

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Slovak Meetings (6 pages)	10/20/1999	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Mealne Verveer
OA/Box Number: 20052

FOLDER TITLE:

Slovak Republic

2013-0534-S
ry1640

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]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

File
Slovakia

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

Phone: (202)456-6266

Fax: (202)456-6244

TO: William Scofield

PHONE: 011-421-7-533-3338

FAX: 011-421-7-533-5439

FROM: Katy Button

COMMENTS: Letter from Mrs. Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 29, 1997

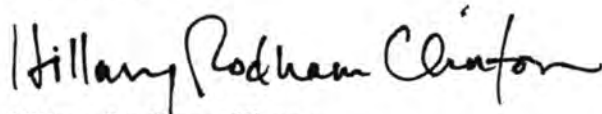
I am delighted to send greetings and best wishes to all of you gathered in Kosice for the Fifth Stupova Conference on the Third Sector Working Actively for Democracy.

I vividly remember my meeting with representatives of non-governmental organizations during my visit to Slovakia in July 1996. I learned first hand about the important efforts that are being made through committed citizen action to address common challenges such as protection of the environment, improvements in health services, promotion of women's rights and the strengthening of a free press, among other issues.

As you all know, NGOs play an essential role in the building of civil society and in building vibrant democracy that allows people to participate fully in the civic life of their communities. We Americans know from our own country's experience with 200 years of democracy that the work of democracy is a never-ending process.

Through your work, you are helping to foster civic participation and to deepen democracy in your own country. Thank you for your important work and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Hillary Rodham Clinton

PHOTOCOPY
HRC HANDWRITING

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UNCLASSIFIED

file Slovakia

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

PAGE 01 OF 02

PRT: FIRSTLADY

SIT: FALLIN HAMMER LEAVY

SIT: NSC

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 150953Z OCT 99

FM AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1061

INFO RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 2527

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0080

RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK 0027

UNCLAS BRATISLAVA 003550

STATE FOR INR/R, EU - WEITZENKORN, EUR/NCE - DUNNETT

WARSAW FOR PA

ROME FOR PA

REYKJAVIK FOR PA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: LO, KMDR, OIIP, OVIP

SUBJECT: FIRST LADY'S TRIP -- MEDIA REACTION FOLLOW-UP

REF: BRATISLAVA 3470

1. SEVERAL NEWS ORGANIZATIONS TOOK A SECOND LOOK AT THE VISIT OF HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TO SLOVAKIA ON OCTOBER 6. ON OCTOBER 8 BRATISLAVA DAILY "PRACA" (LABOR-ORIENTED) DEVOTED A THIRD OF PAGE 7 TO HER VISIT UNDER THE HEADLINE "HILLARY IS AN ABSOLUTE PROFESSIONAL." THE ARTICLE GAVE A REPORTER'S-EYE VIEW OF THE FIRST LADY'S MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, DESCRIBING THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THE SECURITY REGIME, AND THE TWO-HOUR WAIT FOR THE PRINCIPALS TO APPEAR. ALTHOUGH GIVING A CRITICAL VIEW OF THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR THE PRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, THE ARTICLE GAVE A FAVORABLE VIEW OF THE FIRST LADY, DESCRIBING HER PREVIOUS VISIT TO SLOVAKIA AND HER POSSIBLE POLITICAL PLANS.

2. LATE ON OCTOBER 7 THE INDEPENDENT PRESS AGENCY SITA ISSUED AN ARTICLE QUOTING COMMENTATOR ZOLO MIKES, WHO SAID MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT "WAS AN EXPRESSION OF PRAISE FOR THE CONTRIBUTION THAT SLOVAK (NGO'S) HAVE MADE TO THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF SLOVAK SOCIETY." MIKES CRITICIZED THE SLOVAK PRESIDENTIAL AND CABINET OFFICES FOR NOT CREATING SUITABLE CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS COVERING THE STORY. HE CONTRASTED THIS SITUATION WITH THE "FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE" OF THE U.S. EMBASSY WHICH ORGANIZED THE NGO ROUNDTABLE FOR THE FIRST LADY. "SIMPLY PUT, THE AMERICANS CARED ABOUT THE

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PAGE 02 OF 02

PUBLIC'S RECEIVING INFORMATION ABOUT THE VISIT OF THE U.S. FIRST LADY THROUGH THE MEDIA. IT IS A CLEAR DIFFERENCE IN UNDERSTANDING (REGARDING) EXPRESSION IN AN OPEN SOCIETY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION," HE WROTE.

3. BRATISLAVA DAILY TABLOID "NOVY CAS," THE MOST WIDELY-READ NEWSPAPER IN SLOVAKIA, CARRIED AN ARTICLE ON PAGE 4 OF ITS OCTOBER 9 EDITION ENTITLED "EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED," WHICH ASCRIBED POLITICAL MOTIVES TO MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT SHE IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE SENATE FROM NEW YORK AND WENT ON TO SAY THAT "IT IS NOT HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHY SHE VISITED IRELAND (SIC), POLAND, AND ITALY, ONCE YOU REALIZE THE ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF THE STATE IN WHICH SHE IS A CANDIDATE....IF YOU THINK THAT THE NON-WESTERN SLOVAKIA DOES NOT BELONG ON THIS LIST YOU ARE WRONG. ALONG WITH HER CHALLENGING WORDS ON DEMOCRATIC AND POLITICAL REFORM IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC HILLARY DEDICATED ONE WHOLE HOUR OF HER FIVE-HOUR PROGRAM TO MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC." THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO STATE INCORRECTLY THAT MRS. CLINTON HAD A GROUP OF AMERICAN REPORTERS IN HER ENTOURAGE WHO REPORTED ON EVERY STEP OF HER TRIP. THE ARTICLE CARRIED A REUTERS PHOTO OF THE FIRST LADY WALKING WITH A LOCAL RABBI.

4. TWO OTHER ARTICLES THAT APPEARED IN BRATISLAVA DAILIES HUMOROUSLY COMMENTED ON THE FACT THAT MRS. CLINTON'S PROGRAM DID NOT INCLUDE LUNCH. THEY OBSERVED THAT SHE MUST HAVE BEEN HUNGRY WHILE SHE WAS HERE. HENGEL

<^SECT>SECTION: 01 OF 01

<^SSN>3550

<MSGID> M4099022

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File
Slovakia

March 28, 2000

TO: Hillary
FROM: Melanne
RE: Slovakia

The NSC is finalizing decisions for the President's June travel. It would be so worthwhile if he could make a brief stop in Slovakia, as you have so often noted yourself and as you stated to the press during your last visit there. At this point, it does not appear that a stop will be recommended.

The Slovak government -- knowing of your interest -- has been keeping us apprised of their accomplishments. Slovakia made a remarkable turn-about after the 1998 election, when the authoritarian PM Meciar was turned out and the current democratic coalition -- led by PM Dzurinda -- came into power (Meciar and others lurk in the wings, and we should do all we can to ensure the success of this tolerant, pluralist ruling coalition.). Domestically, the current Slovak government has passed legislation to fund programs for the Roma minority, an example of its concrete commitment to human rights domestically. Economically, U.S. Steel just signed a MOU with a Slovak producer; this large investment project is a harbinger of Slovakia's opening up to Western business since 1998. New privatization legislation is also pending before the parliament. I'm told that the Slovaks have emerged as the leader of the pack for the second wave of NATO enlargement. Slovakia stood with us staunchly in Kosovo and continues important military reforms and investments; the Slovaks are also closing in on OECD membership (up for evaluation this spring) and are working on eight "chapters" in their push for EU membership -- an aggressive and forward-looking attitude toward their economic and political integration into Europe and the global economy.

Melannefrom
Cameron

Suggestions for your memo:

[in addition to other instances you mention] Slovak President Schuster invited President to Slovakia again in January at Davos. We have no witness to the event, but Schuster told the Slovak press that President planned to visit this year. He repeated this claim when I saw him in Bratislava in early March.

Some points:

- ② Domestically, the current Slovak government has passed legislation to fund programs for the Roma minority, an example of its concrete commitment to human rights domestically. The current government, which includes representatives of Slovakia's Hungarian minority, has defused Slovak-Hungarian tensions and contributed to good relations with Hungary and other neighbors in the region.
- Economically, U.S. Steel just signed a MOU with a Slovak producer; this large investment project is a harbinger of Slovakia's opening up to western business since 1998. New privatization legislation is pending before the parliament.
- ③ The Slovaks are closing in on OECD membership (up for evaluation this spring) and are working on eight "chapters" in their push for EU membership -- an aggressive and forward-looking attitude toward their economic and political integration into Europe and the global economy.
- ⑤ ~~From being an "also-ran" in the first-wave of NATO enlargement, the Slovaks have emerged as the leader of the pack for the second wave:~~ *I'm tired for NATO and ⑤*
Slovakia stood with us staunchly in Kosovo, continues important military reforms and investments, ~~and has initiated a public affairs campaign to broaden support for the Alliance and its goals.~~
- ④ In other words, Slovakia has ^①made a remarkable turn-about since the 1998 election, when the authoritarian PM Meciar was turned out and the current democratic coalition, led by PM Dzurinda, came into power. (Meciar and other lurk in the wings, and we should do all we can to ensure the success of the tolerant, pluralist ruling coalition.)

visits)