON THEIR DRAMA.

THIS CONTRIBUTION OF YOURS HELPS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD TO BECOME AWARE OF THE DIMENSIONS AND NATURE OF THE CONFLICT TAKING PLACE IN THE BALKANS, WHERE YOUR COUNTRY IS LINED WITH THE GOOD, THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES OF DEMOCRACY AGAINST THE BAD, THE VIOLATION OF THESE VALUES AND THE DICTATORSHIP.

THIS CONTRIBUTION REVEALS ALSO THAT THIS CRIMINAL REGIME WHICH IS BEING HIT BY AN ALLIANCE PROTECTIVE OF PEACE AND STABILITY, IS BRINGING ABOUT A MASSACRE SEVERE AND BASE AGAINST WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY. YOU HAVE HAD THE CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ON IT AT THE MEETING YOU HAD WITH TWO REPRESENTATIVE WOMEN OF KOSOVA CIVIL SOCIETY WHO HAD JUST ESCAPED THE WAR.

UNCLASSIFIED

IMMEDIATE

UNCLASSIFIED
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 02 OF 02

DEAR LADY,

MY PEOPLE AND I ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE SENSITIVITY YOU HAVE COHERENTLY SHOWN TO THIS HUMAN TRAGEDY WHICH OCCURS AT THE VERY HEART OF THE DEMOCRATIC EUROPE. I PERSONALLY BEAR TESTIMONY TO THIS SENSITIVITY DEMONSTRATED IN THE "WOMEN OF THE 21ST CENTURY" CONFERENCE IN SOFIA. MY COUNTRY WHICH IS RECENTLY UNFOLDING THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES IS CLOSELY FEELING THE SUPPORT OF YOUR COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY OF PRESIDENT CLINTON.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY HOPE THAT THE CONFLICT WHICH FINDS ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE FRONT THE USA AND MY COUNTRY - THE OPEN ALBANIA ASPIRING FOR DEMOCRACY - WILL PUT AN END TO THE ATROCITIES, THE ETHNIC CLEANSING AND WILL ENABLE THESE PEOPLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMES TO REBUILD A NEW LIFE IN A DEMOCRATIC MULTIETHNIC SOCIETY IN THEIR KOSOVA.

LOOKING FORWARD TO HOSTING YOU IN MY COUNTRY,

SINCERELY,

/S/

LIDRA MEIDANI

END TEXT.

LINO

<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01

<^SSN>1413

<MSGID> M3813924

UNCLASSIFIED

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. letter	President Clinton to President Meidani (5 pages)	06/15/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20018

FOLDER TITLE:

Albania

2013-0534-S
ry1536

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

T

File Albania

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

will be sent as a cable

Dear Mrs. Meidani:

Thank you for your heartfelt letter. I appreciate your thoughtful comments.

The world has watched the heroic and selfless efforts of the Albanian people to open their hearts and homes to the Kosovar refugees. Your generous response to the crisis is an example for all people.

I understand how difficult it must be to take in so many refugees and want to assure you that Albania will not be left alone. We will do everything we can to help and remain confident that the war will end on terms that allow the refugees to return home safely.

I am hopeful that a visit to Albania
With appreciation and best wishes, I am in the

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kidra Meidani
First Lady of the
Republic of Albania
Tirana

near future
may be
possible
and
until
then, I
will look
forward to
seeing you.

UNCLASSIFIED

Printed By: Andrew G Hyde 04/21/99 12:36:03 PM

TIRANA 1413

From: AMEMBASSY TIRANA
 Subject: LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY
 CLINTON FROM ALBANIAN FIRST LADY
 LIDRA MEIDANI

MRN: 1413
 ICNbr: TED3556

Date/Time: 211409Z APR 99
 Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Cable Text:

TED3556

ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	ACQ-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	INL-01	DODE-00
	SRPP-00	DS-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	L-01	ADS-00	MOFM-04	MOF-03	M-00	AC-01	NSAE-00
	OMB-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	SA-01	SNIS-00	WISC-00
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00	SSAS-00	SSR-00
	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/018W				

-----BEDICE 211559Z /38

O 211409Z APR 99
 FM AMEMBASSY TIRANA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8230
 WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 INFO NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TIRANA 001413

DEPT FOR EUR/SCE - MYDE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, AL, SR

SUBJECT: LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON FROM
 ALBANIAN FIRST LADY LIDRA MEIDANI

1. FOLLOWING IS A LETTER SENT TO THE EMBASSY APRIL
 21 BY ALBANIAN FIRST LADY MEIDANI TO BE FORWARDED
 TO FIRST LADY CLINTON. THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN IN
 ENGLISH AND IS DATED APRIL 19.

BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MRS. CLINTON,

IT HAS BEEN WITH SPECIAL PLEASURE I HAVE HEARD OF
 YOUR PERSONAL ACTIVITY TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERINGS
 OF THE DEPORTEES FROM KOSOVA THROUGH COLLECTION OF
 AIDS FOR THEM AND THE SENSIBILIZATION OF THE PUBLIC
 OPINION ON THEIR DRAMA.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS CONTRIBUTION OF YOURS HELPS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD TO BECOME AWARE OF THE DIMENSIONS AND NATURE OF THE CONFLICT TAKING PLACE IN THE BALKANS, WHERE YOUR COUNTRY IS LINED WITH THE GOOD, THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES OF DEMOCRACY AGAINST THE BAD, THE VIOLATION OF THESE VALUES AND THE DICTATORSHIP.

THIS CONTRIBUTION REVEALS ALSO THAT THIS CRIMINAL REGIME WHICH IS BEING HIT BY AN ALLIANCE PROTECTIVE OF PEACE AND STABILITY, IS BRINGING ABOUT A MASSACRE SEVERE AND BASE AGAINST WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY. YOU HAVE HAD THE CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ON IT AT THE MEETING YOU HAD WITH TWO REPRESENTATIVE WOMEN OF KOSOVA CIVIL SOCIETY WHO HAD JUST ESCAPED THE WAR.

DEAR LADY,

MY PEOPLE AND I ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR THE SENSITIVITY YOU HAVE COHERENTLY SHOWN TO THIS HUMAN TRAGEDY WHICH OCCURS AT THE VERY HEART OF THE DEMOCRATIC EUROPE. I PERSONALLY BEAR TESTIMONY TO THIS SENSITIVITY DEMONSTRATED IN THE "WOMEN OF THE 21ST CENTURY" CONFERENCE IN SOFIA. MY COUNTRY WHICH IS RECENTLY UNFOLDING THE HIGHEST HUMAN VALUES IS CLOSELY FEELING THE SUPPORT OF YOUR COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY OF PRESIDENT CLINTON.

FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY HOPE THAT THE CONFLICT WHICH FINDS ON THE SAME SIDE OF THE FRONT THE USA AND MY COUNTRY - THE OPEN ALBANIA ASPIRING FOR DEMOCRACY - WILL PUT AN END TO THE ATROCITIES, THE ETHNIC CLEANSING AND WILL ENABLE THESE PEOPLE TO GO BACK TO THEIR HOMES TO REBUILD A NEW LIFE IN A DEMOCRATIC MULTIRACIAL SOCIETY IN THEIR KOSOVA.

((LOOKING FORWARD TO HOSTING YOU IN MY COUNTRY,))

SINCERELY,

/s/

LIDRA MEIDANI

END TEXT.

LINO

NNNN

End Cable Text

Printed By: Andrew G Hyde 04/21/99 12:36:03 PM

UNCLASSIFIED

OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE O S I

GEORGE SOROS
ChairmanARYEH NEIER
PresidentFile
AlbaniaTo Melanne -
Have we responded to
George?

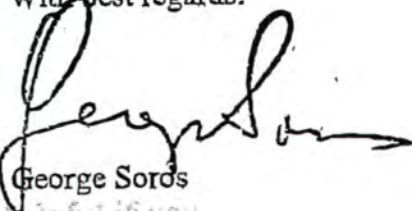
May 18, 1999

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The First Lady of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500-2000

Dear Hillary,

This is an important initiative which I fully support. The Tirana water issue could preempt a social explosion.

With best regards.



George Soros

Enclosure

**PHOTOCOPY
HRC HANDWRITING**

REFUGEES INTERNATIONAL

May 18, 1999

Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

Thank you for traveling to Macedonia at this critical juncture in the Kosovo crisis. Your presence did much to reassure the Macedonians and the refugees that they are not forgotten by the international community. Of course, an important element in keeping Macedonian borders open to refugees is the ongoing transfer of substantial numbers of refugees from Macedonia to Albania.

For over a year now, *Refugees International* has been concerned to find ways to assist Albania -- the poorest country in Europe -- to deal with the flood of refugees that has now reached epic proportions. As you know, the Albanians have responded with extraordinary generosity, with most of the refugee population housed by Albanian host families thus eliminating the need for many more refugee camps. However, given the weakness of Albania's infrastructure and economy, it will not be able to carry the load without strong external support. To follow up on your very useful trip to the region, it would be immensely helpful if you could take on the leadership of an effort by the United States government to shore up the capacity of Albania to continue to absorb large numbers of refugees.

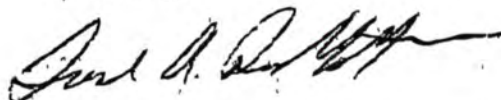
At your last briefing to the NGOs, you spoke about the importance of supporting the host family system. Already we see some families unable to carry their individual effort forward. There is also the problem of host communities impacted by the refugees.

One important example of this is the strain that has been put on the ill-functioning Tirana water supply system. While the Europeans have addressed a part of this need, more needs to be done. For a relatively small investment by the United States, the water distribution problem for the Albanian capital, which is impacted by tens of thousands of refugees, could be dealt with fairly quickly and would help support a fragile government.

We suggest that you call a meeting of all relevant US agencies/officials, including the Army Corps of Engineers, to look at effective ways to assist Albania as quickly as possible.

Thank you again for your vital leadership on these issues.

Sincerely,



Lionel A. Rosenblatt
President

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONSKosovo Coordination Council
May 19, 1999

It was decided that: -

- OMB will compile funding plan for the supplemental, with input from the agencies.
- PRM will provide timeline for out-flows from Ft. Dix at next Council mtg.
- NSC will draft memo for the President on plan for Macedonia camp security.
- PRM will send cable authorizing Embassy/Tirana and JTF/Shining Hope to advise relevant agencies on the ground to move forward with plans to transfer refugees from Kukes to Camp Hope on a phased basis.
- PRM will send cable to Embassy/Tirana advising against Camp Hope "ribbon cutting" ceremony.
- IWG will review action needed to upgrade the over burdened water system in Tirana.
- IWG will identify appropriate individual to ensure link between U.S. textile companies operating in Macedonia that are willing to help supply the refugee relief effort, with relief agencies who will make use of these locally produced goods.