

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: Kazakhstan (3 pages)	11/1997	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20040

FOLDER TITLE:

Kazakhstan

2013-0534-S

rc1552

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]

**Files of Melanne Verveer,
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
Box 24: Files**

Archived from OEOB 100 by Eric Woodard on Dec. 22, 2000

Kazakhstan

~~Arts~~

Kennedy Center

- Arts

Kennedy Center

- Arts

Robert Kennedy Speeches

Kenya

Kellogg Foundation

- Philanthropy

Kid's Health

- Children's Health

Koop

Koppel – Nightline

Korea

Kosovo Comic Book

- Civil Society/Democracy Building

Kosovo

Kyrgystan

Kuwait

Labor List

Landmines

L.A. Slide Show

ENCLOSURES FILED OVERSIZE ATTACHMENTS

20040

NANA 17244

Latin America

Latin America

Latin America

Latvia

Norman Lear

- Arts
- Philanthropy

Learn & Serve

- Service

Lebanon

Legal Defense Fund

Legal Reform

Legal Service

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1997

The Washington Post

Stephen S. Rosenfeld

Hillary Clinton and the Great Game

There was a cute item in the paper this week about Hillary Rodham Clinton's visit in Kazakhstan and four other territories of the former Soviet Union. A picture showed her smiling with Kazakh girls in ceremonial dress. But her purpose is not cute at all. With a mission of personal and cultural presence, she is at the cutting edge of a bold and little remarked aspect of Clinton foreign policy: to bring distant Central Asia and the Caucasus into what Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott called the "Euro-Atlantic community" when he laid out the policy in a speech last July.

You could describe American policy another way: to engage a part of the world that is an emerging strategic crossroads and is soaked in oil, to take advantage of the power vacuum created by the Soviet Union's disintegration and the surviving pieces' multiple distractions, to orchestrate the instruments of American commerce, technology, culture and projected power, to establish a dominating position and tie the region to the West, and to do all this without provoking a Russian bear which is otherwise occupied at this moment but will someday revive.

In short: to join the "great game" (the 19th century struggle for Central

and South Asian influence between Russia and Britain) in a 20th century way that leaves no losers, only winners, with Russia high among them, if everything goes right.

Bradford McGuinn, a lecturer at Florida International University, is one who savors this vista. He suggests in Middle East Insight magazine that the United States, with its embrace of oil-super-rich Azerbaijan and with its hedged new opening to Iran (and with much else), "is moving to consolidate its domination of the Caspian and Persian Gulf regions. This is a unique moment, an era when the United States, armed with an ambitious agenda and overwhelming military and commercial power, stands ready to achieve a measure of geopolitical mastery seldom witnessed in history."

Geopolitical mastery? The Clinton administration? Bradford McGuinn's rhetoric takes him beyond any claims that even the administration's warmest admirers would make for its policy. Aside from showing a becoming modesty, officials are wary of feeding local fears of being manipulated by American power. It was enough for the cool Strobe Talbott simply to list American policy objectives for the region: to

build democracy and a market economy, to aid in resolving local conflicts and to serve the purposes of integration.

Integration is key. It means offering the benefits of participation in the international community to any country that stays on the reform path in foreign as well as domestic affairs. It implies those benefits will be slow in coming to others.

McGuinn's strategic bent allows him to sort out the tangle of public and private acts—by governments, corporations, investors and others—that are shaping American policy on this geopolitical frontier. He puts in context Washington's showy reception of the president of Azerbaijan, who was seeking protection in return for oil. Also the official decision not to oppose a new natural gas pipeline (Turkmenistan to Turkey) transiting otherwise forbidden Iran. Also the American military and diplomatic presence as made evident in force levels and arms sales in the Persian Gulf and in participation in regional peacemaking and peacekeeping and in military exercises.

McGuinn believes it would be a real breakthrough if the new Iranian government in fact moderates and drains

the ideology out of its conflict with the United States. Indeed, the broader and firmer the American position throughout the whole Caucasus, Persian Gulf and Caspian Sea region, the better the prospects of dealing with the hard cases like Iraq and Iran.

McGuinn sees three broad threats: a breakdown on the democratic-capitalist side, in Russia a return to belligerency and a reach to reassert control over its southern periphery, and an Islamist surge in the pro-Western states of the region.

"As of now, however," he states, "these threats seem distant and manageable. There exists [in the region] an intellectual consensus, combined with the tangible power of Western financial and military systems, which appears capable of overpowering challenges through confrontation or co-option. The joining of the Caspian and Persian Gulf systems is an audacious move, but the prize's allure makes the bid inevitable."

Well, you may say, very nice but a young scholar's speculation. But it is useful speculation: It reveals large possibilities that most of us have not picked up on. Meanwhile, we might pay a bit more attention to Mrs. Clinton, who is over there putting a distinctive face on American high policy.

free trip bk
Kazakhstan

Why the Democrats Bolted

President Clinton's defeat on the trade bill this week as the most important political event since the president's reelection. The roots of the setback lie in the alanced budget deal reached earlier this year, in the White House's utter misunderstanding of what House Democrats were trying to say and in a misreading of public opinion on trade.

Yes, the failure of the fast-track bill was a big victory for the labor movement. But to write this off as nothing but a display of union muscle is to miss the real reasons for labor's victory (and also to ignore the role played by environmentalists and others). It also overlooks the opportunity that now exists to bring equity to the new economy.

Clinton's defeat is important because it marks the end of a period when House Democrats were willing to go along with his strategy of bowing to the Republican leadership in Congress.

Earlier this year, many Democrats voted for a balanced budget deal they disliked because they shared Clinton's political judgment that the public strongly supported an end to the deficit. To be on the right side of that issue, many doubters reasoned, was worth backing a bill whose tax and budget cuts they opposed.

But on trade, public opinion was at best ambivalent and at worst skeptical. Sure, you can find polls that show support for open trade and American engagement in the global market. Yet those same polls report deep anxiety about companies moving jobs abroad. Just this week, Fruit of the Loom announced the transfer of 2,900 more

jobs to Mexico, effectively completing its shift of jobs out of the country. When Democrats bucked Clinton this time, they felt they were voting the popular will of their districts.

The proof? Fast track was defeated not by longtime union supporters and protectionists. On their own, they lacked the votes to overcome Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich. The defections that killed the deal were from moderate "New Democrats" and free-traders.

"People see it as a litmus test on whether you are sympathetic with how precarious their job stability might be," Rep. Timothy J. Roemer, a staunch New Democrat from Indiana, told *The Post's* Tom Edsall and John Yang. "We have low unemployment in Indiana, but thousands of people are hanging on by their fingernails to \$6 and \$7 an hour jobs, and they could be the first ones displaced."

Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), one of the shrewdest analysts of sentiment among House Democrats, says that even plausible arguments about trade's positive effect on living standards ring hollow to workers who have heard employers threaten moves to Mexico or elsewhere as a way of holding down wage demands. "The most chilling words any working person hears is, 'Hey, I can move this company,'" Frank says.

The link between this vote and the budget deal rested on the belief of many Democrats that Clinton's concessions on taxes and spending eviscerated his power to create the "social compact" he keeps promising for those displaced by economic change. "He signed a budget deal

that deprived him of the resources to create the social compact," Frank said.

Frank compares the stance of House Democrats to "a strike." He explains: "We're in a bargaining situation. . . . We're willing to hold globalization hostage to equity." If business and the administration want more open trade, says Frank, the socially responsible (and politically necessary) trade-off is to offer real help to those who, with reason, fear it most—families in vulnerable economic situations.

Frank is the first to say that the defeat of fast track is not a policy and that global markets are the wave of the future. The task of labor and House Democrats is to put together a plausible package of policies (on health care, education, unemployment protections) that provide a buffer for those hurt by economic transformation.

Democrats should have learned from this month's elections that they lack a compelling alternative to the standard Republican mantra of tax cuts, tax cuts and more tax cuts. Faced with nothing or tax cuts, voters usually choose tax cuts.

By embracing open trade linked with real social protections, Clinton could give himself a cause and the legacy he keeps ruminating about. He would give Americans something to chew on: not protectionism vs. free trade but free trade with equity vs. free trade without rules. If Clinton walks away from this challenge, he will only give solace to those now pronouncing him the lamest of lame ducks.

Lally Weymouth

Same Old Saddam

In 1984 I traveled to Baghdad to conduct a rare interview with Saddam Hussein. I was fully briefed ahead of time by U.S. officials, who told me they believed that Saddam had become a member of the so-called "moderate" Arab world. I should expect, U.S. officials said, to find a ruler who resembled King Hussein of Jordan instead of the tyrant who had ruled over Iraq.

In his palace, I sat face to face with Saddam, who informed me he had just signed a five-year agreement, which included heavy arms purchases, with the Soviet Union. In a lengthy interview, he proceeded to extol the virtues of the Soviet Union but had little that was friendly to say about the West. The experts were entirely wrong in their expectations.

In July 1990 the Middle East expert Bernard Lewis called me and said he believed that Saddam might soon invade Kuwait. I called some high-level sources in the State Department to check out the tip, and they explained that things were going well with Saddam. There was no threat of invasion. Three weeks later Iraq invaded Kuwait.

These personal experiences are of interest for one reason only—they show that Saddam has not changed in years, no matter what people might want to think of him. He remains the same bully today as he was back in '84—a ruthless tyrant who has ceaselessly terrorized his people. There is no secret to dealing with him: The only language he understands is the use of force.

Thus it's hard to understand why the Clinton administration believes that a U.N. resolution that merely bans the travel of Iraqi military officers and civilian personnel who have been involved in

keeping American UNSCOM arms inspectors from entering key sites stands the slightest chance of forcing Saddam to mend his ways. At best this resolution might be a minor inconvenience for a man who has himself traveled outside of his country only once. After all, Saddam is playing a long-term game for big stakes: money and power.

Indeed, if the Clinton administration rests content with this feeble resolution, then Saddam Hussein has gained by his recent provocative action—threatening to expel American members of the UNSCOM team. Worse still, even if Saddam backs down and allows the American inspectors to remain in Iraq and act in concert with the UNSCOM team, U.S. officials admit that there is a lot of pressure on Washington to reward him for compliance.

Behind the scenes, French and Russian diplomats are suggesting to Washington that Saddam receive incentives to induce him to back down—to give him what they describe as "a light at the end of the tunnel." There are two key ideas as to how to reward Saddam: (1) create a timetable for ending sanctions or (2) come to an agreement to close out some of UNSCOM's investigative files on missiles or other weapons of mass destruction.

The United States must hold the line and not reward Saddam for agreeing to abide by U.N. resolutions. But one American official bleakly admits that if Saddam backs down, members of the Security Council are favorable to moving on to what they describe as the next phase: lifting certain economic sanctions and watering down the long-term monitoring regime that has been in place for almost six years and has helped prevent Saddam

from building weapons of mass destruction.

Under one proposal, UNSCOM would—in the future—enter Iraq every 60 days instead of having a headquarters in Baghdad and conducting inspections at will. Under such a new regime, U-2 flights would take place every other week, whereas they now are made at least every week and often more frequently.

Thus, in essence, Saddam would have succeeded in breaking out of the sanctions regime. Then the Iraqi leader would be free to build weapons of mass destruction. He still has the base and know-how to make biological weapons, and Baghdad is known to possess chemical weapons. At least one senior Israeli official believes that Iraq could get a nuclear bomb before Iran.

A worried UNSCOM official notes that the Iraqis conducted a lot of research and development between 1988 and 1990 in chemical weapons: They produced massive amounts of VX—a sophisticated nerve agent with a long shelf life because they manufactured it in a binary form. Then, too, the Iraqis have a better technical base to build missiles than the Iranians. If the inspection regime is downgraded, the international monitoring capability will become as ineffective as were the inspections conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency before the Gulf War, which failed to discover the Iraqi nuclear program.

The result will be that biological weapons will be back in Iraqi hands in significant amounts in months. In one to two years, Baghdad will possess long-range missiles capable of reaching Tehran and Tel Aviv. David Kaye, an expert on Iraq, predicts that in two to five years, Saddam

will be producing missiles capable of reaching Europe.

The result, in all likelihood, will be accommodation on the part of Saudi Arabia and other countries surrounding Iraq. Our Gulf allies have decided in the post Gulf War era that they have no choice but to live with Saddam. Although the Bush administration won a brilliant victory, it did not succeed in removing Saddam or destroying his weapons of mass destruction.

Saddam's stockpiles of offensive biological weapons were disclosed after the defection in August 1995 of Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel, Saddam's son-in-law. Among other things, he revealed an extensive biological weapons program.

Recently UNSCOM has found its inspectors having increasing problems in Iraq. The UNSCOM report cites what it terms "multiple delays and violations" during inspections in June and September 1997. Then, on Oct. 29, Saddam threatened to expel U.S. members of UNSCOM teams. This was widely regarded as the beginning of the end of UNSCOM.

President Clinton would be wise to learn something from President Reagan's strike against Libya. Now the use of massive military force is the only course available to the Clinton administration. This must entail massive air strikes against meaningful targets—including Saddam's security force headquarters and perhaps some of the palaces he has built for himself. Moreover, a long-term plan to get rid of Saddam and support the Iraqi opposition is needed.

For the moment, Saddam has lost his fear of the United States. He believes that America won't act unilaterally and will not strike heavily at Iraq. Let's hope his gamble doesn't turn out to be correct.

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1997

Hillary Clinton's Salute to the Health of Kazakh Women

By STEVE LEVINE

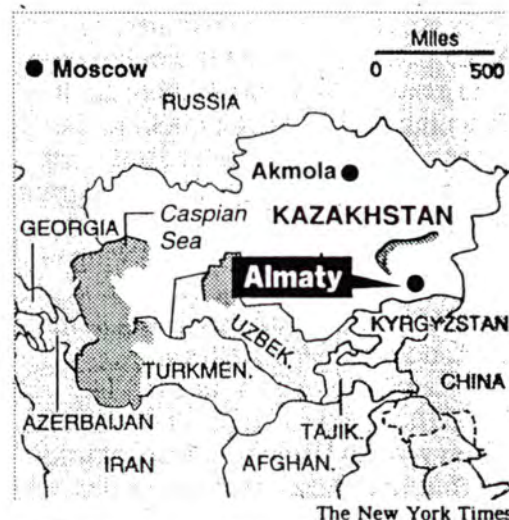
ALMATY, Kazakhstan, Nov. 11 — Among the many Kazakhs waiting to meet Hillary Rodham Clinton in this Central Asian city on Wednesday is a woman named Akmaral Kalmyratobaeva.

Three months ago, Ms. Kalmyratobaeva, 29, gave birth — with her husband, Marat, present in the delivery room.

"It's a real revolution," said Emily L. Jenkins, a Tucson lawyer who has helped establish Kazakhstan's first Western-style women's health center.

In Ms. Kalmyratobaeva, Mrs. Clinton is to meet one of the first women to go through the center's prenatal care program.

After a one-day delay in which engine trouble forced her plane to turn around soon after takeoff from Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, Mrs. Clinton arrived here today to begin an eight-day tour of five former Soviet republics: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Rus-



Providing modern health care to women is a concern in Almaty

sia and Ukraine.

In including three of the five republics of Central Asia on Mrs. Clinton's itinerary, the White House underscored the region's growing strategic importance to the United States. Experts expect the Caspian Sea basin to satisfy a large part of global energy demand in the next

century.

Mrs. Clinton's schedule is dominated by human rights and women's issues in this autocratic region, where access to preventive and prenatal care is nonexistent or hard to find.

Women's health problems are entwined with the region's economic crisis. On Wednesday, a survey is to be issued indicating that 74 percent of Kazakhstan's 17 million people say they and their families lack enough to eat.

The survey, part of a fund-raising drive by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, says some Kazakhs are at risk of starving.

In this environment, the Women's Wellness Center is an effort to introduce Kazakh women to basic Western-style health care.

Women carry a large part of the economic burden here and have a high literacy rate. But they are often not familiar with what in the West is elementary women's preventive medicine, like pap smears and self-

examination of the breasts.

"This is something really new," said Zhamila Nugmanova, a local health care expert who helped organize the center. "It is scary to go to oncological clinics. But in the environment of this center — bright and cheery — women feel comfortable coming."

Ms. Kalmyratobaeva's doctor had advised that she should deliver by Caesarean section. But the woman and her husband, who agreed to attend birthing classes, sought to avoid the procedure if they could, and ultimately it turned out to be unnecessary, doctors at the center said.

The entire prenatal procedure was unusual because, though in Central Asia a birth is a major social event, typically no relative is permitted with the mother in her hospital room — even many hours after delivery.

Mothers can sometimes be seen lowering a rope from their hospital windows to fathers waiting below with a bundle of supplies to be raised up to the room.

By KEVIN SACK

NEW ORLEANS — By the reckoning of John Riley, the historian at Mount Vernon, there are about 450 schools in the United States named for George Washington.

Now there is one fewer. Following a policy that prohibits school names honoring "former slave owners or others who did not respect equal opportunity for all," the Orleans Parish School Board voted unanimously on Oct. 27 to change the name of George Washington Elementary to Dr. Charles Richard Drew Elementary.

The new name pays tribute to a black surgeon who lived from 1904 to 1950 and is known for developing methods to preserve blood plasma and for protesting the United States Army's practice of segregating donated blood by race.

The renaming of the 74-year-old school in the city's Bywater neighborhood, the 22d name change in New Orleans in five years, is the latest milestone in a concerted effort by blacks across the South to assert their vision of a biracial history that has traditionally been defined only by whites.

Since the school board's policy was adopted in December 1992, New Orleans schools have purged the names of Confederate generals, slave-owning governors and even the black founder of an orphanage who, like Washington, happened to own slaves. A school once named for Robert E. Lee, for instance, is now named for Ronald McNair, the black astronaut killed in the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger in 1986.

But never before, either here or apparently elsewhere in the country, has a school shed the name of a figure as central to the national identity as Washington. And that has raised questions about whether ef-

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forts to broaden history, if taken too far, may sometimes distort it as well.

Opponents of the decision, and there have not been many in this city in which blacks are in the majority, argue that it does not account for the totality of Washington's achievements or the mores of his times. But in a school district where 91 percent of the students are black, and where the school board is controlled by a 5-to-2 black majority, the decision underscores the maxim that history is written by those with the power.

"Why should African-Americans want their kids to pay respect or pay homage to someone who enslaved their ancestors?" asked Carl Galmon, a longtime civil rights leader in New Orleans who has led the campaign to change school names. "This was the most degrading thing that ever happened in North America, and Washington was a part of it. To African-Americans, George Washington has about as much meaning as David Duke."

Those on the other side of the debate contend that by the standards of the day, Washington was moderate on slavery, pointing out that he provided for the emancipation of his slaves after his death.

"What I find objectionable," said William B. Gwyn, a retired professor of political science at Tulane University here, "is the rather unhistorical approach to changing these names, that anyone who ever owned slaves is to be dishonored by the New Orleans school board without looking at the circumstances with which the slaves were held. The fact is that with Washington, he opposed the institution and ultimately freed his slaves."

Although Washington inherited his first 10 slaves at the age of 11 and died with 316 slaves on his Virginia plantation, his private letters make it clear that he favored a gradual abolition of slavery — "by slow, sure and imperceptible degrees," Washington wrote in 1786.

As President, however, Washington never proposed emancipation. "I think that, to him, union came first," said Mr. Riley, the historian, "and if making a public stand on slavery as President of the United States was going to fracture that union, he was going to keep his mouth shut."

FOR EXAMPLE

Name Changes

New Orleans has renamed 22 schools named for former slaveowners. Here are two.

OLD NAME



GEORGE WASHINGTON SCHOOL

First President; slaveowner

NEW NAME



DR. CHARLES RICHARD DREW ELEMENTARY

Black surgeon, first director of the American Red Cross blood bank



P. G. T. BEAUREGARD JUNIOR HIGH

Confederate general



THURGOOD MARSHALL MIDDLE SCHOOL

First black Justice, U.S. Supreme Court

The New York Times

When Washington died in 1799, his will called for the 125 slaves that he owned outright to be freed upon the death of his wife. The rest of the slaves at Mount Vernon belonged to Martha Washington before her marriage to Washington or were the children of unions between the two sets of slaves, Mr. Riley said. She emancipated her husband's 125 slaves about a year after his death.

The notion that any slave owner could be moderate on the issue of slavery strikes some blacks in New Orleans as ludicrous. "It's a huge thing to be owned by somebody, no matter how much they may have accomplished in other areas," said Jeremiah Blount, a black fifth-grade teacher at the newly named Drew Elementary School. "And now we're teaching kids who are descendants of the people who would have been his property."

By Mr. Galmon's count, 49 of the 121 schools in Orleans Parish were named for slave owners at the time the school board policy took effect five years ago. While the policy states that the school board opposes retaining such names, it leaves it to school communities to initiate the name-change process.

The process at Washington, where 98 percent of the 702 students are black, was typical. When a new principal, Lee Caston, arrived in 1996, he learned of the school board policy and raised the issue at a faculty meeting. A committee of faculty and staff members was formed and decided that the policy left them little choice but to change the school's name, a decision that Mr. Caston believes is supported in the community.

With the help of students and parents, choices for a new name were studied and narrowed to three: Charles Drew, Bywater and St. Claude, the name of the avenue that runs by the school. Parents and staff members were then polled and 52 percent voted to change the name to Drew (in secondary schools, students also are allowed to vote). The majority vote forwarded the recommendation to the school board, which approved the new name.

Both Mr. Caston, the principal, and Linda J. Stelly, an associate superintendent of the Orleans Parish schools, said there was virtually no opposition to removing Washington's name from the three-story brown brick school. Ms. Stelly said the school board thought it was important to be consistent about its policy, which makes no allowances for slave owners, regardless of their historical stature.

At Drew Elementary, where the words Washington School are etched into the stone facade, students and staff members are struggling to get comfortable with their new identity. Receptionists still catch themselves answering the telephones "Washington Elementary." First graders at morning assembly have not quite learned to substitute Charles Drew for Washington in the school song.

Mr. Caston has planned an additional change to reinforce the transition. The school colors, formerly red, white and blue, will be changed to red and blue, symbolic, he said, of the oxygenated and deoxygenated blood associated with Charles Drew.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

The New York Times

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1997

February 2, 1998

Ms. Katy Button
Office of the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20000



Jean Joley
Director

Re: ~~Mrs.~~ Clinton's Kyrgyzstan Clothes Donation (Video enclosed)
November 12, 1997

File trip
starts

Dear Katy:

This letter is sent in sincere thanks to you and Mrs. Clinton for your assistance and support with our *Clothes for Kstan Kids* program. When I spoke to you in August, I had expected to send about 120 mittens and hats to my daughter in the Peace Corps in Kyrgyzstan. When the word came from Mrs. Clinton that she would graciously "take as much as I could send," I took it as a clear direction to follow. The end result was 5,200 pounds of warm winter clothing, toiletries, cleaning supplies and toys that Mrs. Clinton presented to the orphans in Kyrgyzstan. I traveled to Kyrgyzstan the week after Mrs. Clinton to assist with the humanitarian aid distribution in three orphanages. I worked by the side of my Peace Corps Volunteer daughter and saw for myself that the clothes were received by these most vulnerable children. I was sent by a donor through the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region. The Foundation also donated \$12,000.00 for repair of the heating, plumbing and electricity in orphanages. This funding opened many doors to locations that had been closed to other visitors at these orphanages. After my visit, UNICEF also gave \$400,000 in emergency winter aid to the orphanages for food, water and medications. **A video of this entire project including the Peace Corps clothing distribution inside orphanages is included in this package.** It was prepared by WPTA -TV in Fort Wayne.

We identified 25 children with un-repaired cleft lip and palates. Save the Children- Denmark is assisting me in arranging for the surgical repair. The repairs are being done for \$50.00 per surgery to cover cost of anesthetic, medication and materials. We also found a set of six-year-old co-joined (Siamese) twins. Rudy Rodriguez, UNICEF Director in Bishkek, is directing a request to have them treated in the US for a separation surgery. They are attached at the pelvis and according to a pediatric surgeon may have an 80% chance of successful separation. Mr. Rodriguez is dealing with the Kyrgyz Republic Cabinet and First Lady, Mrs. Akayev, on this matter.

In a short period of time, the program grew into a massive service effort involving RSVP projects in Indiana, two AmeriCorps grants, Peace Corps parents from across the nation and a community effort of all of Northeastern Indiana. The program had a media sponsor, ABC-Channel 21 in Fort Wayne, a transportation sponsor in Rea Magnet Wire and the public support of Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke and the mayors of eight neighboring communities.

Three PSA's generated daily donations of hundreds of pounds of warm winter clothes for these dear children. Small-town fire stations and city halls became donation sites. The lobby of the Lutheran Center building was the central receiving site. RSVP volunteers were joined by school groups, service clubs and people in the community to sort donations of children's clothes, toy, toiletries, cleaning supplies. These items were packed into boxes for shipment through the efforts of the US State

RSVP of Allen County
(219) 458-2005 • fax (219) 458-2549
3024 Fairfield Avenue • Fort Wayne, IN 46807-1697

Department. Up to 12-18 volunteers worked daily for six to eight hours a day packing items. One gentleman purchased shoe laces for each pair of shoes that needed them. He cleaned the shoes and tied each pair together. Each box was labeled to show the contents. Volunteers took great care to fold each item and sometimes add a note to a young child that they would never see. Lands End donated hundreds of childrens coats.

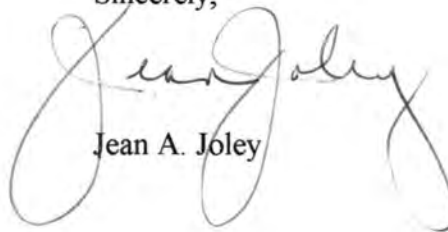
Rudy Rodriguez, UNICEF director in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, wrote in an E-mail: "Winter is fast approaching. Very few state-run institutions for children will be able to heat. This, in winter temperatures that average -30 Celsius. The kids have no warm clothing, shoes and many suffer from scabies, as they are unable to care for their young bodies. I have worked in many parts of the world, but have never witnessed such suffering." In another message, Rodriguez reported, "Two weeks ago, I received a request from an orphanage in Talas (up in the mountains). They house 129 abandoned kids, aged 4-16. They have no piped water, the heating, and toilets no longer work."

I did not understand the magnitude of the need until I was met at the airport by UNICEF. The humanitarian aid groups had the priority of providing food and medical supply to the orphanages. The clothing need had been unfulfilled until our aid arrived.

My daughter, Katie Joley, Peace Corps Volunteer in Bishkek, coordinated the distribution of the items in Kyrgyzstan. Other agencies involved in the distribution included United Nations High Command for Refugees, Save the Children of Denmark and the United Kingdom, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent. The agencies provided transportation and interpreters for each distribution. The PC Volunteers sorted the clothes and readied them for distribution.

I will attend the February 17, 1998 meeting with the State Department about the Central Asian visit of Mrs. Clinton. Please know that your assistance has made a wonderful difference in the lives of so many small children on the other side of the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean A. Joley". The signature is fluid and extends across the line of the name.

Jean A. Joley

Copy: Marc Gearan
Harris Wofford
Duane Beard

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

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Melanne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20040

FOLDER TITLE:

Kazakhstan

2013-0534-S

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- 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]

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PRT: FLOTUS

SIT: COURTNEY ELKIND PASCUAL VP

SIT: NSC

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FM AMEMBASSY ALMATY

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7491
INFO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 4454
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK 7847
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV 1608
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 4671
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT 7649
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DEPT PLEASE PASS TO AID/ENI, WHITE HOUSE
USIA FOR EEN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SCUL, PREL, KWMN, KZ

SUBJECT: FLOTUS FOLLOW-UP IN KAZAKHSTAN

REFS: A) STATE 10371 B) 97 TASHKENT 6028

1. SUMMARY: THE FIRST LADY'S NOVEMBER, 1997 VISIT TO KAZAKHSTAN SUCCEEDED IN SIGNIFICANTLY RAISING THE PROFILE OF WOMEN'S ISSUES IN BOTH THE GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR IN THIS COUNTRY, AND IN STRENGTHENING THE U.S.-KAZAKHSTANI BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. THE U.S. MISSION, AND IN PARTICULAR USAID, USIS, AND PEACE CORPS KAZAKHSTAN, ARE CAPITALIZING ON THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT AND PROMOTING WOMEN'S ISSUES IN KAZAKHSTAN THROUGH A VARIETY OF INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS. CONTINUATION AND EXPANSION OF THESE PROGRAMS WILL ADDRESS THE FIRST LADY'S COMMITMENT TO INTEGRATING WOMEN AS FULL PARTICIPANTS IN NIS SOCIETIES. END SUMMARY.

FLOTUS VISIT GIVES WOMEN'S ISSUES A BOOST

2. FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON'S NOVEMBER, 1997 VISIT TO KAZAKHSTAN WAS A WATERSHED EVENT FOR THE COUNTRY. HER VISIT PUT KAZAKHSTAN ON THE MAP FOR MOST AMERICANS JUST IN TIME FOR KAZAKHSTANI PRESIDENT NAZARBAYEV'S TRIP TO THE U.S. THE FOLLOWING WEEK. HER MEETING WITH NAZARBAYEV SET THE TONE FOR HIS SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT

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CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE.

3. THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT ALSO RAISED THE PROFILE OF WOMEN'S ISSUES IN KAZAKHSTAN. HER MEETINGS WITH VARIOUS NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS RECEIVED EXTENSIVE LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE, AND HER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE CENTRAL ASIAN CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN IN POLITICS LAID OUT A BLUEPRINT FOR IMPROVING WOMEN'S SITUATIONS THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

4. PERHAPS THE MOST VISIBLE AND LASTING SUCCESS OF THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT WAS THE ENHANCED STATUS SHE GAVE TO THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS SHE VISITED. THE KAZAKHSTAN ASSOCIATION OF YOUTH LEADERS (KAYL), IN PARTICULAR, HAS REMARKED THAT IT NOW HAS UNPRECEDENTED ACCESS TO EDUCATION MINISTRY OFFICIALS, AND THAT MANY OF ITS PROPOSALS ARE NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT. KAYL'S LEADERSHIP CREDITS THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT DIRECTLY WITH THE ORGANIZATION'S RECENT SUCCESSES.

5. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OUTLINE THE EFFORTS OF VARIOUS PARTS OF THE U.S. MISSION IN KAZAKHSTAN TO CAPITALIZE ON THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT.

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USAID ACTIVITIES
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6. USAID HAS STRENGTHENED SEVERAL ACTIVITIES THAT RESPOND TO THE THEMES OF THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT. (NOTE: MOST OF THESE ACTIVITIES ARE ALREADY FUNDED OR WILL BE FUNDED WITH CURRENT PROGRAM FUNDS HENCE, THEY ARE NOT RANKED AS REQUESTED REF (A). END NOTE.) THE USAID-FUNDED COUNTERPART FOUNDATION IS LAUNCHING AN INITIATIVE TO TARGET SUPPORT FOR NGO'S THAT FOCUS ON WOMEN'S ISSUES. THE NEW CONSTITUENCY BUILDING PROGRAM WILL FEATURE A CONTEST TO IDENTIFY THE BEST NGO PROJECT PROPOSALS RELATING TO WOMEN'S ISSUES THROUGHOUT CENTRAL ASIA. CONTEST PRIZES OF UP TO USD 400 WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNING PROPOSALS. IN ADDITION, THE CONTEST WILL HELP COUNTERPART CONSORTIUM TARGET QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR FUTURE GRANTS OF UP TO APPROXIMATELY USD 15,000. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS PROGRAM, COUNTERPART CONSORTIUM HAS PRODUCED A VIDEO ON THE IMPORTANCE OF NGO'S TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND INTERESTS, WHICH IS BEING SHOWN TO KAZAKHSTANI AUDIENCES TO PROMOTE GREATER AWARENESS OF KEY WOMEN'S ISSUES.

7. IN THE HEALTH SECTOR, USAID ACTIVITIES CONTINUE

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TO IMPROVE WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH. WOMEN'S WELLNESS CENTERS (ONE OF WHICH WAS VISITED BY THE

FIRST LADY DURING HER NOVEMBER TRIP) ARE EXPANDING SERVICES TO INCLUDE BREAST CANCER SCREENING, ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGNS, AND OTHER INITIATIVES OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN. USAID'S HEALTH CARE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 ALMATY 000833

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PROGRAM FOCUSES ON FAMILY PLANNING AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES, AND ITS PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM WILL TARGET CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN SUFFERING FROM MALNUTRITION AND ANEMIA. IN ADDITION, THE HOUSTON HOSPITAL PARTNERSHIP IS PRODUCING A SERIES OF TELEVISION PROGRAMS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH ISSUES THAT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO USAID-SUPPORTED FAMILY GROUP PRACTICES.

8. FOR THE FUTURE, USAID IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING FUNDING FOR MICROCREDIT PROGRAMS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY THROUGH MERCY CORPS AND THE CENTRAL ASIAN-AMERICAN ENTERPRISE FUND, AND OF EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THESE PROGRAMS TO OTHER AREAS OF KAZAKHSTAN. SUCH A PROGRAM WOULD EXPAND KAZAKHSTANI WOMEN'S ACCESS TO CREDIT TO START SMALL BUSINESSES AND SECURE GREATER FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE.

- - - - -
USIS ACTIVITIES
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10. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE CENTRAL ASIAN CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN POLITICS (AT WHICH THE FIRST LADY DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS IN NOVEMBER), USIS IS CONSIDERING A REQUEST FOR SUPPORT TO FOUND AN ASSOCIATION OF QUOTE WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT UNQUOTE. SUCH AN ASSOCIATION WOULD PIGGY-BACK ON THE SUCCESSFUL FIVE-YEAR USIS PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION TRAINING PROGRAM FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS BY BRINGING TOGETHER ALUMNI OF THAT PROGRAM AS THE BASIS FOR THE INITIAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE GROUP. PROJECTED COSTS OF ESTABLISHING SUCH AN ASSOCIATION ARE YET TO BE DETERMINED, BUT WOULD INCLUDE THE COST OF BRINGING PARTICIPANTS TOGETHER

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FROM THROUGHOUT KAZAKHSTAN, CONFERENCE COSTS, AND THE COST OF BRINGING IN RESOURCE PEOPLE FROM THE UNITED STATES. ESTIMATED COSTS COULD BE IN THE RANGE OF USD 30,000.

11. USIS CONTINUOUSLY MAINTAINS CONTACT WITH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS AND WORKS ON DEVELOPING PROGRAMS TARGETED AT WOMEN'S ISSUES. FOR EXAMPLE, USIS INCLUDES AND ENCOURAGES PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM AND OTHER CORE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS. USIS IS ALSO CAREFUL TO CONSIDER WOMEN LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS DEALING WITH WOMEN'S ISSUES WHEN IT AWARDS DEMOCRACY COMMISSION GRANTS. FINALLY, THE STUDY OF WOMEN'S ISSUES REMAINS A PRIORITY AREA IN THE CONSIDERATION OF APPLICANTS FOR REGIONAL SCHOLAR EXCHANGES, MUSKIE FELLOWSHIPS, FULLBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS, AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.

PEACE CORPS ACTIVITIES

12. PEACE CORPS KAZAKHSTAN IS ACTIVELY PROMOTING THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN THROUGH THE FORMATION OF A WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT (WID) COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL WAS FOUNDED IN AUGUST, 1997, AND HAS COMPLETED A SURVEY ON WOMEN'S PERCEPTIONS OF IMPORTANT WOMEN'S ISSUES IN KAZAKHSTAN. THE COUNCIL ALSO SPONSORED A QUOTE TAKE A GIRL TO WORK DAY UNQUOTE IN NOVEMBER, 1997, AND IS PLANNING ANOTHER ONE TO COINCIDE WITH THE VERY POPULAR MARCH EIGHTH WOMEN'S DAY OBSERVATION IN KAZAKHSTAN.

13. A WID CONFERENCE IS PLANNED FOR MARCH 28-29 IN ALMATY; THE PUBLICITY THAT SURROUNDED THE FIRST LADY'S VISIT HAS HELPED TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN FROM NEARLY EVERY OBLAST (REGION) IN KAZAKHSTAN WILL PARTICIPATE. THE CONFERENCE WILL MARK THE FIRST TIME THAT WOMEN INTERESTED I]DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND IN WOMEN'S ISSUES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TOGETHER WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF PEACE CORPS KAZAKHSTAN. ALL THESE ACTIVITIES ARE FUNDED THROUGH THE OPERATING BUDGET OF PEACE CORPS KAZAKHSTAN.

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