

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	Handwritten post-it note (partial) (1 page)	n.d.	P6/b(6)
002. fax	To Katy Button From Leatrise Carter re: First Lady Meeting Middle East (partial) (1 page)	08/02/1999	b(6)
003. fax	To Katy Button From Alyse Nelson re: information (partial) (1 page)	06/02/1999	b(6)
004. fax	To Katie Button From Kristi Hunt re: Clearance Information for Tomorrow's Meeting (partial) (1 page)	06/02/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20038

FOLDER TITLE:

Israel/Jordan/Yemen

2013-0534-S

ry1583

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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.

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]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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Idit Barnett

(b)(6)

[001]

-Inf known - would
have eclipsed others.
was outside country
-V. outspoken, exc. writer

**TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BULGARIA, KOSOVO**

DRAFT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

3:00 pm **Depart en route Athens,
Greece**
[flight time: @9 hours]
[time change: +7 hours]

RON

**ABOARD AIR FORCE
ONE**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

7:00 am **Arrive Athens**
7:50 am- **Down Time**
9:20 am **Intercontinental Hotel**
9:45 am- **Arrival Ceremony**
10:00 am **Presidential Palace**
10:10 am- **Bilat with President**
10:40 am **Presidential Palace**
11:00 am- **Bilat with PM Simitis**
11:30 am **Prime Minister's Office**
11:40 am **Working Lunch w/PM**
12:30 pm **Prime Minister's Office**
1:00 pm- **Speech/Meet & Greet**
1:50 pm **w/Business Leaders**
 Pnyx Hill
2:30 pm **Mtg. w/ Opposition Leader**
2:50 pm **Intercontinental Hotel**
3:00 pm- **Cultural Visits/Down Time**
8:30 pm
9:00 pm- **State Dinner**
11:30 pm **Presidential Palace**

RON

ATHENS, GREECE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

TBD (T) **Optional: Church**
10:30 am- (T) **Greek-Turk Business**
11:30 am **Council Event**
 Site TBD
12:00 pm **Down for Day/Evening**
TBD **Depart via Marine One en**
 route Delphi or Peloponnese
TBD **Arrive Delphi or Peloponnese**
TBD **Visit Delphi or Peloponnese**
TBD **Cities (Corinth, Mycenae)**
TBD **Depart via Marine One en**
 route Athens
TBD **Arrive Athens**
 Evening Off

RON

ATHENS, GREECE

**TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BULGARIA, KOSOVO**

DRAFT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

10:00 am **Depart Athens en route
Ankara, Turkey
[flight time: @ 1 + 30]**
11:30 am **Arrive Ankara, Turkey**
12:00 pm- **Wreath Laying Ceremony**
12:25 pm **Ataturk's Tomb**
12:50 pm- **Arrival Ceremony**
1:05 pm **Presidential Palace**
1:10 pm- **Bilat w/President Demirel**
1:40 pm **Presidential Palace**
1:50 pm- **X-pand Bilat/Lunch**
2:40 pm **w/President & PM Ecevit**
3:00 pm- **Courtesy Call w/Speaker**
3:10 pm **Parliament**
3:15 pm **Speech to Parliament**
4:00 pm **Parliament**
4:30 pm- **Courtesy Call by PM Ecevit**
5:00 pm **Hilton Hotel**
5:15 pm- **Down Time**
7:15 pm **Hilton Hotel**
7:30 pm **State Dinner/Award**
10:15pm **Presentation
Presidential Palace**

RON ANKARA, TURKEY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:00 am **Depart via C-20 en route
Izmit**
10:00 am **Arrive Izmit**
10:30 am- **Visit Earthquake Survivors**
11:45 am **US Tent City - Derince**
12:15 pm **Depart via C-20 en route
Istanbul**
12:45 pm **Arrive Istanbul**
1:30 pm- **US-Turk Business Lunch**
3:00 pm **Imperial Chalet**
3:30 pm- **NGO Discussion**
4:30 pm **Site TBD**
5:00 pm **Down for Day/Cultural
Visits**

EVENING OFF

RON ISTANBUL, TURKEY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

TBD **Call on Ecumenical
Patriarch
Office of Patriarch**
TBD **Depart en route Ephesus
[flight time: @ 1 hour]**
TBD **Arrive Ephesus**
TBD **Visit Ephesus**
TBD **Visit Ephesus Museum**
TBD **Visit St. John's Basilica**
TBD **Visit Virgin Mary's Grotto**
TBD **Depart en route Istanbul
[flight time: @ 1 hour]**
TBD **Arrive Istanbul**
TBD **Bosporous River Boat Ride**
7:30 pm- **OSCE Cultural Show**
9:30 pm **Media Center**

RON ISTANBUL, TURKEY

**TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BULGARIA, KOSOVO**

DRAFT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 am-	OSCE Summit
12:30 pm	Ciragon Palace
TBD	Bilateral Meetings
12:45 pm-	Lunch Hosted by PM
2:00 pm	Ecevit
	Ciragon Palace
2:05 pm-	Break
2:55 pm	Ciragon Palace
TBD	Bilateral Meetings
3:00 pm-	OSCE Summit
5:00 pm	Ciragon Palace
5:10 pm-	OSCE Charter Signing
5:40 pm	Ciragon Palace
6:00 pm-	Down Time
7:30 pm	Conrad Hotel
7:45 pm-	OSCE Summit Dinner
10:00 pm	Domabaci or Swiss Hotel

RON

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8:00 am-(T)	CFE Signing
8:30 am	Media Center
9:00 am-	OSCE Summit
12:30 pm	Ciragon Palace
12:45 pm-	OSCE Closing Ceremony
1:15 pm	Ciragon Palace
1:45 pm-	Briefing
2:35 pm	Conrad Hotel
2:40 pm-	Unilateral Press Conference
3:40 pm	Conrad Hotel
5:00 pm	Depart via M1 en route
	Istanbul Airport
5:20 pm	Arrive Istanbul Airport
5:35 pm	Depart en route Florence
TBD	[flight time: TBD/tc: TBD]
TBD	Arrive Florence
TBD	Evening Off

RON

FLORENCE, ITALY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20

9:45 am-	Bilat with
10:15 am	President Ciampi
	Prefettura Building
10:20 am-	Bilat with Prime
11:10 am	Minister D'Alema
	Prefettura Building
11:20 am	Down Time
6:00 pm	
7:00 pm-	Opening Dinner
10:00 pm	Hosted by NYU
	Villa La Pietra

RON

FLORENCE, ITALY

**TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BULGARIA, KOSOVO**

DRAFT

State Visit

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

9:30 am -	"Progressive Governance for the 21st Century"
3:30 pm	Conference/ Lunch with Leaders Palazzo Vecchio
4:30 pm	Depart en route Sofia, Bulgaria
TBD	Arrive Sofia, Bulgaria
TBD	Evening Off

RON

SOFIA, BULGARIA

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9:30 am-	Wreath Laying
9:40 am	Nevski Square
10:00 am-	Bilat with President
10:45 am	Stoyanov President's Office
11:15 am-	Bilat with Prime Minister
12:00 pm	Kostov Prime Minister's Office
12:30 pm-	(T) Roundtable Discussion with
1:45 pm	Bulgarian Youth Synagogue (T)
1:50 pm-	Down Time
4:30 pm	
4:45 pm-	(T) Call on Leader of
5:00 pm	Parliament Parliament
5:15 pm-	Crowd Event
6:30 pm	Nevski Square
6:45 pm-	Down Time
8:00 pm	
8:20 pm-	State Dinner
10:00 pm	Kepinski Hotel

RON

SOFIA, BULGARIA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

TBD	Embassy Event
8:30 am	Depart Sofia via C-17 en route Skopje or Pristina [flight time: TBD/tc: TBD]
9:45 am	Arrive Skopje or Pristina
11:00 am-	Hold for Events TBD
7:00 pm	Options
	1) Pristina & US Sector
	2) US Sector Only
8:00 pm	Depart via C-17 en route Aviano Air Base [flight time: TBD/tc: TBD]
9:30 pm	Arrive Aviano Air Base
9:45 pm	Depart en route AAFB [flight time: @9 hours/tc: -6]
6:45 pm	Arrive AAFB
7:00 pm	Depart en route White House
7:15 pm	Arrive White House

RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

**TRIP OF THE PRESIDENT
TO
GREECE, TURKEY, ITALY, BULGARIA, KOSOVO**

DRAFT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

DAY AND EVENING OFF

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1999

THANKSGIVING

RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

RON

**THE WHITE HOUSE/
CAMP DAVID**

From "Violence to Tolerance"

A national campaign on violence against and by youth –

"Creating a Path from Violence to Dialogue and Social Understanding"

One of the main goals of this campaign is to develop national awareness of the issues of violence both against and between children and youngsters, with special emphasis on the phenomenon of **dating violence**. We also hope to arouse the various sectors of Israeli society to an increased awareness of the possibility of taking action to limit and decrease the scope and intensity of this unprecedented violence.

An expected outcome of this campaign is the furtherance and adoption of more preventive programs within the social, educational and therapeutic frameworks that care for Youth.

To advance this campaign, an inter-organisational forum was established, including all the related Government ministries, the I.D.F., Elem, the J.D.C., Ashalim association and the National Youth Movement Council. The campaign is also supported by business corporations and private foundations.

Objectives.

1. To initiate a keen, intensive public debate on the issue of increasing violence among and against children and adolescents in Israel.
2. To reinforce and re-emphasise the need of implementing educational programs within the school system that focus on violence reduction.
3. To develop community based preventive measures that will aid adolescents to resolve their individual and group conflicts by non-violent means.
4. To increase cultural sensitivity to issues of youth violence.
5. To pool the resources of all sectors of the community, organisational, Government, business, academic etc. to combat violence.

The campaign comprises 5 major elements:

1. A wide ranging publicity campaign. This will include T.V flashes, billboards and posters, stickers for every child to wear, radio slogans, street corner petitions against violence etc.
2. Parallel to the publicity campaign, there will be educational programs throughout the whole school system in Israel.
3. There will be a conference organised by **Elem and Tel Aviv University** in tandem with an ongoing exhibition on violence against and by youth in Israel. The conference will include a moot court confronting Israeli society and the Israeli Governing System on their responsibility for violence amongst and against children and youth. **Mrs. Hillary Clinton** will make the closing speech of the Conference.
4. All the children of the country, and all the youth movements will be mobilised to campaign against violence on the day of the conference. All the children of Israel will sign a declaration committing themselves to avoid physical and verbal violence; to report cases of violence or imminent violence and to look for signs of undue stress in their surroundings.

As a result of the campaign we plan to introduce a new program for schools that focuses on reducing dating violence among Israeli Teenagers.

The Program's major goal is to decrease dating violence amongst adolescents and guide them in dealing with issues of couple relations and sexuality, by emphasizing equality, respect and cooperation. This educational Program is intended for high school students studying in grades 8 to 11 from various cultural backgrounds. It is planned to include 50 schools in the program.

Elem's National Network of Youth Counseling Centers and Outreach Van Programs

**To be presented to Mrs. Hillary Clinton during her visit to Israel,
November 10, 1999**

Two of the major programs operated by "Elem - Youth in Distress in Israel" are the Youth Counseling and Information Centers and the Outreach Van Program. The Counseling Centers provide guidance and help for youth within a Coffee-Shop setting while the Outreach Vans operate in various cities in Israel and are aimed at the rescue of street children.

Program Descriptions:

- **The "National Network of Youth Counseling and Information Centers"** is a project that operates Counseling and Information Centers for youth located throughout Israel. The Centers provide teenagers, whoever they are, regardless of their cultural background, socio-economic condition and/or level of functioning; with information, a receptive ear and counseling in subjects that preoccupy contemporary adolescents such as employment, army service, dating and sexuality, S.T.D., drug abuse, leisure time activities, etc. The rationale guiding the project is the creation of an accepted, normative, stigma-free place, where initial preventive work will be available for teenagers at risk suffering from hardship or in crisis. The aim is to prevent their deterioration to marginal behavior, violence, crime and drug abuse. ELEM, the Ashalim association, J.D.C., in collaboration with other NGOs and various Government agencies joined forces for this purpose. They undertook to pool resources earmarked for initiating and developing the program in ten locations within Israel during 1999.
- **The Outreach Vans Program:** The initial concept for the Outreach Van Program was based on a similar project implemented in New York City by

Covenant House. However, this model of intervention was developed further and elaborated into an innovative and multi-dimensional approach towards helping street children. The Israeli model is unique in that it encompasses not only a solution to the children's basic needs while on the streets, but also, a new intervention program providing overall guidance and long term solutions. This Program utilizes the "Never Let Go" approach for working with unattached, abused and exploited children who find great difficulty in trusting any of the existing aid services.

Visit Plan:

A 45 minute visit and program demonstration is planned to take place at the "Kfar-Saba Youth Center". The Center also encompasses a large public area for the Van Program presentation.

The visit will be conducted in an informal manner and will take place as follows:
gathering at the Center's entrance:

1. Opening remarks:

- Mrs. Nava Barak, President of Elem.
- Mr. Izik Vald, Mayer of Kfar Saba
- Mrs. Ann Bialkin, President, Elem America
- Mr. Steve Shweger, Director General JDC -Israel

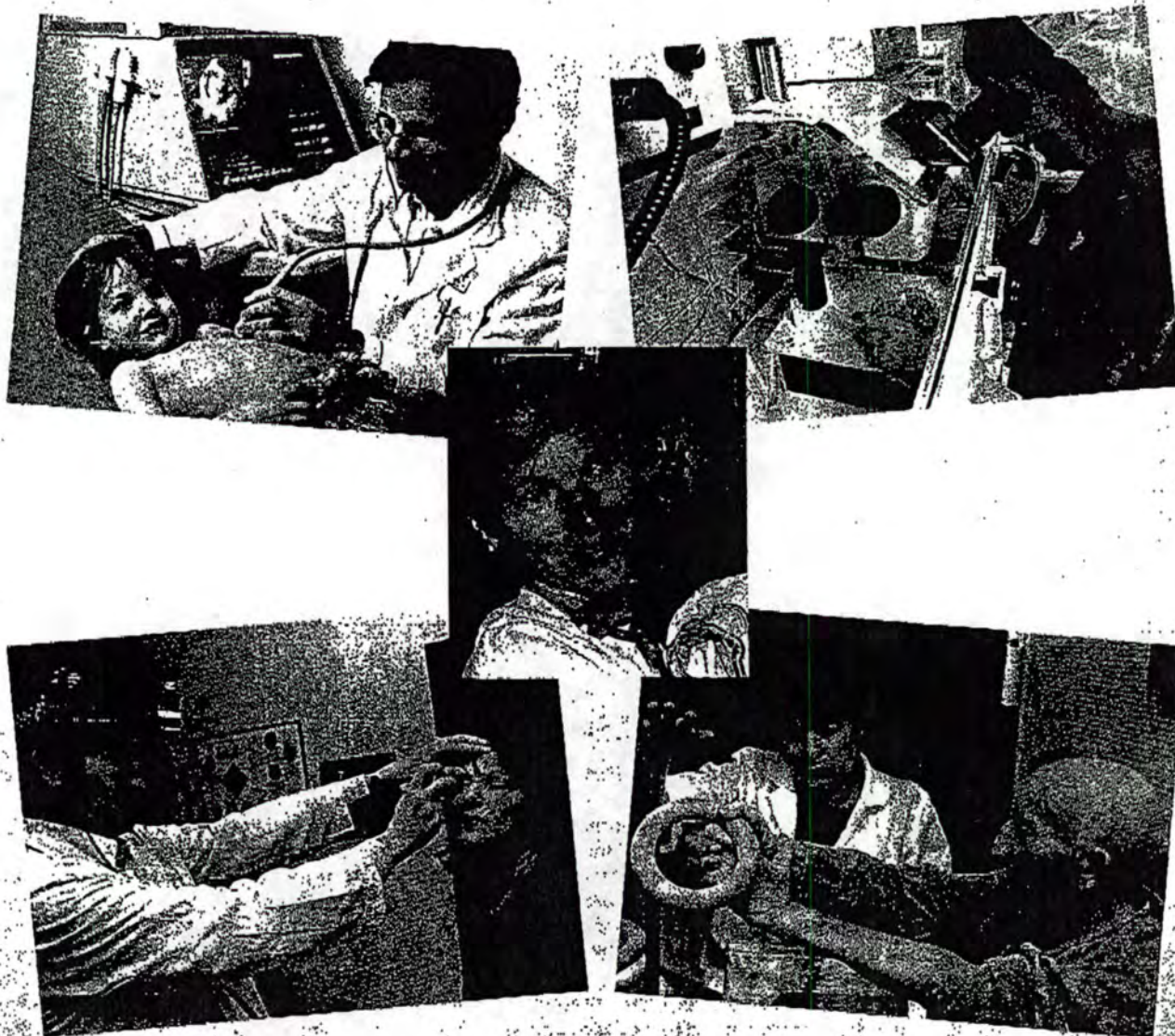
Dr. Mike Naftali, Executive Director, Elem – will host and guide the visit.

2. Live simulation of how the Outreach Vans operate, by Van volunteers and staff.
3. Within the Center: Two personal stories will be related by teenage girls residing in Elem Hostels.
4. Visit to the Counseling and Information Center's facility. The visit will include an informal conversation with the Center youth workers, volunteers and youth benefiting from Center services (including immigrant youth from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union).

Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem



A Hospital with
a History and a Heart



The Jerusalem
Report

Shaare Zedek Special Advertising Supplement

Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem has played an important role in the life of the city and its people for nearly a century, in times of terror and periods of peace. It treats the person, not the illness, caring for all with warmth and compassion.

Shaare Zedek opened its doors on Jaffa Road in 1902, with 20 beds. In 1979 it moved into its 10-story, 500-bed facility; today it is a sophisticated acute-care facility treating 200,000 patients a year.

This year, Shaare Zedek responded to two terror bombings. On July 30, 73 victims of the Mahaneh Yehudah market bombings were brought to the emergency room; 78 more arrived on September 4, after the Ben-Yehuda bombing. Shoshana, who arrived on July 30 and was in a coma for six weeks, was released on November 5. Many call her recovery a miracle; Shoshana's family calls Shaare Zedek's doctors "Angels in Green." And Jerusalem residents continue to call Shaare Zedek "the Hospital with a Heart."



"Shaare Zedek, with its exceptional care for all the people of Jerusalem, Israelis and Palestinians, continues to do an outstanding humanitarian service."

S. Daniel Abraham
Slim Fast Foods
Palm Beach, Florida

IVF at Shaare Zedek



Talya Cohen and her 'gifts': Triplets after 13 In-vitro fertilization treatments at the Bendheim Woman and Infant Center.

Fast Facts

Multiple births are commonplace at Shaare Zedek, but last fall was out of the usual. In September, six pairs of twins and three trios of triplets were born. October was far more fruitful, with three more trios of triplets — and 11 pairs of twins. Some of the births are the result of fertility treatments at the center.

Diabetes during pregnancy presents a major risk, for both mother and baby. Shaare Zedek's Obstetrics and High-Risk Pregnancy unit automatically tests all women during weeks 24-28 of their pregnancy for gestational diabetes melitus (GDM), which increases the risk of fetus mortality, traumatic delivery, respiratory distress syndrome and other

disorders. If detected at an early stage, GDM can be controlled and treated — at the medical center.

In 1902, its first year of operation in the original site on Jaffa Road, 240 births were recorded at Shaare Zedek. In 1996, 5,921 babies were born at the hospital. The Woman and Infant Center will be able to handle 750 births a month.

There's nothing like the recommendation of an experienced client. Almost one in five of the 526 women who gave birth at Shaare Zedek in December 1996 had seven children or more; two of the mothers gave birth to No. 16; 16 had between 11 and 14 kids at home, and 79 of the deliveries were to mothers of 7-10.

The Happiest Department

For seven long years, Talya Cohen and her husband, Yo'ssi, tried to have a baby. "But the pregnancy just wouldn't catch," she says, describing how, after a series of unsuccessful fertility treatments, they finally tried in-vitro fertilization at Shaare Zedek. Even then, it was only on the 13th attempt that Talya became pregnant.

In October 1996, Talya gave birth to healthy triplets — born, like their mother was 35 years ago, at Shaare Zedek. "They're a gift," says Talya of her two girls and one boy, now just past their 1st birthday.

Families like the Cohens will soon be able to get everything they need in prenatal and maternity treatment, and care for their newborn children, at the Bendheim Woman and Infant Center currently nearing completion on the ninth floor of the medical center building. The 65,000-square-foot facility will be where they'll come for a brief doctor's visit or an extended stay at the high-risk pregnancy unit; it will also include outpatient clinics, gynecology and maternity centers, a delivery unit and a neonatal complex, which will encompass both a well-baby nursery and intensive-care facilities for the newborn. The center will be the first of its kind in Israel.

And while most of the babies and mothers who are patients at the Bendheim Center will be healthy, the center will also be ready for emergencies.

Like the 21-year-old Jerusalem woman, with severe cardiac problems including an embolism which blocked both cardiac arteries, who lost her first child during emergency heart surgery several years ago. The woman, who suffered from a protein deficiency that causes the blood to over-clot, received special treatment, including an anti-coagulant, during her second pregnancy. Early this year, she gave birth to a healthy baby girl.

Dr. Arnon Samueloff, head of the obstetrics and high-risk pregnancy unit calls the successful delivery "a miracle." Never before had a woman with such a severe blood-clotting disorder with such serious complications given birth. But, Dr. Samueloff makes clear, that wasn't the only thing that was important. "The couple had practically given up hope of having a child," he says. "Watching this woman hold her healthy baby with wonderment is a feeling that will remain with me forever."



"I am proud that my family can help the medical center meet the needs of the Israeli public. We gain a great deal of satisfaction from helping in a direct way."

Michael Bregman
CEO, Second Cup
Coffee Co., Toronto



"Shaare Zedek comes through in dire circumstances, tending to people injured by terrorist bombs or being ready to handle a Scud attack."

Jean & Eugen Gluck
CEO, E. Gluck Corp.
Queens, New York



"Shaare Zedek captured the imagination of a man I held in the highest esteem, the late Ludwig Jesselson. Any cause or institution that merits his devotion, also earns my commitment."

Alan C. Greenberg
Chairman, Bear Stearns
New York City

Five generations of Bendheims and Salomons have been active in Shaare Zedek, so it's natural that the Woman and Infant Center, now under construction, will be named for Els and the late Charles Bendheim. In 1929, Mrs. Bendheim's parents donated a generator that enabled Shaare Zedek to be the only hospital with electric power when Jerusalem was under siege in the War of Independence. Jack Bendheim is now chairman of the International Board of Directors. Their daughter, Dr. Judith S. Guedalia, heads its Pediatric Neuropsychology Clinic. Another daughter, Edna Zussman, serves on the hospital's International Board of Governors. Shortly before his death last May, Charles Bendheim was named Ne'eman Yerushalayim (Worthy of Jerusalem) by Mayor Ehud Olmert.





"During the dark days of the Holocaust, I vowed that if and when I could, I would contribute to the betterment of the lives of other Jews. It is a source of enormous gratification to me to be a part of Shaare Zedek."

Fanya Gottesfeld-Heller
Author and Lecturer
New York City

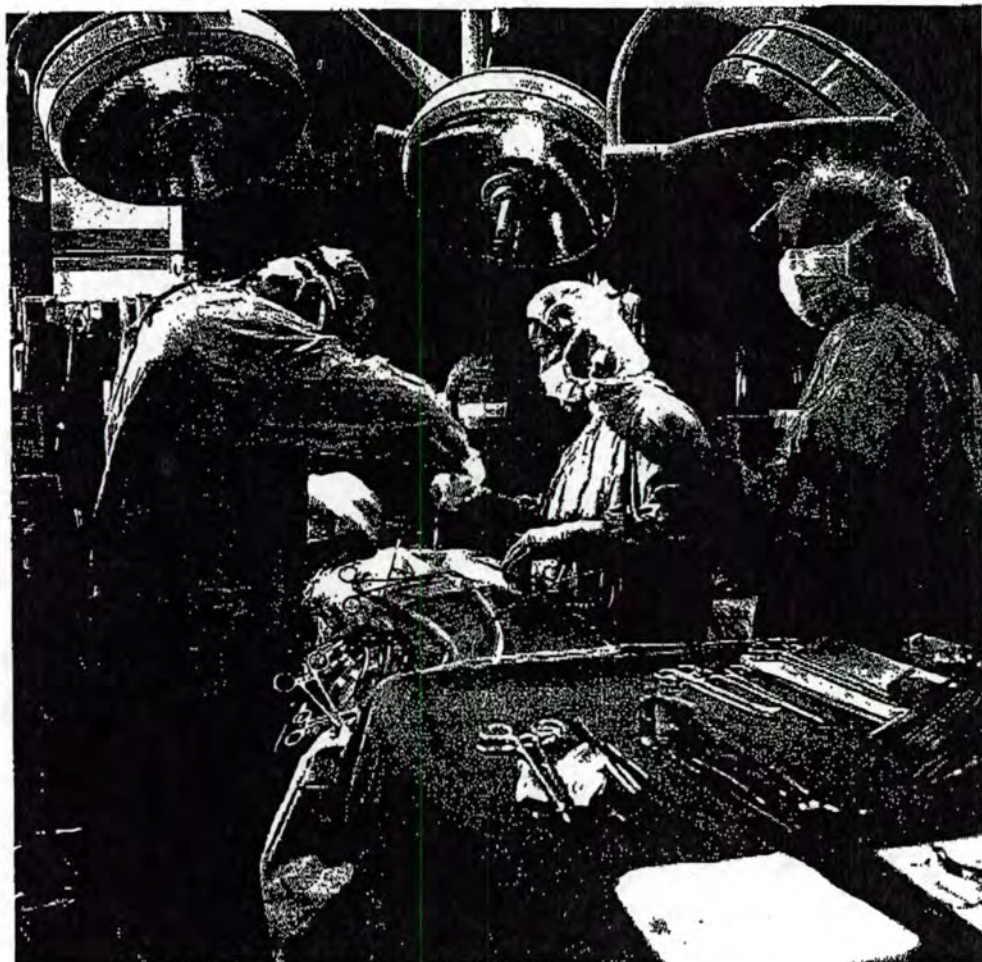
The late Max Stern, board chairman of the American Committee, 1967-80, was directly responsible — with Ludwig Jesselson, Prof. David Maeir, Pinhas Sapir, finance minister in the 1970s — for developing Shaare Zedek's new building. His memory will forever be alive in the patients, staff and halls of Shaare Zedek.



"A noble cause that embodies all the values that are dear to me. Caring for the sick, elderly and bringing new life into the world with compassion, characterizes the staff of the hospital and makes it worthy of my commitment."

Erwin Herling
Herling Applied
Technology, NYC

Jesselson Heart Center



Israel's Ministry of Health has designated the JHC as one of the country's top cardiothoracic surgery facilities

Fast Facts

Good evidence of the Cardiology Department's standing is its involvement in clinical research. It helps assess new treatments for pharmaceutical companies, including Pfizer, Eli Lilly, Bayer and Hoffman LaRoche; its Holter Laboratory was the core lab in a study for the drug Mibefradil, which was conducted in 23 centers in seven countries.

The oldest patient at the Cardiac Catheterization Center's labs was 91, and the youngest was one of many babies rushed directly from the delivery suite.

In 1995, 3,500 cardiologists in Washing D.C., ton watched by satellite as doctors in Jerusalem inserted tiny mesh cylinders to permanently keep open a patient's damaged blood vessels. Shaare

Zedek's Dr. Yaron Almogor was part of the team that developed this procedure. Boston Scientific chose Shaare Zedek to develop the stent.

About 25 percent of all cardiac surgery performed at Shaare Zedek is on immigrants from the former Soviet Union, who have a much higher incidence of heart disease than the average Israeli.

Eminent cardiologists from around the world — including Turkey, Ethiopia, Kenya, the Palestinian Authority, Latvia and Panama — attended the Second Cardiology and Cardiothoracic Surgery International Symposium at the Jesselson Heart Center in June 1996. The third symposium will be held in June 1998.

State of the Heart

Within a week after bypass surgery or a heart attack, patients at the \$25-million Jesselson Heart Center are already up and exercising in the special glass-walled gym on the 10th floor of the Shaare Zedek Medical Center. "We get heart patients active quickly," says Dr. Ya'acov Klein, explaining the modern view towards postoperative patients, "just as the policy of keeping new mothers immobile for weeks after delivery has been replaced with that of getting them up and around within hours."

The early-exercise regimen has contributed to the growing popularity of Shaare Zedek since the opening of the new Jesselson Heart Center in 1994; Prof. Dan Tzivoni, who heads the Cardiology Department, describes it as no less than a revolution in both the extent and quality of cardiac care. Increased demand has made it necessary to more than double the number of beds in the center, from 15 in 1994 to today's 31. In 1991, 710 patients were admitted to the department; that number more than doubled to 1,502 in 1994, the first year of the JHC, and then increased to 2,434 last year.

Truth be told, Shaare Zedek is no longer only the hospital with a heart: Now it's also the hospital with a state-of-the-art heart center: The Jesselson Heart Center, named in honor of Erica and the late Ludwig Jesselson of New York, provides a comprehensive range of diagnosis, treatment, surgery and rehabilitation on one floor. And everything is close at hand. Fully equipped surgical suites are a few steps from the state-of-the-art catheterization laboratories, to deal with the fewer than half of 1 percent of patients from this delicate procedure who suddenly need emergency surgery. In addition, the catheterization labs use traditional balloon therapy, a rotoblator high-speed drill and lasers to clear clogged arteries.

The proximity of services is important. About one in five Israelis suffer, or will suffer, from cardiac disease. And, says Shaare Zedek director general Prof. Nathan Halevy, moving heart patients around a hospital can be dangerous. "Every cardiologist and cardiothoracic surgeon in the world," he observes, "can tell you of patients he lost in the elevator" between one procedure and another. That doesn't happen in Shaare Zedek.

"I don't call me a philanthropist," the late Ludwig Jesselson of New York used to say, adding that he invested in the future of Israel and the Jewish people. One of the best of those investments is the Jesselson Heart Center, which occupies a full floor of the Shaare Zedek building in Jerusalem. Mrs. Erica Jesselson, who chairs the hospital's American Committee and is on the International Board of Governors, sees her affiliation with Shaare Zedek as a "family affair"; her father, Wolf Pappenheim of Vienna, supported the hospital in the 1920s. The legacy continues with the Jesselsons' sons: Jerusalemite Benjamin is on the Executive Committee and Board of Governors; Daniel Michael, New Yorkers, are founders, and Michael is vice chairman of the International Board of Directors.



"Approximately 20 years ago, we had a direct experience with Shaare Zedek that helped us to decide its worthiness. The hospital has continued to do so."

Jack and Elisa Klein
Klein Enterprises
San Francisco



"Why do I like to give to Shaare Zedek Medical Center? Thirteen or 14 years ago, when I came to visit Shaare Zedek, it was love at first sight. This great love affair has lasted ever since."

Consul Olga Konow
Monaco



"I know first-hand the life-saving work that Shaare Zedek performs daily. It's comforting to know the hospital is ready to treat the wounded with the latest technology."

Tova Leidesdorf
New York City



"The Hospital with a Heart won our hearts with its treatment of the patients medically, emotionally and spiritually. Our love for Shaare Zedek has increased, since our first contact in 1967."

**Drs. Marial and
George Manstein
Manstein Plastic
Surgical Association
Philadelphia**

By the numbers: In the past 12 months, Shaare Zedek staffers washed over 25 million square feet of floor, changed over 180,000 beds, washed over 900 tons of laundry, changed over 7,000 light bulbs and answered more than 3.5 million phone calls.



"I fully understand the need for scientific and professional capability, which exist at Shaare Zedek. But I became involved because it's truly the hospital with a heart. They care for the patient better, because they truly care."

**Prof. Jack Matloff
Chairman Emeritus,
Cardiology, Cedars
Sinai Medical Center, LA
CEO, Global Health
Care Alliance**

Cancer Research Center



Geneticists Dr. Ephrat Levy-Lahad (right) and Dr. David Halle:
Genetic research is an important part of the continuing fight against cancer

Fast Facts

It's official: The Council for a Beautiful Israel recently awarded Shaare Zedek the highest rating, Five Stars, in its annual Pleasant Hospitals in a Beautiful Israel competition.

Immigrant aid: Shaare Zedek's School of Nursing offers special training courses to immigrant nurses from the former Soviet Union; the hospital also has courses for doctors, to help them get their Israeli medical license.

In time of need: After the Health Ministry changed its rules to allow patients to choose emergency rooms, visits to Shaare Zedek's ER rose by 30 percent.

Ready for the worst: The bottom three levels of Shaare Zedek, all underground, house the hospital's Emergency Room and Surgical Suites, Radiology Institute, Pharmacy, Sterile Supplies, Laundry and Kitchen.

The staff for life: Shaare Zedek's staff of 2,022 includes 383 physicians, 712 registered and practical nurses, 224 paramedical personnel and 703 employees engaged in administration and maintenance.

Testing: Last year, Shaare Zedek performed 71,150 X-rays, 12,173 CT scans, 13,178 cardiac tests and over 18,000 ultrasound scans, half of them gynecological procedures.

The Human Side of Genetics

Modern diagnostic techniques can detect the presence of a rogue gene signalling the bearer is at a high risk of a dread malady, like breast or ovarian or colon cancer or Alzheimer's disease, before any symptoms appear. But that doesn't mean that patients with a family history of a particular malady should automatically be tested for such a gene, says Dr. Ephrat Levy-Lahad.

"Not everyone can handle the stress of knowing that there's a strong possibility of getting sick," explains Dr. Levy-Lahad, head of Shaare Zedek's genetics laboratory, who adds that helping each patient weigh the pros and cons of testing is perhaps the most demanding part of her job. "The procedures themselves are simple," says Dr. Levy-Lahad. "All they usually involve is a blood sample."

Take the case of a woman in her 50s, with ovarian cancer, whose mother died of the same disease in the mid-1980s. Her physician at the time advised her not to take the test — a decision that was not wrong, even though there was evidence of a link between a defective gene and the disease. The woman, who now has the cancer, was saved more than a decade of insecurity and fear that she would have had if she'd tested positive — in addition to the apprehensions she might have about passing the genetic danger on to her children.

The patient's daughter, in her 20s, had to decide whether to take the test which could show that she has the gene — a 50-percent chance. "She came in determined to do it," says Dr. Levy-Lahad, "but in the end, considering her personal status and her age, and the information we supplied her, and most of all her ability to deal with risk, she decided against it. Instead, she undergoes periodic testing to detect any symptoms."

Dr. Levy-Lahad, who trained in Seattle with famed cancer-genetics specialist Mary Claire King, observes that ongoing research into genetic-linked maladies is increasingly important. "Even if we are not able to change the gene," she says, "but if we, say, find a genetic tendency to high cholesterol, we can provide medication and diet to keep it down." Or, in certain cancers, suggest surgical procedures to reduce the possibility of contracting the disease.

Genetics, then, is unlike other medical practices. "You always have to remember," Levy-Lahad says, "that there's no one correct procedure, as there may be in the ER. Here, there's no right or wrong." It's a matter of the heart.



"My late husband, Archie, and I became involved with Shaare Zedek many years ago. By donating the hospital's nursing school and other projects, we brought together our main interests — education, health, Israel and the future of the Jewish people."

Marjorie Sherman
OBE, London
Woman of the Decade
honoree

Welcome patients: Last year, Shaare Zedek registered 155,642 visits to outpatient clinics; 46,123 emergency room visits; 12,435 patient days in its adult and pediatric day hospitals, and 7,112 dialysis treatments.



"I love this institution, because it is a Jewish hospital. It lovingly treats the weakest, the newborn and the elderly. My family strongly supported the Jewish body and soul for many, many years."

Judith Wilf
Garden Homes Mgt.
Hillside, New Jersey

National Board American Committee for Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem

Erica Jesselson, Chairperson
Menno Ratzker, President
Sidney Adler, Treasurer
Lee Weinbach, Secretary
Harry Bauer
Jack C. Bendheim
Ludwig Bravmann

Michael G. Jesselson
Seryl Kushner
Dr. George Manstein
Dr. Marial Manstein
Kurt Rothschild
Harold Turobiner
Dr. Stuart Tauber, Executive Director

The Shaare Zedek Medical Center Family Album

1977: Prime minister Menachem Begin accepts a Shaare Zedek award at the Knesset. With him are the late Max Stern, chairman of the American Committee at the time, and Prof. David Maier, then the director general.



1986: Shimon Peres visits victims of one of the bus bombings in Jerusalem in late winter, during his tenure as prime minister.



1983: President Chaim Herzog, flanked by doctors and aides, pays a call to the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery.



1973: Prime minister Golda Meir and president Ephraim Katzir at a Shaare Zedek gala.



1989: Yitzhak Shamir, prime minister at the time, arrives at Shaare Zedek. He is flanked by Prof. Jonathan Halevy, Shaare Zedek's director general, and Moshe Katsav, a minister in his cabinet and in the current government.



1997: Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu calls on one of the victims of the summer's terrorist bombings, at Shaare Zedek. On the left is Health Minister Yehoshua Matza.



1994: Prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Prof. Halevy, with Mrs. Erica Jesselson. Rabin often said, Jerusalem is Shaare Zedek, "where I was born."



1995: President Ezer Weizman and his wife, Reuma, are frequent visitors to patients at Shaare Zedek.

The Jerusalem Report

Shaare Zedek Special Advertising Supplement • December 11, 1997

American Committee for Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem 49 West 45th Street, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10036
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E-mail: SHAARE.ZEDEK.NY@worldnet.att.net • Visit our Website: www.szmc.org.il

WOMEN'S HEALTH



A Special Update
from the

American Committee for Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem

49 W. 45th St. • NY, NY 10036 • (212) 354-8801 • (800) 346-1592 • www.szmc.org.il • email: info@shaare-zedek.org

Understanding Women's Health: Women Are Not Men

Western thought about gender has long been dominated by the notion that the female is a kind of imperfect or unfinished male. Then, with the rise of feminism, women insisted on equality, on the assumption that the sexes are essentially the same. A medical profession that treats women as equals also does not serve them well, they learned.



ferences necessitate developing distinct

Medical science has recently come to the realization that there are many physiological differences between men and women other than those related to reproduction — and that these dif-

ferences necessitate developing distinct medical treatments that address the physiology of women.



Shaare Zedek At the Forefront of Women's Health Advocacy

Shaare Zedek Medical Center — which always stays firmly on the cutting edge of modern medical care, keeps pace with health trends and remains committed to serving the changing medical needs of Israel's people — concluded in 1995 that women's health has to be a special, separate discipline. The hospital observed that men and women react differently to certain medical conditions, such as cardiac disorders. Shaare Zedek began drawing up

plans to create a facility to provide the complete range of medical care to women of all ages — from adolescence to post-menopausal stages.

In December 1996, in conjunction with the Israel Council of Women's Organizations, Shaare Zedek hosted a special workshop examining "new developments in medicine and their effect on women's health." In June 1998 Shaare Zedek officially dedicated *The Harry, Judith and Leonard Wilf Woman and Infant Center*, located on the hospital's entire ninth floor, known as "Charlie's Floor" in tribute to Charles Bendheim, z"l, who played a major role in developing the

center and in the growth of the hospital over a 30-year period.

Last year Israeli Minister of Health Yehoshua Matza selected women's health as a "key area for enhanced activity at the Ministry" and appointed Shaare Zedek deputy director-general and gynecologist Dr. Rachel Adatto-Levy as his advisor on women's health issues.

Dr. Adatto served as chairperson of the first-ever Israeli-U.S. health conference, "Promoting Women's Health Across Generations," held in Jerusalem last December under the auspices of U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala and Minister Matza. (See page IV)

CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE:

The Leading Cause of Death Among Israeli and American Women;
Treatment of Men and Women Differ Significantly

Heart diseases are the leading cause of death among Israeli and American women.

The risk factors, courses of treatment and outcome of coronary artery disease are significantly different in men than in women.

Coronary artery disease (CAD) is not unique to the postmenopausal patient. In the U.S., it kills 23,000 women under age 65 each year, 27% of whom are younger than 55. Particularly important risk fac-

tors for younger women are smoking, diabetes and premature menopause.

Twenty years ago there was a major gap between how women complaining of chest pains and other possible symptoms of heart disease were treated in hospitals and clinics compared to the way men were treated. Physicians were more likely to ascribe cardiovascular symptomatology in women to hysteria than they were in men. Treatment for women was less aggressive than that for men: Doctors more often offered thrombolysis, angioplasty and bypass surgery to men; while offering women only medication. Women were less likely than men to be admitted to the intensive coronary care units.

The gap has narrowed or nearly disappeared today. With increasing awareness of the gender differences in CAD, cardiologists are making earlier diagnoses, powered by

more accurate testing techniques for heart disease in women. In many hospitals, the female patient is now offered treatment options equivalent to those of men, with equivalent or better outcome.

Nevertheless, studies by Shaare Zedek's Cardiothoracic Surgery Department revealed that most of the 7,000 Israelis who underwent coronary bypass surgery in 1996 were men. Furthermore, the mortality rate after such surgery is 2.8% in men and 4.6% in women, because women who reach the operating theater have the more advanced stage of heart disease.

Shaare Zedek performed 1,200 coronary bypasses during the past three years, 77% of them on men. Some 45% of the women and only 31% of the men who undergo this surgery suffer from the most serious disease, Stage IV.



Cardiothoracic Surgery

Early Detection Key to Breast Cancer Survival:

Establishing the Adele Kanarek Unit For Early Detection and Prevention of Breast Cancer

One woman out of every eight born in Israel will develop breast cancer at some stage in her life — higher than the general world incidence, which places the risk at one in ten women.

Since early detection followed by prompt treatment definitely increases the chances of survival — meaning that breast cancer can be cured, Shaare Zedek established the *Unit for the Early Detection and Prevention of Breast Cancer*, named in memory of Adele Kanarek. Visits to the unit are free and vital services are provided to women without regard to their finances.

The importance of early detection drives Shaare Zedek's constant quest to promote increased awareness. The risk factors of breast cancer, which increase with age, include family history, early puberty or late menopause, delayed child-bearing or previous cancers.

The first stage of the visit to the Adele Kanarek Unit includes careful documenta-



A hopeful cancer patient carrying an ambulatory infusion device for patient controlled analgesia.

tion of the woman's family history and an investigation of other possible risk factors.

The oncologist's check-up involves a palpation examination, and the oncologist may refer the patient for a mammography, also offered by Shaare Zedek.

Orthodox Jewish and Arab women, who constitute a large portion of the Jerusalem community, are unlikely to turn to the "regular" channels for such examinations. Attuned to their very specialized needs, Shaare Zedek uses female oncologists in the clinic. This fact has become known to women in the Orthodox Jewish and Arab community, and they now turn to Shaare Zedek for breast examinations, in some cases, for the first time in their lives. Of course, all patients are treated without regard to their ethnic or religious background — and receive the same high quality of medical care.

The medical team at the unit is multi-disciplinary: It includes oncologists, palliative medicine (pain management) specialists, surgeons, geneticists, psychologists and other specialists.

Researching Causes of Breast and Ovarian Cancer

Shaare Zedek's *Medical Genetics Laboratory*, headed by Dr. Efrat Levy-Lahad, emphasizes research into the various genetic causes of breast and ovarian cancer. This is another illustration of the importance Shaare Zedek places on early detection. Dr. Levy-Lahad, who helped

discover one of the Alzheimer's genes which causes pre-senile Alzheimer's disease, works closely with the medical center's *Laboratory for Cancer Cell Research*, as part of the effort to identify families with a predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer.

Using molecular probes, researchers study genetic defects in people and families predisposed to certain types of cancer, as well as the molecular causes for the development of tumors.

Cancer is usually caused by a series of mutations in the genetic material in the cellular nucleus. Specific mutations cause the various cancers. The best known genetic alteration related to breast cancer was found in a gene called BRCA1 (breast cancer 1). Certain changes in this gene, which plays an important role in the normal growth of mammary cells, will lead to cancer, and may also lead to ovarian cancer.

Determining the exact mechanism by which breast cancer is caused may lead to better and earlier diagnosis, and to new methods of therapy.

Research at Shaare Zedek is focusing on characterizing the BRCA1 gene mutation in Jewish families with a predisposition to breast or ovarian cancer. So far only one mutation in this gene is known and this was characterized in Ashkenazi families.

Shaare Zedek's *Cancer Cell Research Laboratory* is the first in Israel to test for all four of the common mutations which cause hereditary breast (and ovarian) cancer, and serves as a reference laboratory for other medical centers in Israel.



Dr. Efrat Levy-Lahad (R) in Shaare Zedek's Medical Genetics Laboratory



Conducting genetic research

Women's Three Life Cycles Get Special Attention in The Wilf Woman and Infant Center

Women have three distinct life cycles, each with its own set of medical and emotional problems and needs. The Wilf Woman and Infant Center devotes particular attention to each cycle, with medical specialists and clinics dedicated to the various needs associated with each.



1) Adolescence: Eating disorders and sexually transmitted diseases are the most common groups of medical problems associated with this cycle. The Wilf Woman and Infant Center, therefore, will have female nutritionists, gynecologists, social workers and a psychologist trained in adolescent medicine on staff to provide

comprehensive, multidisciplinary courses of treatment to adolescents, who are all too often treated by pediatricians. What's more, an Adolescent Outpatient Clinic, the only one in Jerusalem, is being established.

2) Fertility Years: There are numerous health problems — both physiological and emotional — associated with women in the workplace, most often related to pregnancy and to the pressures of having to care for others — children and parents — while working.



3) Post-menopausal: Osteoporosis, depression, Alzheimer's disease, breast and ovarian cancer are associated with women in this cycle. Most of these conditions are more common in women than men and are treated best and are less harmful when detected early. What's more, a diet high in calcium starting in the adolescent years can avert osteoporosis in later years. This is another reason why nutritionists are on hand to work with adolescents.



In addition, since as noted above, heart disease is prevalent among women and can even occur in pre-menopausal women, a female cardiologist is a member of the Wilf Woman and Infant Center medical team.

Dancer's Genetic Cardiac Disorder Discovered at Shaare Zedek

Twenty-two-year-old Dana (not her real name) has been studying dance since she was a little girl. For years she dreamt of dancing on stage professionally, enthraling audiences. When, at



last, her gala debut performance was scheduled, she was overcome with excitement. She was so excited, apparently, that she fainted.

Her co-performers soon realized that this was more than a fainting spell brought on by excitement. They sensed something was seriously wrong and rushed Dana to Shaare Zedek's Emergency Room. She arrived clinically dead; she had no pulse and was not breathing. She was

immediately resuscitated and, still unconscious and suffering from irregular heart-beat, transferred to the Jesselson Heart Center's Cardiology Department.

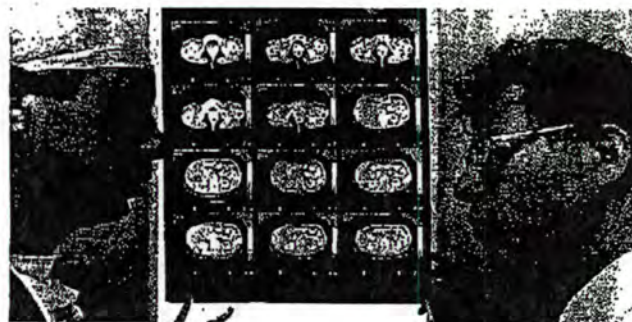
After performing an extremely comprehensive series of tests on her, Shaare Zedek's geneticists and cardiologists diagnosed that Dana suffers from a cardiac condition known as "long QT syndrome," a genetic disorder which may cause sudden death. Her potentially fatal condition can now be controlled with medications to regulate her heart rate.

Also as a result of this diagnosis, Dana's relatives are currently undergoing

tests to discover which family members are at risk. So far two additional carriers have been located. This investigation will enable physicians to provide her relatives at risk with the same potentially life-saving medications that she now uses.

Dana says she always believed that her gala dance debut performance would be "the most important day" of her life. She now admits that, even though she is still looking forward to this exciting occasion, the most important moment in her life was when her life was saved at Shaare Zedek.

Shaare Zedek places particular emphasis on diseases which in the past were not considered to be caused by genetics, but which the hospital's geneticists have now discovered can be traced genetically. Increased awareness regarding various genetic disorders may lead to avoidance, early detection and better chances of control.



The First-Ever Bi-National Women's Health Conference

"Promoting Women's Health Across Generations" was the theme of the first-ever Israeli-U.S. health conference, held in Jerusalem in December.

U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala and Israeli Minister of Health Yehoshua Matza convened the conference; Dr. Rachel Adatto-Levy, deputy director-general of



U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala and Israeli Minister of Health Yehoshua Matza exchange gifts at a dinner in the Knesset during the conference.

Shaare Zedek, a gynecologist and advisor on women's health issues to Minister Matza, served as conference chair. In addition to Secretary Shalala, Minister Matza, Dr. Adatto-Levy and leading health care experts from both countries, U.S. Ambassador to Israel Edward Walker, Jerusalem Mayor Olmert and Sara Netanyahu, wife of Israel's Prime Minister, addressed the conference.

"Our goal," Secretary Shalala declared, "should be to protect women's health from the first day to the last."

Improving women's health — as girls, working women and as seniors

Shaare Zedek's American delegation, comprised of some 30 people from across the U.S., was chaired by Harriet Mouchly-Weiss, founder and managing partner of the marketing firm Strategy XXI, who is also a consultant to the U.S. Department of Commerce and Housing and Urban Development and an officer of the Committee of 200, the most prestigious group of women entrepreneurs in the U.S.

"Our bi-national conference was dedicated to discussions and practical suggestions aimed at improving women's

health — as adolescents, during fertility years, and as seniors," Harriet noted. "We exchanged ideas with leaders of the Israeli and American medical and scientific communities who formulate health-care policy and we explored women's health care initiatives.

"One of Shaare Zedek's primary missions," she pointed out, "has always been the continual advancement of women's healthcare. We are delighted that this issue is now getting the attention it deserves."

Some of the many significant points made at the conference included:

- Women are living longer but not necessarily better or healthier, while men die quickly.
- Until recently, clinical research on the benefits of new medications and treatments were

conducted almost solely on men, mostly by men. The results were extrapolated from male patients to women, even though the treatments' efficacy and safety for women were not certain.



Harriet Mouchly-Weiss, chair of Shaare Zedek's American delegation, addresses the conference.

- Smoking affects women in ways that do not affect men. Estrogen's protective advantage on the heart and blood vessels seems to be negated by smoking. The result: Lung cancer is three to five times more likely to occur in women smokers than men smokers.
- Women are at higher risk of contracting osteoporosis, depression, diabetes and autoimmune diseases than men.

- Strokes cause more deaths in women.

Women and heart disease

• Women even have different heart attack symptoms than men, complaining more of neck and shoulder pain than the traditional "male" symptom of chest pain. As a result, doctors who still think younger women "can't have" heart attacks dismiss their symptoms, with dire consequences.

• Once women have their first heart attack, they are more than twice as likely to die during the few weeks of recovery as men, and more women than men will have a second heart attack during the following year.

• When women get the same high-level treatment for heart disease as men, the outcome is as good, or better. (See story on page 1 for more details.)



Conference chair Dr. Rachel Adatto-Levy, deputy director-general of Shaare Zedek and advisor on women's health issues to Minister Matza (left), discusses issues with Sara Netanyahu, wife of Israel's Prime Minister.

At the conclusion of the conference Dr. Adatto-Levy promised that a 30-member steering committee would

meet monthly to help advise the Ministry of Health as to how to implement recommendations made. She added her hope to see another bi-national conference in a few years to note the progress in women's health in both countries.

"We will network and collaborate with our Israeli counterparts to advance women's healthcare," Harriet added.



At the conference, Pnina Herzog, vice chairman of the World Health Organization Executive Board and president of the International Council of Women, shares a laugh with Hadassah Lieberman, wife of U.S. Senator Joseph Lieberman.

September 28, 1999
י"ח תשרי, תש"ס

Ms. Malanne Verveen
Chief of Staff of
The First Lady
Hillary Radham Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Malanne,

We were extremely delighted to learn of the official announcement confirming Mrs. Clinton's visit to Israel.

As we agreed by telephone, the following is a draft of the itinerary which Mrs. Barak has recommended for Mrs. Clinton:

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

09:00 — Visit to a Jewish-Arab kindergarten in Jerusalem or meeting
with a special unit of Israeli women soldiers —
09:45-10:45 Travel to Kfar Saba (near Tel Aviv)
10:45-11:30 Visit to information and consultation center for youth,
including the presentation of "Elam on Wheels", a reachout for
distressed and homeless youth
13:00 Luncheon
15:50 Travel to Conference at Tel Aviv University
16:00-18:00 Conference at Tel Aviv University
20:30 Dinner at the Prime Minister's Residence

Thursday, November 11, 1999

08:30-10:00 Intimate breakfast with Mrs. Reumah Weizman, wife of the
President, at the Prime Minister's Residence (will be proposed
to Mrs. Weizman)
10:00-11:00 Travel to Petach Tikvah (near Tel Aviv)
11:00-11:30 Visit to the Women's Health Center in the Rabin Medical
Center in Petach Tikvah

Further details regarding all locations and arrangements will be sent to you within the next few days. This schedule is flexible pending Mrs. Clinton's preference.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,

Vered Fishbeim
Personal Assistant to Mrs. Barak

רח' קפלן 3, הקריה, ירושלים 91919 טל: 02-6705555

3 Kaplan St. Hakiry, Jerusalem 91919, Israel, Tel: 972-2-6705555

JAYCEE A. PRIBULSKY

10/12/99 09:18:50 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Katharine Button/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: middle east 

I keep hearing about a ton of staff (and former staff) interest for the trip. So, I would like to try to get a handle on it so we can take care of all the staff folks plus send out some people who can roll over to Greece, Turkey and Italy for Brian's slates.

She's not going to Jerusalem right? I thought you said Tel Aviv only but then I thought I was mistaken... And I don't know where the RONS are...

This is all I have so far:

West Bank

LEAD -	Caleb Shreve
Site -	TBD
Site -	TBD
Pr Lead -	TBD
P2	TBD

Tel Aviv

LEAD -	Rick Jasculca
Site -	TBD
Site -	TBD
Pr Lead -	TBD
P2	TBD
RON ?	

Ruby
Chris Lavery
Noa

Amman

LEAD -	Roshann Parris
Site -	TBD
Site -	TBD
Pr Lead -	David Neslen
P2	TBD
RON ?	

Nicole
Lissa
Kathy

Petra

LEAD -	Patrick Halley
Site -	TBD
Site -	TBD
Pr Lead -	Lisa Strassburg
P2	Jon Robell
RON ?	

Erica Rose

Istanbul - Sara + Lavery
Brenda

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. fax	To Katy Button From Leatrise Carter re: First Lady Meeting Middle East (partial) (1 page)	08/02/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20038

FOLDER TITLE:

Israel/Jordan/Yemen

2013-0534-S
ry1583

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]

FAX MESSAGE

TO: KATY Button

FROM: LEATRICE CARTER

Fax: 456-6244

Phone: 202-647-7170

Subject: FIRST LADY (MEETING MIDDLE EAST)

Date:

Number of Pages, including this cover sheet: 01

Message:

Attending the Meeting will be.

Hon. Vastanding SSN-
DOB-

(b)(6)

[002]

Liz L Drabble SSN-
DOB-

(b)(6)

Please Confirm Receipt
Thank you
L. Carter
647-7170

BC-CLINTON-HILLARY-ISRAEL

Mrs. Clinton postpones trip to Israel

WASHINGTON, June 10 (Reuters) - First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday postponed a trip to Israel scheduled for later this month because Israeli Prime Minister-elect Ehud Barak is still trying to form a government, her office said.

A statement from her office said the trip was being postponed on the advice of the U.S. State Department and that it would be rescheduled as soon as possible.

``Because Israel is still in the process of forming a government, a visit at this time would be inappropriate. A new date will be set as soon as possible,' ' the statement said.

Mrs. Clinton, who is leaning toward running for a seat in the U.S. Senate, had been scheduled to visit Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Yemen in late June after accompanying her husband President Bill Clinton on a European tour.

The trip had originally been scheduled for March but was postponed on the death of Jordan's King Hussein and the Israeli elections.

She still plans to stop in Fez, Morocco, on her way back from the Europe trip, her office said.

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 06/10/99 at 14:43EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 06/10/99 at 14:56EDT ****

On the advice of the State Department, the First Lady's trip to the Middle East, which was to include Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Yemen and which was scheduled for later this month, has been postponed. As a result, the First Lady regrettably will be unable to attend the Emerging Democracy Conference in Yemen. 

The trip was originally scheduled for March and was postponed due to King Hussein's death and the pending Israeli elections. Because Israel is still in the process of forming a government, a visit at this time would be inappropriate. A new date will be set as soon as possible.

Q + A

- 1- Does this have anything to do w/ HRC's
- 2- why does this mean she can't go?
[can't say politically can't]
- 3- So why can't she do the rest?

Martin Indyk
647-7209



nate@ndi.org

06/04/99 11:51:00 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Evan Ryan@eop, Katharine Button@EOP

cc:

Subject: Yemen Times Article

Momentum Increases for Sanaa-Hosted Summit of Democratizing Nations

<http://www.yementimes.com/99/iss22/front.htm#1>

The pace is picking up. Preparations for the summit of 160 delegates are in full swing. Already, there are confirmations from 100 participants, including several heads of state and government. But, the jewel on the crown is Hillary Clinton - also confirmed.

The event, slated for 27-30 June, 1999, is being organized by the Washington-based National Democratic Institute. The Yemeni Government is more than glad to host the officials and pro-democracy activists from Benin, Bolivia, El-Salvador, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Macedonia, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, and, of course, Yemen.

Yemeni officials are trying hard to play their cards right on this occasion which is an immense public relations opportunity. Several steps have been taken in this regard. First, the political spectrum of Yemen was brought in to participate. The Yemeni official delegation of ten persons includes representatives from the ruling PGC party, some of the larger opposition parties and well-known pro-democracy activists.

Second, the general public is being informed of what the event is all about. A major information drive is in the works to explain who is coming, why this group will be here together, and what it all means for our people.

Third, and most important of all, President Saleh is reaching out to key local media personalities. He is making a plea on the basis that "We are all in this together." Not everyone has been won over yet, but he has made several attempts, and is expected to make more over the next weeks.

Meanwhile, Sanaa is busy getting ready to receive its many distinguished guests. Kendall Dwyer, forum coordinator, has already arrived. She will stay put till the end of the event. Yemeni officials are worried about the large number of support staff and media personnel coming with the delegates. "Where to put them and what kind of facilities they will need is a major concern." Mrs. Clinton alone is coming with some 60 assistants. Already her pre-advance team of security and logistics personnel have paid a quick visit to Sanaa.

Some of the heads of state/government will have a similar

number of people in their entourage. The major hotels in the city are fully booked. Visitors not associated with the conference will have to stay out of Sanaa during the second half of June.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. fax	To Katy Button From Alyse Nelson re: information (partial) (1 page)	06/02/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20038

FOLDER TITLE:

Israel/Jordan/Yemen

2013-0534-S
ry1583

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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- 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]



The President's Interagency Council on Women

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Honorary ChairSecretary of State Madeleine K. Albright
ChairSecretary of Health and Human Services
Donna Shalala, Immediate Past ChairDATE: June 2TO: Katy Button
ORGANIZATION: _____
PHONE: _____ FAX: 456-6244FROM: Alyse Nelson
PHONE: 647-6195 FAX: _____MESSAGE: My DOB + SS#DOB (b)(6)
and SS# (b)(6)

[003]

FOR 2pm meeting June 3rd
Thanks!NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 1 page

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. fax	To Katie Button From Kristi Hunt re: Clearance Information for Tomorrow's Meeting (partial) (1 page)	06/02/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20038

FOLDER TITLE:

Israel/Jordan/Yemen

2013-0534-S
ry1583

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- 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]



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE: 6/2/99

TO:

ATTENTION: Katie Button
FAX PHONE: 202-456-6244ORGANIZATION: First Lady's Office
OFFICE PHONE: 202-456-6266

FROM:

ORIGINATOR: Kristi Hunt
FAX PHONE: 202-216-3386ORGANIZATION: USAID/ANE
OFFICE PHONE: 202-712-1607SUBJECT: Clearance information for tomorrow's meetingNUMBER OF PAGES *(including this cover sheet):* 1

COMMENTS: Hi Katie, Here is the information for the USAID participants.

Robert C. Randolph
John Wilkinson
Kim Finan
Kristine Hunt

(b)(6)

and Liz Notman (she will already be in the building for another meeting).

[004]

Thanks you, Kristi



United States Information Service

memorandum

Date: June 3, 1999

To: KATY BUTTON - OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

Through: PAO - Robert J. Callahan

From: Gene E Bigler, Press Attaché *GEB*

Subject: Ambassador Thomas Foglietta's proposed assistance for the First Lady's visit to Palermo

As we discussed by phone on Tuesday, there are two important ways that the Ambassador believes that he can assist the First Lady's visit.

First, as the Ambassador's Office already communicated to you, he is enthusiastic about providing a 2-3 minute statement about the importance of volunteerism and public service to help set the stage for the First Lady's remarks during the opening session of the conference. The goal is to create a framework for the First Lady's speech (see attached draft). This will also enable him to accentuate the significance of the event and cooperation in civic development for the well being of both our countries and our other neighbors.

Second, we have been considering how we can help the First Lady with dinner arrangements given the timing of the speakers meeting and the speech itself. We see two options. One, the First Lady could have a private dinner, perhaps with key staff. The Ambassador would be happy to accompany her. Two, we could organize a small dinner for some of the major participants in the conference that the Ambassador would host on behalf of the First Lady. Of course, the timing of both the start and closing of the dinner may be somewhat difficult to control because of uncertainties related to the program and logistics.

We look forward to discussing the details of scheduling for these two important activities.

Jordan INFORMATION BUREAU

e-mail: jordaninfo@aol.com

2319 WYOMING AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

(202) 265-1606

FAX (202) 667-0777

FAX TRANSMISSION

Date:	June 2, 1999		
To:	Ms. Katharine Button	From:	Diala Al-Alami
	Assistant Chief of Staff		Jordan Information Bureau
	Office of the First Lady		Washington, DC
Phone:	(202) 456-6266	Phone:	(202) 265-1606
Fax:	(202) 456-6244	Fax:	(202) 667-0777

No. of Pages, including cover: 4**Remarks:**

Dear Katharine -

Thank you for your message yesterday re. Her Majesty's speech and for getting back to me so quickly in that regard.

Kindly find attached the press release on Her Majesty Queen Rania's participation at the 'Lessons Without Borders' conference in Chicago today.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Diala Al-Alami
Jordan Information Bureau

*For information on general, political, economic, consular and tourism issues***VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.jordanembassyus.org>**

Press Release
Wednesday, June 2, 1999

Washington, DC – Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah Wednesday addressed Jordan's experience in micro-finance, highlighting the status of women in the Kingdom. Delivering the keynote address to the second annual 'Lessons Without Borders' Conference in Chicago, Her Majesty cited the Bani Hamida women's weaving project as one of the successful examples of micro-enterprise in Jordan.

Bani Hamida is a self-sustaining income generation project for rural women, providing opportunities for families to increase their incomes while also promoting handicrafts in Jordan. "These women are receiving training that is increasing their business knowledge. They network with each other and the project continues to expand," Her Majesty said.

"My country is a good example of the kind of challenges faced by a relatively new market in a land of few natural resources. Jordan does however, enjoy the legacy of a leadership which placed the utmost faith in the ability and resourcefulness of its people," Her Majesty said.

Her Majesty also highlighted the advances Jordanian women have made over the last few decades, particularly in education and economic empowerment. "In Jordan, women are being encouraged to pioneer and build their own businesses," she said, adding that many of the challenges they face resemble those confronting women around the world.

Queen Rania also spoke about the status of women in Islam, indicating that the religion is one of fairness and social justice. "Women in Islamic history were active and dedicated members of the community, who played important roles in the life of the Muslim nation," she said.

'Lessons Without Borders' is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) initiative which is committed to applying lessons learned from the Agency's global experiences to local problems in the United States. Since the micro-enterprise experience in the US is relatively young, USAID hopes to learn from its international initiatives to help further and enhance micro-enterprise development. The conference brought together businesswomen from around the world who aimed to share their experiences and enhance their professional networks.

Her Majesty Queen Rania has a strong interest in micro-finance, establishing in 1995 the Jordan River Foundation which, among other initiatives, carries out micro-enterprise projects throughout the Kingdom, as well as business training for women and other activities such as craft production.

Her Majesty visited the Jordan River Foundation booth at the conference Wednesday, accompanied by USAID Deputy Administrator Ambassador Harriett Babbitt and Mrs. Daley, wife of Chicago Mayor Richard Daley.

Her Majesty Queen Rania Wednesday was welcomed to Chicago by Mrs. Daley who read a letter from the Mayor to conference participants, expressing his support of the 'Women Mean Business' conference. In her opening remarks, Ambassador Babbitt also welcomed Queen Rania to the conference.

In taped remarks for conference participants, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who chairs the conference, said that "by taking lessons we've learned overseas and applying them in our own communities, 'Lessons Without Borders' are helping to improve the lives of thousands of American children and families."

Upcoming conference in Jordan with First Lady Hillary Clinton

Her Majesty Queen Rania also announced today an upcoming conference in Jordan focusing on micro-enterprises, to be held at the end of the month as a joint effort with First Lady Hillary Clinton. "I look forward to joining the First Lady in her crusade to generate investment capital for new businesses and the underprivileged in inner cities and rural areas," Her Majesty said.

Queen Rania visits Women's Self-Employment Project in Chicago

Her Majesty Wednesday also visited and received a briefing from the Women's Self-Employment Project in Chicago. The largest micro-enterprise program targeting low-income urban women in the United States, the Women's Self-Employment Project is the winner of the first Presidential Award for Excellence: Poverty Alleviation, awarded by the White House in 1997. It was also the first organization to adapt the internationally renowned Bangladeshi Grameen Bank model to a US urban setting. The organization's founder Connie Evans is renowned for developing and implementing programs to further economic development, health and social change in low-income communities around the US.

UNDP regional conference for Arab businesswomen

Her Majesty Queen Rania has lent her support to the idea of a regional meeting focusing on empowering the Arab businesswoman, to be held in Amman at the end of this year. Her Majesty has welcomed this initiative, organized by the United Nations Development Program's Regional Bureau for Arab States, which aims in particular to strengthen Arab women involved in small and micro-enterprises.

NOTIONAL SCHEDULE
FLOTUS VISIT TO JORDAN, ISRAEL, WEST BANK, GAZA, YEMEN AND MOROCCO

Jordan (Control: Janet Sanderson/Roberta Newell)

- Jordanian Women's Conference on Microfinance (AM?)
 - Keynote by Mrs. Clinton followed by presentation of awards to women entrepreneurs, promoters, etc.
 - Report from Jordanian attendees of Chicago event "Lesson without Borders" (Queen Rania to have attended during her US trip); video clips about MF in Jordan.
 - Invitees would include microfinance practitioners, GOJ officials, banks, NGOs, reps of women's groups
- *Amman* Abdullah/Rania meetings
- Roundtable/coffee discussion on women's political, legal, and human rights issues in Jordan sponsored by Jordan National Women's Committee (2 hours, 25 invitees)
Cancer Research Center
- Visit to Madaba Comprehensive Post-Partum Clinic
deliverable?
- Visit to Petra (one day, via helicopter)
 - Visit to archeological site
 - Visit with women microfinance clients in Wadi Musa
 - Visit to USAID wastewater project in Wadi Musa

Israel (Control: Edgard Kagan)

- Depart via IDF helicopter for Sea of Galilee area

Option 1

small business

- Visit to Bet Gavriel to meet with/address women IDF soldiers (1 hour)
 - Visit Christian sites [Mount of Beatitudes (Sermon on the Mount)/ Capernaum (ruins of house where Jesus lived with Peter and synagogue where Jesus preached)/Tagba (Byzantine church with mosaics; site of loaves and fishes)] (1 ½ hours)
 - X • Arab sector NGO roundtable/lunch in Haifa (1 ½ hours)
 - Visit to Bahai World Center (45 minutes)
 - *Russian/Ethiopian immigrants*
- Option 2

- Visit Christian sites as per above

women's groups - speech?

- Meet with women IDF soldiers
- Lunch at a Kibbutz Degania with women elected officials. (1 ½ hours)
- Drive to Nazareth (45 minutes)
- Arab sector NGO roundtable in Nazareth; possible participants to include Al-Tufula Center (services for Israeli Arab women and children) and Women Against Violence (runs shelters and halfway houses for women and abused girls). (1-1 ½ hours)
- Visit Church of the Annunciation
- Meeting with President and Mrs. Weizman (30 minutes) followed by dinner at the President's residence in Caesaria.

Kosovo family

Return to Jerusalem

DAY 2

- Meeting with Meeting with Prime Minister (45 minutes)
- Meeting with Jerusalem Mayor Olmert (15-30 minutes)

Option 1

- Visit old city religious sites in Jerusalem (2 ½ hours)
 - Church of the Holy Sepulchre
 - Temple Mount/Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque

Option 2

- *Speech WEZ*
Women's Legal Roundtable at the Israeli Supreme Court to discuss legal and social issues. (1 ½ hours) *3 female justices*
trafficking?
- Roundtable meeting with Russian and Ethiopian immigrant high school students (1 hour) **OR**
- Meeting with Merchavim (NGO focused on developing shared citizenship in Israeli society) (1 hour)
- Lunch/roundtable discussion with women students at Hebrew University; mixed group of Israelis (including Arab Israelis) and Palestinians. (1 ½ hours)
- Visit Haredi Primary School (ultra-orthodox) (45 minutes)
- Visit Hebrew Union College (reform rabbinical students) (1 hour)

** 420 vashem*

- Visit Na'amat Day Care Center or pre-natal care clinic (1 hour)
- Reception hosted by Ambassador Walker

Gaza

(Only if Mrs. Arafat insists; if Gaza is included, should visit Windows Magazine, as visit there was cancelled in December.)

West Bank

- *Health* Address to representatives of the Women's Affairs Technical Committee in Ramallah (USAID has provided some funding)
- Visit Women's Technical Training Institute in Ramallah
- Address on promotion of development of civil society at a Civic Forum town hall meeting (USAID grantee)
- Lunch with elected women members of the Palestinian Legislative Council and other Palestinian women
- Tour Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation or other hospital
- Meet with Palestinian and Israeli junior correspondents for an interview for their Hebrew-Arabic-English magazine.
- Roundtable discussion with women's labor rights activists at an event hosted by the Palestinian Working Women's Society (PWWS)

O Arafat mt.
Yemen (Control: Margaret Scobey/Lynn Donovan)

- Evening of June 29: bilateral meetings with other foreign participants at Emerging Democracies Forum

June 30:

- Deliver address on Women in Politics at Emerging Democracies Forum hosted by the ROYG
- Meet with National Women's Committee (quasi-NGO?) and the Women's Research Center at Sanaa University. Lunch??? Roundtable discussion???
- Meet with USAID scholarship alumni (not only women)

Saudi Arabia

- Jeddah
- Prince Sultan Air Base

Morocco (Fes only) (Control: Matt Lussenhop)

- Opening of USAID-funded maternity ward at the Ibn Khatib Hospital
- Deliver commencement address at Al-Akhawayn University in Ifrane
- Roundtable discussion with NGO leaders focusing on women's rights, civil society, human rights, environment and education
- Cultural tour of the Fes medina

VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TO JORDAN

TENTATIVE ACTIVITY SITE VISITS

1. **Petra, a World Heritage Site, one of the premiere tourist destinations of the Middle East.**

Location: Petra (3 hour drive; 1 hour helicopter)
Visit includes: A visit by the First Lady to Petra would showcase Jordan's single most important tourist site and highlight the extent to which the USG has participated in its preservation
Approximate time: 1 day or ½ day, depending on transport
Event: Tour and meeting with preservation officials

2. **Comprehensive Post Partum Center**

Location: Salt or Madaba – either is 30 minutes from Amman
Visit includes: A visit by the First Lady to a USAID-funded post-partum center at Madaba, Salt or elsewhere near Amman would highlight health and family planning as important issues facing Jordan, and acknowledge USG cooperation in addressing them
Approximate time: 2 hours
Event: Visit on a “normal” day, meet and talk with women in child-healthcare/family planning program

3. **Al Emir Hassan Industrial Estate (Irbid)**

Location: City of Irbid, north of Amman
Visit includes: A visit by the First Lady would publicize the benefits that QIZ has brought to Jordan and the region. It is a success story that demonstrates grass roots-level cooperation between Jordan and Israel.
Approximate time: 3 hours
Event: briefing by officials from the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) and the Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (JIEC), followed by a visit to one or two factories, lead by Jordanian entrepreneurs and their Israeli and American counterparts.

4. **Women's Microenterprise Development in East Amman**

Location: Low-income neighborhood 20 minutes from central Amman
Visit includes: A site visit by the First Lady to underscore the USG's commitment to sustainable microfinance lending in Jordan. It would also help highlight the significant opportunities that exist in Jordan for women under such programs.
Approximate time: 2 hours
Event: Visit female clients in their places of work (e.g., retail business, beauty shop, dressmaker, etc.), or a number of female borrowers

would assemble in a local community center to display their products and discuss their program directly with the First Lady.

5. Queen and Princesses at Royal Palace on Status of Women in Jordan

Location: Royal Palace – 20 minutes from Embassy

Visit includes: A meeting with Queen Rania and the Princesses who are involved with sponsoring many activities and organizations related to the status of women and families in Jordan.

Approximate time: 90 minutes

Event: Could also be a visit to one of the organizations supported by the royals, such the Princess Basma Women's Resource Center for a power point presentation on the status of women in Jordan, developed with USAID funds and technical assistance; or a guided visit to the Women's Information Center, combined with a general discussion with members of the General Federation of Jordanian Women

ILLUSTRATIVE THREE-DAY SCHEDULE FOR 1999 FLOTUS VISIT

DAY ONE

- 7:45 Depart Hotel (Amman)
- 8:00 Depart Marka Airport by Helicopter for Wadi Mousa
- 9:00 Arrive Wadi Mousa
- 9:15 Begin Tour of Petra (walk through Siq, visit Treasury, see Amphitheatre)
- 10:30 Official Opening Ceremony for something > > ?Byzantine Church Site
- 11:45 Depart Petra by Road (back entrance)
- 12:00 Lunch at Wadi Mousa
- 13:30 Depart Wadi Mousa by Road for Wadi Dana
- 14:30 Arrive Wadi Dana, Visit Peace Corps site, meet Peace Corps volunteers
- 16:00 Depart Wadi Dana or Tufila
- 18:30 Arrive Hotel (Amman)

DAY TWO

- 9:00 Depart Hotel (Amman)
- 9:15 Arrive JWDS Offices for Microenterprise Briefing
- 10:00 Depart JWDS Offices for East Amman
- 10:15 "Walk Through" of Selected Microenterprise Sites in East Amman
- 11:45 Depart Microenterprise Sites
- 12:15 Lunch
- 14:00 Depart for Women's Information Center/General Federation of Jordanian Women

14:15 Tour Women's Information Center
15:15 Depart Women's Information Center
16:00 "Town Hall" Meeting at Embassy (State, USAID, DOD, Peace Corps, etc.)
17:00 Depart for Hotel
19:00 Dinner Hosted by Queen
22:00 Depart Dinner
22:15 Arrive Hotel (Amman)

DAY THREE

8:45 Depart Hotel (Amman)
9:30 Arrive Madaba Comprehensive Post Partum Center
11:00 Depart Madaba
12:30 Arrive Irbid Qualified Industrial Zone (QIZ) for lunch
14:00 Tour 1-2 Selected QIZ Industries
15:30 Depart Irbid
16:30 Arrive Hotel (Amman)

Sharon A. Wiener

Director

Office of Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria

Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Ph: (202) 647-2670
Fax: (202) 647-0989

VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TO WEST BANK/GAZA

TENTATIVE ACTIVITY SITE VISITS

1. The Palestinian Working Women's Society (PWWS), a Palestinian NGO

Location: a rural community in the West Bank (perhaps near Ramallah, Bethlehem or Nablus)

Visit includes: attending a civic education session of a local women's group

Approximate visit time: TBD

Possible Event: meet with the rural Palestinian women to receive and exchange information on their roles as citizens and participation in the governing system.

2. Women's employment, Palestinian-Israeli Cooperation, Gaza Industrial Estate

Location: Gaza Industrial Estate on the Palestinian side of the Gaza/Israel border, 10-15 minutes from the Erez Checkpoint (crossing from Israel to Gaza).

Visit includes: viewing the completed first phase of construction (22 factory buildings)

Approximate visit time: TBD

Possible Event: Meet several of the 16 "pioneer" investors, discuss their reasons for choosing to locate factories at this site, and observe factories in action.

3. Deir Istiya Village (West Bank) in conjunction with the UNDP

Location: a village in northern West Bank, not far from Nablus.

Visit includes: viewing the water transmission line to the village and a water distribution network and reservoir within the village

Approximate visit time: TBD

Possible Event: visit the water reservoir and the small mother and child health clinic nearby

4. Marda Village (West Bank) water activity

Location: village in northern West Bank, about half way between Nablus and Ramallah

Visit includes:

Approximate visit time: TBD

Possible Event: meet with the Association of Women's Committees for Social work (a Palestinian group) to discuss the benefits this reliable, inexpensive source of water has

had on women's well-being and in improving family health, especially the children.

5. Women's Leaders - Women's Affairs Technical Committee (WATC) - a Palestinian NGO

Location: Ramallah (West Bank) and Gaza City

Visit includes: meeting with about five women leaders

Approximate visit time: TBD

Possible event: Discussion on a range of political perspectives and the priority concerns expressed by Palestinian women, such as equality for women, freedom of expression and inclusion of women in the public policy process

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Peace partners turn

To foster joint projects between Israel and Jordan, the US has created a zone where international business executives are free to

IRBID, JORDAN — At the Century Ladies Wear plant in the industrial zone just outside this northern Jordanian city, hundreds of women are busy sewing, finishing, checking and packing. The workers, nearly all wearing the traditional Arab woman's head covering known as the *hijab*, are assembling bras, panties, men's briefs and boxer shorts for such designer brands as Ralph Lauren, Gap, Calvin Klein and Victoria's Secret.

The labels on the underwear read "Made in Israel."

Under a special agreement passed by the US Congress in 1996, both Israeli and Jordanian industries located in this free-trade zone can export goods to the US market under the customs-free conditions granted to Israeli products. To qualify for free-trade access to the US market, without reciprocity, at least 20 percent of the production costs or at least 11.7% product components must be Israeli.

The man who has done more than anyone to make this concept a reality is Century's chief executive, 31-year-old Omar Salah, one of a new breed of American-educated Jordanian financial wizards. Salah relates that his initial inspiration struck as he was driving his car down a California freeway listening to radio reports on the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan.

"Being an optimist, I thought that surely this would lead to a lot of business and a lot of cross-border ties that could be very positive in every sense of the word," said Salah.

With that in mind, he returned to Jordan, set up a business with an American partner and started making forays into Israel to try to convince Israeli companies to set up joint ventures that would take advantage of Jordan's low production costs. His first targets were those companies who had ties with multinational companies doing business in Israel.

"I realized there was a very strong potential, not only in terms of business, but also in terms of the positive energy and consequences that it could bring to Jordan," Salah explains. "Traditionally Jordan has not been an exporter to Western markets, and I thought that if we could combine our strengths with the strengths of some of those multinational companies that have been working in Israel, we could bring out a combination that is stronger than the sum of the parts."

Indeed, those Israeli firms that compete in the global market began setting up base in Irbid to tap into the lower Jordanian labor costs. And capital-hungry Jordanian firms saw the benefits of taking advantage of Israeli expertise and access to European and US markets. Today Century has built successful joint ventures with 10 of the 57 companies that

have set up shop in the Irbid zone, such as Danone, Motorola and Sarah Lee, which owns shares in the Israeli Delta Galil textile company. Delta was the first Israeli company to set up operations in Irbid (see sidebar for company focus).

WITH HIS longish, trendy haircut, pale-green sports jacket and matching tie, and American-accented English, Salah reminds one of an upper class Yalie. Even his secretary resembles an American college girl, with her cropped hair and striped, above-the-knees overalls. Century's corporate office in Amman, however, is pure Arabian opulence, with marble floors and wooden door fittings in the shape of the company logo.

Until fairly recently, Salah assiduously tried to keep his name out of the press. Many Jordanians, particularly members of the opposition parties, consider him "defiled" by his business association with the Israelis. They are adamantly opposed to the free-trade zone, fearing economic domination by the mythically powerful Zionist entity, and believe the US designated the zone to help Israel make deeper economic inroads into Jordan. The Jordanian professional unions have even called for a boycott of anyone who works in the zone, and Salah himself has been threatened.

Jordan's most widely read columnist on economic issues, Fahed Fanek, dismisses this opposition alarm. "I think most of the objections are based on politics rather than economics," he argues. "This free-trade agreement is a virtual gift, since America does not require Jordan to open its markets for American products. From the economic point of view it is very obvious that it is useful because it is one-sided. There is no price for that. But there are a lot of people who are against normalization with Israel. They are against partnership with Israeli enterprises, but they are a minority."

The factories in the Irbid zone provide hundreds of jobs in an area particularly hard-hit by unemployment. Workers come from some 50 villages and refugee camps in the area. Century alone employs 650 workers, most of whom are women who work in all facets of the industry, including management and quality control. There are no men employed as seamstresses. "We want to give the families who send their girls to work here a feeling of assurance. So it is important that men and women not work together," explains general manager Nadim As'ad.

The employees receive medical insurance, are transported to and from work, eat in the factory dining room and go on company outings. In Japanese fashion, they attend monthly morale-boosting meetings at which problems are discussed and the employees are encour-



The Century Ladies Wear plant employs women who work in all facets of the quality control.

aged to offer suggestions. The average wage is around \$150 a month, considered quite fair for the area.

Officially, Jordan's national unemployment rate is 18%. Unofficially, it is thought to be far higher. Some estimates say the zone could employ as many as 15,000 Jordanians in the next two years as many of the projects now in the pipeline come to fruition.

Salah says that once his detractors see the plants for themselves they tend to come around. "We really are pragmatic businesspeople who are trying to create jobs and business growth for Jordan. A lot of those who question what we do,

ed business partners

as designated an industrial park in Irbid as a free-trade zone
ocking to set up shop, **Patricia Golan** reports



loys 650 workers, most of whom are
industry, including management and

visit our companies and see so much good will and so much enthusiasm that they immediately change their mind.

"That's what keeps me going, knowing that the people in Jordan understand the nuances of the global economy and know that one can do business with Israel while still being adamantly opposed to its political regime."

Economist Gil Feiler is managing director of Info-Prod Research (Middle East) Ltd., a Tel Aviv-based firm that specializes in promoting joint ventures in the Arab world. He says Jordanians, who have had, until now, no experience in marketing to the West, know how to

separate business and politics. "I'm a great believer in privatization of the peace process, and here we see the privatization process in its strength. The Jordanians need to live, and they know how to make business with Israel while still criticizing Israeli policy."

Trade with Jordan has grown by more than 125% in the last year. Trade with Egypt, which has had a peace accord with Israel since 1979, is only double that of the tiny Jordanian market. The main reason for this anomaly, explains Feiler, is that the government in Jordan has encouraged trade, while Egypt has discouraged it. "The Egyptian authorities still make it difficult for Egyptian businessmen to get visas to Israel," he says. "The Jordanian royal family has encouraged this process [of working with Israeli businesses.] They understand this strengthens the Jordanian market."

THE UNDERWEAR produced in Irbid travels an intricate path before it gets to American shops: Delta buys cotton in Egypt, spins it in Turkey and mixes and dyes the fabric in Israel. Then it is cut and sewn in Jordan and the products are shipped to the port in Haifa.

All this is cost effective because of cheap labor costs in Jordan — consider that Israeli factory workers earn about \$1,000 a month to the Jordanians' \$150.

And Jordan's gain is Israel's loss. The Israeli textile industry is in deep trouble, and resentment is high over the move of jobs to Jordan. But Delta Galil CEO Dov Lautman, the first Israeli to relocate his operations to Jordan, insists that the move has saved jobs.

"We didn't lay off even one worker, and the reason is that the combination of working in Israel and Jordan and Egypt makes us much more competitive and allows us to grow and to compete in the market. That's what is keeping 3,000 jobs here in Israel," Lautman says. "Maybe if we hadn't taken advantage of the peace process and the opportunity to work in the region, we would have had to lay off some people here."

Lautman contends that textile companies that did not follow Delta's example have gone bankrupt, citing Sabrina as an example. In March, Kitan announced it was laying off additional workers from its subsidiary Tango plant in Nazareth. The transfer of production to Jordan is now being considered.

This phenomenon is part of a general trend of globalization, explains Hebrew University economist Ruben Gronau. "The liberalization policy that began in Israel in the 1990s opened the market to Far Eastern products — up till then the low skilled industries like textiles were protected from Far Eastern competition by high tariffs. All these barriers are now slowly being removed."

Gronau, who specializes in labor economics, says that though this is "clearly the right trend" in the long run, in the short term Israel is suffering rising unemployment and recession as a result of jobs that have gone to neighboring countries. "This particularly hurts those areas that are already the hardest hit by unemployment, namely the peripheral towns where there is a huge percentage of unskilled labor, which in the past had these jobs," says Gronau.

Some of these jobs have been taken by foreign labor, which includes Lebanese women who cross the border to work in textile factories, and the ever-increasing number of foreign workers in Israel.

Gronau says that if he had to make the choice between exporting cheap jobs or importing cheap labor, he prefers to export the cheap jobs. "The effect of 200 thousand foreign workers — close to 10% of the Israeli labor force — on the Israeli economy, and more importantly on Israeli society, is much more far-reaching than the export of these jobs to the foreign countries."

Gronau accepts Dov Lautman's claims that he has saved Israeli jobs by lowering the price of the end products, making them more competitive and thus keeping the company in business. "I'm sure that he is right. If you can farm out the cheap, simple jobs abroad and concentrate on the more complicated jobs, this is the trend. The future for Israel lies in education," says Gronau.

Though the Israeli connection was the engine behind the already unprecedented arrangement in Irbid, under a recently signed amendment to the agreement with the US, the Israeli component limitation is about to be lifted. In March, Washington designated the zone as the first qualifying industrial zone (QIZ) with free-trade access to US markets. Jordan will soon be able to export products manufactured in the zone tariff-free to the US without having to use Israeli materials.

Says Omar Salah, "The government of the US and Congress have put their money where their mouth is by saying 'we appreciate what Jordan is doing and this is what we're going to do for it.' Few other countries in the world have done this," he says. But, according to Salah, some issues regarding the QIZ still need to be ironed out.

Nevertheless, the absence of US quotas or customs duties should make Jordanian textiles produced in the zone extremely competitive in the American market. And judging from the number of multinational corporate high flyers coming to Jordan asking to be included in the QIZ, the Irbid zone is putting Jordan on the global investment map.

**Building Blocks will appear
on tomorrow's page 14**

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Thursday, 13 November 1997 13:52:00

10:44 13 Nov FEATURE-Jordan industrial park showcase of Mideast peace

By Suleiman al-Khalidi

IRBID, Jordan, Nov 13 (Reuters) - Plants making everything from textiles to electronics components are sprouting in an industrial zone on the outskirts of Jordan's major northern city just a short drive from the main trade crossing with Israel.

Al-Hassan Industrial Park, located on rich arable red soil of the Houran plains stretching all the way to Damascus, is only a 40-minute drive to Israel's industrial heartland.

The serene surroundings of the industrial park are an unlikely spot for a showcase project due to take centre stage next week at the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic conference in Qatar.

Designating Irbid as a Qualifying Industrial Zone (QIZ), by which goods produced there are given free trade status on the U.S. market, is at the heart of U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian efforts to deliver an elusive "peace dividend" to disenchanted Jordanians.

Accelerated steps by Israel-based global multinationals to shift capital, investment, production lines and plants to Irbid is so far -- three years after the 1994 peace treaty -- the most tangible by-product of a peace dividend that otherwise failed to match the hopes of its proponents.

Behind this is a sole conglomerate, Century Investment Group. A Jordanian public shareholding company estimated to have a total equity value of more than \$100 million, it has defied the soured political climate hampering Arab-Israeli business ties -- and the MENA conference itself.

"I look at Israel as a tool to jump-start Jordan's economy and regardless of the political situation I am looking out for Jordan's future," said Omar Salah, chairman of Century.

Century has already realised some of that potential, and a breathtaking pace of expansion has created hundreds of jobs in a country with mounting unemployment and poverty.

Joint-venture deals with Israel-based Western multinationals have in just over a year and a half resulted in the manufacture of a wide range of brand name goods, mainly pre-sold to U.S. markets.

Century's processed goods head to Israel across the Sheikh Hussein border crossing and from there to United States and European markets, tapping free-trade access that Israel enjoys there.

Even non-Israeli-related multinationals, which face higher production costs and diminishing profits in a competitive global environment, are contemplating shifting some offshore manufacturing to Jordan.

Jordan in return sees the benefits from its goods having access to sophisticated markets via Israel, while it offers production costs 40 to 60 percent lower than in Israel.

U.S. TO DESIGNATE IRBID AS QUALIFYING ZONE

Heartened by Century's growth, the United States has put its full weight behind an accord to transform Irbid zone into a QIZ.

For America, it is a showcase of the dynamics of regional cooperation in the face of darkening clouds as the Middle East peace process stumbles.

Lack of progress on the peace front has prompted Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Morocco, among others, to stay away from the MENA conference. Jordan is sending a high-level delegation to the meeting.

"Century Investment is seen as the role model for the future of the Middle East," U.S. Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstat told Jordanian businessmen recently.

He will be chairing a panel with Salah in the Doha summit titled "Taking risks for peace."

The United States says the landmark move, which can be expanded to other areas in Jordan, is by far the most concrete step it has taken to promote joint ventures that involve substantial economic cooperation between Israel and Jordan.

With U.S. blessing, Jordan and Israel have already drafted an agreement on the industrial zone that grants special free trade status to these businesses.

The QIZ not only offers Israeli-based multinationals along with fully owned Israeli plants the rationale to shift to Jordan but is a magnet for global multinationals seeking to shift some Asian operations closer to Europe.

FIRMS IN ISRAEL DEALS WORK IN DIFFICULT CLIMATE

In less than 18 months, Century's plants have made the firm the largest single private employer in northern Jordan, and the queue of university graduates applying for jobs grows by the day.

Now 55 buses leave every morning to villages like Beit Jaffa and Husn refugee camps around Irbid to pick up more than 800 employees who work in four textile firms as well as jewellery, electronics, canning, plastics and dairy dessert plants.

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Century faces an uphill task to change some Jordanians' perceptions that the projects at Irbid are 100 percent Israeli-owned and run, a sensitive issue for Jordanians still wary of their 1994 peace treaty with Israel.

"The only threat in the beginning of the growth of Century was the fact we would be labelled as doing business with Israel," Salah said.

"In fact, we were taking away multinational investment that was in Israel and bringing it into Jordan," Salah said, adding that Israeli unions had complained to Jordan of loss of jobs.

MOST STILL RESIST ANY LINK WITH ISRAEL

Century is a lone flower blossoming in an inhospitable climate. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies are fuelling a groundswell of hostility by most of Jordan's business elite towards any dealing with Israel, even at the price of prosperity.

Many Western-educated business figures are unwilling to attend the Doha summit, adamantly saying they would have nothing to do with a parley that has Israeli businessmen sitting next to them. They see this as legitimising Israeli acts of aggression towards fellow Palestinians.

Others harbour fear of Jordan being swallowed up by the sheer economic might of the regional powerhouse close to them.

But Century's employees, including the many women from conservative rural areas where Islamic values prevail, are countering the image and serving as the firm's best lobbyists.

"I have achieved self-satisfaction and have found my worth and it's a wonderful feeling that I am bringing (in) income. I did not have any purpose before," said Khaloud Mahasneh, 24, from Beit Jaffe, a village on the outskirts of Irbid.

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8 Economy

Jordan Times, Saturday, December 13, 1997

Irbid's new industrial park leaves Jordanians divided

By Ghaila Alul
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — For a handful of businessmen, a new industrial zone in the northern city of Irbid is a blessing in disguise, granting their products free trade status on U.S. markets.

For others, the Qualifying Industrial Zone (QIZ), housing 45 plants making anything from textiles to electronic components, is a free gift for Israel — allowing it to benefit from Jordan's infrastructure and cheaper labour force to boost trade with Washington, its main ally in the region.

The QIZ, established at Irbid's sprawling Al Hassan Industrial Zone, is at the heart of U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian efforts to deliver an elusive peace dividend to many of Jordan's disenfranchised population.

Accelerated steps by Israel-based global multinationals to shift capital, investment, production lines and plants to Irbid — three years after the 1994 peace treaty — is so far the most tangible byproduct of a peace dividend that otherwise failed to match the hopes of its proponents.

Behind this move is a sole conglomerate, Century Investment Group. A Jordanian public shareholding company with an estimated equity value of more than \$100 million, it

has defied the soured political climate hampering Arab-Israeli business links.

Jordan and Israel, in the presence of U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, signed the agreement designating the QIZ at a controversial Middle East and North Africa economic conference held in Doha late last month.

"Why should we allow Israel to achieve its goals at the expense of ours," Fakhri Bilbeisi, board member of the Jordan Businessmen Association, said in an interview.

But like Mr. Bilbeisi, many politicians and economists feel bitter that the privilege of having free access to America's market will come at the expense of involving at least 11 per cent input from Israel and the Palestinian market — economically held captive by the Jewish state.

This, they said, will help "reinforce economic normalisation with Israel at a time when Tel Aviv has failed to respect the peace deals it had concluded with the Arabs."

The hardline policies of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, elected in May 1995, have fuelled a ground swell of hostility by most of Jordan's business elite towards any dealings with Israel, even at the price of economic prosperity.

Under the QIZ deal, to take effect later this month, enterprises established at Irbid-Al-Hassan industrial zone, 150 kilometres north of Amman and a 40-minute drive to Israel's industrial heart, will use what some officials call "a gift that will allow their goods to penetrate U.S. markets free of customs duties without reciprocity."

Washington, the main sponsor of peace talks, has thrown its full weight behind the deal — a step towards "demonstrating that the positive effects of the peace process continue to be felt and the wheels of cooperation continue to turn."

But analysts and officials remained divided on the benefits it will give to Jordan's economy, 12 times smaller than that of Israel.

Israel should not be granted the benefit of entering into partnerships or investments in Arab countries until a just and comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace is achieved, some analysts said.

But officials said the deal will not give much to Israel, which already has a free trade pact with the U.S.

Minister of Industry and Trade Hani Mulki said that Jordan was "getting a privilege" by exporting custom-exempt goods to the U.S. while imposing custom fees on American imports.

Washington, in return, will help cement "peace and stability in the region" and use it as a model for future regional cooperation.

For Jordan, the QIZ will promise new markets for products manufactured in Irbid and will provide over 1,500 jobs for the Kingdom's growing unemployed.

Despite these tangible benefits, many Jordanians have remained hostile.

Businessman Labib Qamhawi, who opposes

the 1994 peace treaty, said the QIZ will be in favour of Israel.

"Israel will benefit from the exploitation of Jordan's cheap labour (one-eighth than that in Israel) and the infrastructure," he said.

"The Israelis will make use of Jordan's manpower at Jordanian rates, which means fantastic savings to them. We will simply be tools in the Israeli economic wheel and the yield we will be getting... will be minimal," Dr. Qamhawi added.

He went on to say: "Why should a country like Jordan decide to accept this and fall into this trap voluntarily. Why should Jordanian officials substitute Arab economic cooperation with that of Israel, knowing that any input from the Arab World's private sector would be better?"

But Omar Salah, Chairman of Century Investment Group, disagreed.

He said Jordan's "inexpensive" labour and infrastructure, coupled with the free trade status on the U.S. market, should be seen as giving the Kingdom a comparative advantage allowing it to become a global competitor.

It will also give the country a "unique opportunity to achieve sustainable growth," he said, adding that Jordan will become one of four countries enjoying free trade status with the U.S. after Canada, Israel and Mexico.

Mr. Salah's group is employing 1,200 at its 12 factories established at the QIZ — all on a 50/50 partnership basis with world multinationals.

Mr. Salah, 30, said he expected the deal to generate over 1,100 new job opportunities in Century's factories — manufacturing everything from women underwear and dairy products to textiles and electronics.

His group has been

under fire from many businessmen who accuse it of encouraging economic normalisation with the Jewish state by luring Israeli capital, investment and production lines into Jordan through joint ventures.

However, in the eyes of Mr. Salah, "Century is a company stealing away multinational investments based in Israel to Jordan."

Joint venture deals with Israel-based Western multinationals have in over a year and a half resulted in the manufacture of a wide range of brand name goods, mainly pre-sold to U.S. markets, he indicated.

"We brought Sara Lee, Motorola and others and we are bringing to Jordan things that Israel fought hard to get. We're bringing to Jordan investments, jobs, export opportunities and high-tech," Mr. Salah told the Jordan Times.

He said the QIZ will also help improve the balance of trade between Jordan and the U.S., heavily in favour of Washington. Amman's exports to the United States currently stand at \$16 million a year.

Recent media reports have said that Israeli textile companies had laid off hundreds of workers due to a shift of production to neighbouring Arab countries — Jordan and Egypt.

The cutbacks, which have seen some 5,000 jobs lost in the past few years, were largely due to Israeli textile firms shifting their production to these countries where salaries are 10 to 15 times lower than in Israel.

Officials and diplomats said the QIZ does not only offer Israeli-based multinationals along with fully-owned Israeli plants the rationale to shift to Jordan, but is a magnet for global multinationals seeking to shift some Asian operations closer to Europe.

Several Jordanian industrialists said they were unhappy by the QIZ deal

because its privileges are limited to factories based at Irbid's Industrial Zone, one of three such areas across the Kingdom.

They said their industries would be left to suffer from what they called erratic economic policies, high tariffs and government red tape.

Dr. Mulki disagreed saying that the QIZ was not limited to a specific number of industries there. Land, he said, was available at the zone and was sufficient to house a large number of companies.

"It is for anybody who wants to build a factory there and enjoy the privileges as long as he commits himself to doing what is required by the QIZ," he said.

"We will usher him into doing that," he emphasised.

Mr. Salah expressed hope that the Jordanian business community would forge ahead with efforts to extend the terms of the QIZ to other industrial parks in Jordan, such as the Sahab park and the Zarqa and Aqaba free trade zones.

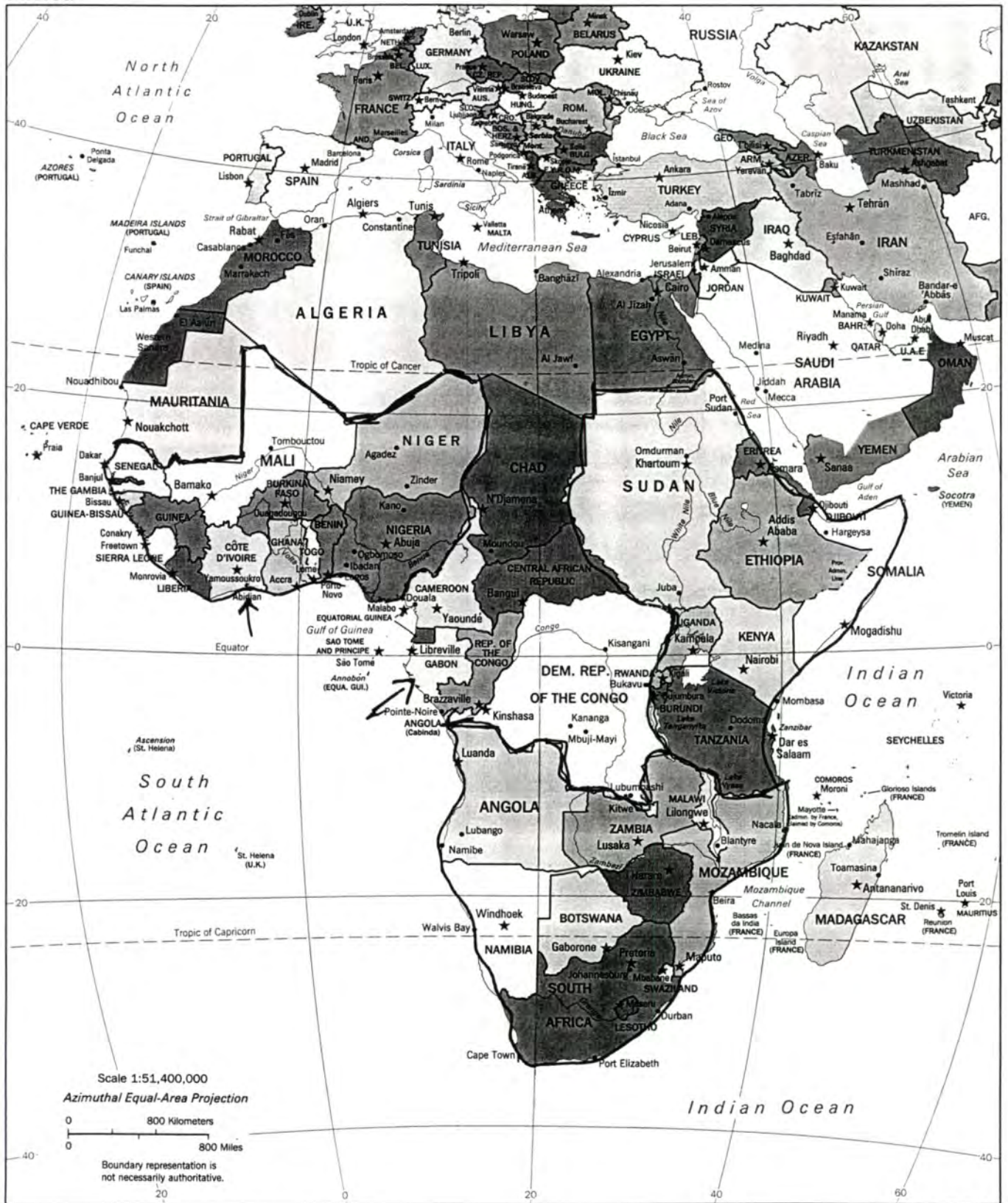
Dr. Mulki said if all of Jordan's industrial zones were to enjoy non-reciprocal free trade status on U.S. markets, Washington might ask for its products to be reacted in a similar way.

"It is an area of reciprocity. Just like I send a product into the U.S. free of tax and customs, the Americans can do the same," he explained.

He expressed his appreciation to the U.S. for supporting the establishment of the QIZ in Irbid, as a major turning point for Jordanian efforts to join the global economy.

"We did not need more investment in infrastructure to achieve the goal of the QIZ, and in doing so, we hope we are able to deliver the fruits of peace in a faster way," the minister concluded.

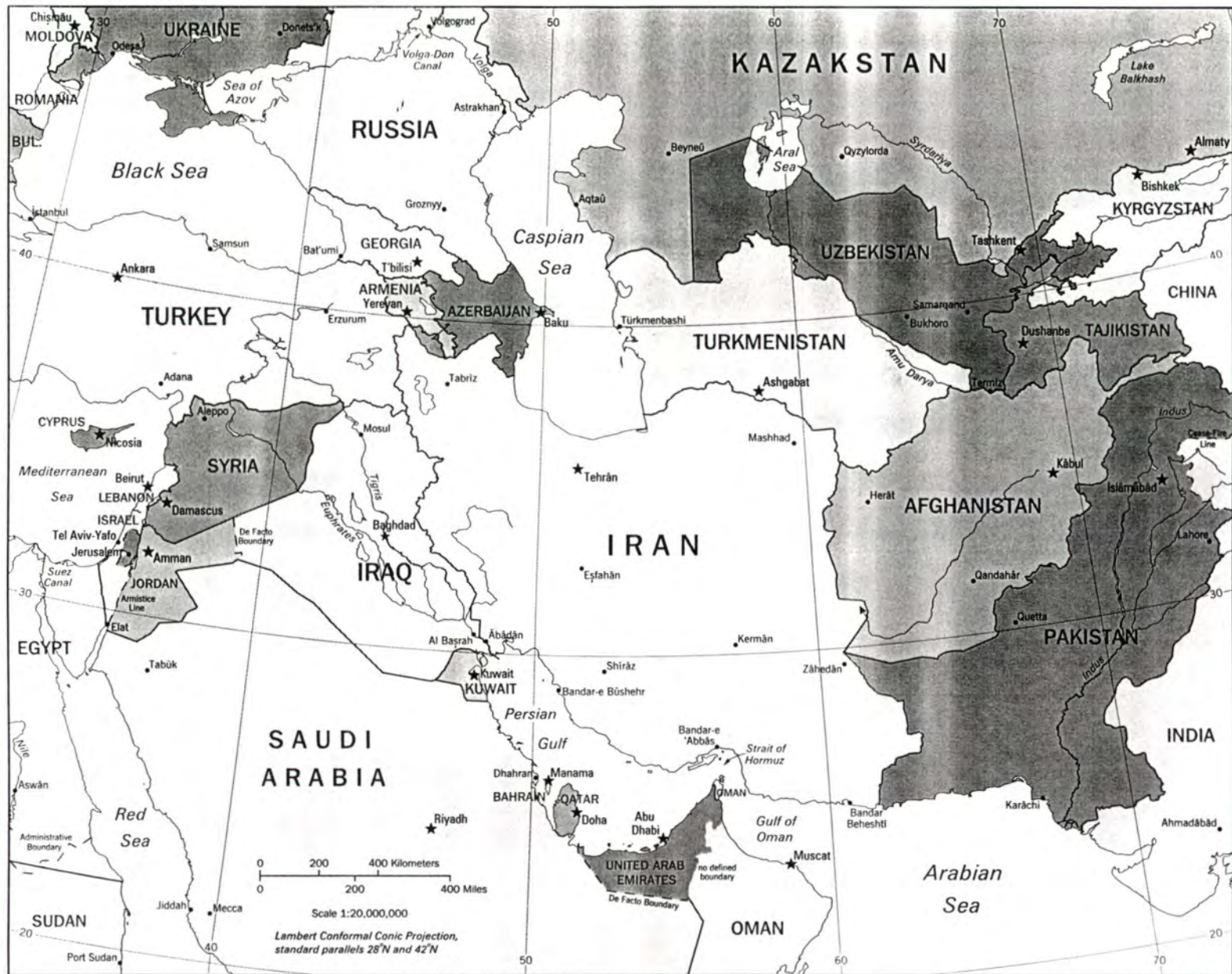
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Southwest Asia



UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: FIRST LADY'S VISIT TO TUNISIA HIGHLIGHTS
WOMEN'S RIGHTS, FAMILY PLANNING, AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT.

REFTEL: TUNIS 1258

1. SUMMARY: FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON'S VISIT TO TUNISIA MARCH 25-27 ENABLED HER TO SEE FIRST HAND THE ACHIEVEMENTS THAT HAVE MADE TUNISIA A REGIONAL SHOWCASE IN ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN THROUGH LEGAL EQUALITY AND ACCESS TO EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, AND FAMILY PLANNING. SHE ALSO VISITED TUNISIAN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROGRAMS INCLUDING MICRO-CREDIT AND JOB TRAINING. HER SPEECH TO A REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WAS EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED AND WIDELY DISSEMINATED, AND WAS AN EXCELLENT KICK-OFF FOR THE FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE SESSIONS. HER MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BEN ALI MARCH 27 (REFTEL) AND SEVERAL JOINT EVENTS WITH TUNISIAN FIRST LADY LEILA BEN ALI PROVIDED A BOOST TO BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND AN OPENING FOR FURTHER HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE ON DELICATE ISSUES SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS. EMBASSY HOPES WE CAN BUILD ON THE VISIT BY WORKING WITH THE TUNISIANS TO ORGANIZE HERE A MORE EXTENSIVE REGIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, PERHAPS LINKED TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE BEIJING PLUS 5 UN CONFERENCE PLANNED FOR JUNE 2000. END SUMMARY.

NGO'S AND DEVELOPMENT

2. CLINTON AND HER DELEGATION FIRST VISITED THE MICRO-CREDIT, TRAINING, AND CULTURAL CENTER RUN BY THE INDEPENDENT NGO, ENDA-INTER-ARABE, LOCATED IN THE CROWDED URBAN AREA OF CITE ETTADHAMEN ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF TUNIS. HER PRESENCE PUT THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT INDEPENDENT NGO'S PLAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. SHE LEARNED ABOUT ENDA'S JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS IN COMPUTERS AND TEXTILES, TOURED ITS LITERACY CENTER, AND ENJOYED A SAMPLE OF ITS CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. SHE SPENT HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSING MICRO-CREDIT PROJECTS WITH SEVERAL WOMEN WHO HAD RECEIVED LOANS FROM ENDA. MRS. CLINTON TOOK THE OCCASION TO EXPRESS HER SUPPORT FOR THIS KIND OF BROAD-BASED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, AND HEAR DIRECTLY FROM THESE WOMEN, MANY OF WHOM HAD COME TO TUNIS FROM RURAL AREAS WITH LITTLE EDUCATION AND FEW OPPORTUNITIES.

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TUNISIAN WOMEN PROUD OF THEIR STATUS
WITH SOME CONCERNS ABOUT THE FUTURE

3. THE BY NOW FAMILIAR WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WAS HOSTED BY THE AMBASSADOR AND BROUGHT TOGETHER NINE PROFESSIONAL WOMEN REPRESENTING LAW, THE ARTS, ACADEMIA, MEDICINE, POLITICS, THE JUDICIARY, AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS. THE OFF-THE-RECORD EVENT GAVE MRS. CLINTON AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR A RANGE OF VIEWS ON THE ISSUES FACING WOMEN IN TUNISIA TODAY. FAIZA KEFI, HEAD OF THE GENERALLY PRO-GOVERNMENT NATIONAL UNION OF TUNISIAN WOMEN (UNFT), DESCRIBED AT LENGTH ALL THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF WOMEN. HOWEVER, SHE AND OTHERS QUICKLY MOVED ON TO A MUCH MORE TEXTURED DISCUSSION. MOST OF THE WOMEN (THOSE IN THEIR 40S AND 50S) EMPHASIZED HOW DRAMATICALLY THE SITUATION OF WOMEN HAD CHANGED IN THEIR OWN LIFETIMES, AND HOW MUCH THEIR OWN LIVES DIFFERED FROM THAT OF THEIR MOTHERS, MANY OF WHOM HAD NEVER ATTENDED SCHOOL.

4. SOME OF THE WOMEN'S CONCERNS, SUCH AS WHETHER THEY HAD "INTERNALIZED" THE LIBERATION THEY PROCLAIMED AND WHETHER THEIR DAUGHTERS APPRECIATED THE STRUGGLES THEY HAD UNDERGONE, WERE IN THEMSELVES THE BEST EVIDENCE OF THEIR CONSIDERABLE ADVANCEMENT. IN RESPONSE TO MRS. CLINTON'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THEY FEARED THE CLOCK COULD BE TURNED BACK, MANY OF THE WOMEN EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT FUNDAMENTALISM. ALSO IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM THE FIRST LADY, SEVERAL OF THE PARTICIPANTS DISAGREED OVER WHETHER OR NOT WOMEN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WEAR THE VEIL. WHILE ALL WERE DRESSED IN WESTERN-STYLE BUSINESS SUITS, SOME, INCLUDING THE VERY SECULARLY ORIENTED HEAD OF AN INDEPENDENT NGO, DEFENDED THE CHOICE OF ANY WOMAN TO WEAR A VEIL. THE NGO HEAD SAID SHE THOUGHT TUNISIA WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO PERMIT IT TO HAPPEN. UNFT HEAD KEFI ARGUED VEHEMENTLY THAT YOUNG GIRLS FORCED TO WEAR

A VEIL BY THEIR FAMILY HAVE NO SUCH CHOICE, AND THAT HER ORGANIZATION FACED THE QUESTION OF HOW TO TEACH SELF-RELIANCE AND EQUALITY TO GIRLS FACING THE RESTRICTIONS REPRESENTED BY THE VEIL.

REGIONAL CONFERENCE--
THE DISCUSSION CONTINUES

5. MRS. CLINTON WOVE MANY OF THE COMMENTS AND THEMES FROM THE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION AND HER VISIT TO ENOA

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INTO HER SPEECH TO A REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON "WOMEN AND THE CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY," ORGANIZED BY UNFPA AND ANOTHER LOCAL NGO, THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, DOCUMENTATION, AND INFORMATION ABOUT WOMEN (CREDIF). (THE AUDIENCE OF APPROXIMATELY 800 INCLUDED SOME 70 CONFERENCE ATTENDEES.) AFTER A SPEECH BY TUNISIAN FIRST LADY, LEILA BEN ALI, OUTLINING GOVERNMENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN ENHANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN, MRS. CLINTON ADDRESSED THE RECEPTIVE AUDIENCE FOR 40 MINUTES. HER EMPHASIS ON THE ROLE PLAYED BY TUNISIAN MOTHERS IN ENCOURAGING THEIR DAUGHTERS TO ATTEND SCHOOL AND ASPIRE TO PROFESSIONAL CAREERS STRUCK A CHORD AMONG THE AUDIENCE ACCUSTOMED TO HEARING CREDIT GIVEN DESERVEDLY, BUT PERHAPS TOO EXCLUSIVELY, TO THE GOVERNMENT.

6. THE FIRST LADY'S SPEECH SERVED AS THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO THE DAY LONG CONFERENCE WHICH FOCUSED ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FACED BY ARAB WOMEN AS THEY APPROACH THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. IN ADDITION TO 60 TUNISIAN ATTENDEES, THERE WERE 10 REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM EGYPT, MOROCCO, ALGERIA AND MAURITANIA. REPRESENTATIVES FROM YEMEN, BAHRAIN AND QATAR WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND DUE TO THE MUSLIM RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY THE FOLLOWING DAY. PARTICIPANTS STRESSED THE NEED FOR INCREASED NETWORKING AMONG ARAB WOMEN TO SHARE STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING PROBLEMS INCLUDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, ILLITERACY, LIMITED AWARENESS OF LEGAL RIGHTS, AND CIRCUMSCRIBED POLITICAL PARTICIPATION. MINISTER OF STATE FOR WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, NEZIHA ZARROUK, CONCLUDED THE CONFERENCE BY POINTING TO THE IMPORTANCE OF EVENTS LIKE THIS IN PREPARATION FOR THE JUNE 2000 BEIJING PLUS FIVE FOLLOW UP CONFERENCE. THE PARTICIPANTS CLEARLY VALUED THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES AND VOICED ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR A LARGER ARAB WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN THE FUTURE.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND
FAMILY PLANNING

7. MRS. CLINTON'S TRIP SOUTH TO KAIROUAN AND EL JEM GAVE THE TUNISIANS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE THEIR THIRTY YEAR FAMILY PLANNING EFFORT, WHICH BEGAN AS A LOCAL USAID-FUNDED PROGRAM AND EXPANDED TO BECOME A CENTER FOR TRAINING HEALTH WORKERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOUTH-SOUTH PROGRAM, WITH FUNDING FROM THE UN FAMILY PLANNING AGENCY (UNFPA), TRAINEES FROM SEVERAL FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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COME TO TUNISIA FOR CLASSROOM TRAINING IN TUNIS AND THEN PRACTICAL TRAINING AT THE CLINIC IN KAIROUAN FOR PERIODS RANGING FROM ONE TO SEVERAL MONTHS. MRS. CLINTON SAW FIRST HAND EXAMPLES OF THE EDUCATIONAL AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE USE OF MOBILE CLINICS, THAT ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO TUNISIA'S PROGRAM AND HAVE MADE IT A WORLD-CLASS SUCCESS. THE HEAD OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING OFFICE, DR. NEBIHA GUEDANA, EMPHASIZED THAT COMPREHENSIVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING EDUCATION, INCLUDING TARGETING OF MEN TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR FAMILY PLANNING DECISIONS, HAD DRASTICALLY REDUCED THE RESORT TO ABORTION OVER THE PAST TWENTY YEARS.

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT-
THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY FUND

8. MRS. CLINTON JOINED MRS. BEN ALI IN THE DEDICATION OF A NEW RURAL HOUSING PROJECT FOR THE 27 FAMILIES OF SIDI ACHOUR, AN ISOLATED VILLAGE 40 MILES WEST OF TUNIS. THE HOUSING PROJECT WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THE INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY FOUNDATION ("FSN"--POPULARLY KNOWN

AS "2626"), WHICH SEEKS TO ENSURE THAT TUNISIANS IN ISOLATED AREAS ARE NOT LEFT BEHIND AS THE COUNTRY DEVELOPS ECONOMICALLY. DRAWING ON THE SUGGESTIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, FSN OFFICIALS DECIDED TO BUILD NEW HOUSING FOR THE 27 FAMILIES IN SIDI ACHOUR, WHO WERE LIVING IN THE MOST RUDIMENTARY CONDITIONS, WITHOUT ELECTRICITY, RUNNING WATER, ADEQUATE HOUSING, OR READY ACCESS TO TOWN (AND THUS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE). THE NEWLY-BUILT HOUSES ARE MODEST TOWN HOMES WITH ELECTRICITY AND RUNNING WATER, A SEPARATE PLACE FOR FARM ANIMALS, A PLAYGROUND, A DISPENSARY, AND A NEW ROAD CONNECTING THEM WITH THE NEAREST TOWN. THE POOREST FAMILIES WERE PROVIDED LOANS WITH WHICH TO ACQUIRE A FEW PROFITABLE FARM ANIMALS. (COMMENT: WHILE SOME QUESTION THE LARGELY TOP-DOWN APPROACH TAKEN BY THE FSN, THE FOUNDATION'S ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO TUNISIA'S DEVELOPMENT BY SYSTEMATICALLY PROVIDING BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE TO VILLAGES IN THE MOST ISOLATED AND DEPRIVED ZONES OF TUNISIA, AND LINKING THEM TO A BROAD RANGE OF SOCIAL SERVICES (INCLUDING HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION). 2626 OFFICIALS PROJECT THAT THIS EFFORT WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE YEAR 2003.

PRAISE AND HONOR TO

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AMERICANS PAST AND PRESENT

9. MRS. CLINTON TOOK TIME TO MEET WITH THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY, THANKING THEM FOR THEIR IMPORTANT WORK AND HELP WITH HER VISIT AND GIVING A BOOST TO THE USG-SUPPORTED AMERICAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL (THE VENUE FOR THE MEETING) IN THE PROCESS. SHE ALSO VISITED AND LAID A WREATH AT THE U.S. MILITARY CEMETERY IN CARTHAGE, WHERE THE REMAINS OF MORE THAN 2,000 AMERICANS KILLED IN NORTH AFRICA DURING WORLD WAR II ARE LAID TO REST.

A BOOST FOR BILATERAL RELATIONS
DESPITE SOME GLITCHES

10. MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT CLOSED ON A HIGH NOTE, WITH A ONE HOUR AND 15 MINUTE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BEN ALI. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, BEN ALI ADDRESSED A FULL RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING THE SENSITIVE HUMAN RIGHTS DOSSIER, AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT.

COMMENT

11. BEN ALI MADE CLEAR TO MRS. CLINTON HIS SATISFACTION WITH HER VISIT, WHICH GAVE TUNISIA A PLATFORM ON WHICH TO SHOWCASE ITS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN. IT ALSO ENABLED TUNISIAN FIRST LADY LEILA BEN ALI TO BURNISH HER OWN CREDENTIALS AS A PUBLIC FIGURE VIA HER SPEECH TO THE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND HER DINNER IN MRS. CLINTON'S HONOR ATTENDED BY SOME 100 WOMEN ACTIVISTS AND WIVES OF CABINET MEMBERS AND OTHER KEY FIGURES.

12. COMMENT CONTINUED: TUNISIA WAS A PERFECT FIT FOR MRS. CLINTON IN TERMS OF ITS LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT--UNMATCHED IN THE REGION--TO ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN THROUGH LEGAL EQUALITY, ACCESS TO EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE TO THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT ENABLED HER TO SEE AND LEARN ABOUT HOW FAR TUNISIA HAS COME IN THIS AREA, AND TO DISCUSS WITH WOMEN LEADERS HERE THE CHALLENGES STILL FACING TUNISIAN WOMEN AT THE START OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. POST STRONGLY BELIEVES THAT TUNISIA WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT VENUE FOR A LONGER FOLLOW-ON REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, PERHAPS TIED TO PLANNING FOR THE

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BEIJING PLUS FIVE CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 2000,
OR TIED TO THE "VITAL VOICES" EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY
MRS. CLINTON AND S/PICW ELSEWHERE.

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SECSTATE WASHDC 0531
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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WHITE HOUSE FOR FLOTUS OFFICE
STATE FOR NEA/ENA AND S/PIWC

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