

MEMORANDUM

TO: BRENDA
FROM: KIM
RE: VIDEOS

North Carolina Council for Women

The North Carolina Council for Women (NCCW), a state advocacy agency for women, is sponsoring a statewide conference on April 27 "Forum to the Future" as a follow-up to the United Nations Fourth World Conference for Women held in Beijing. NCCW Executive Director Juanita M. Bryant, appointed by the Governor led a North Carolina delegation to the United Nations Fourth World Conference and Non-Governmental Forum on Women to Beijing in 1995. The goal of the delegation's participation was to "bring Beijing home" by adopting or developing initiatives to address the critical areas of concern in the Women's Conference. This conference aims to educate and inform the women of North Carolina about what needs to be done to bring the commitments made at the U.N. Conference home and to create an area specific plan for North Carolina. The Council for Women has established a speakers bureau which has collectively addressed more than 500 groups about the conference and forum. The council is re-examining its position papers and the laws of the state in light of the recommendations made in Beijing, and plans to bring both up to date.

The day long conference, taking place at the McKimmon Center on the North Carolina State Campus, will open with a welcome given by both the Director of the program, Juanita Bryant, and by the Council Board Chair, Jane Carver. Following the welcome your video will be presented to an audience of approximately 500 invited women and men primarily from North Carolina programs and women's organizations throughout the state. After the presentation of your video, Irene Natividad chairperson of the National Commission on Working Women and Women's Vote '96 Washington D.C. will present the keynote speech.

The conference will consist of twelve workshops geared towards the 12 issues presented in the Platform for Action in the Beijing conference. The workshops will be headed by panelists from all over the country, and participants will be urged to come out of the workshops with a goal and a plan of action towards the issues. Speakers in the conference include Kathy Hendrix, Co-Director of the President's Inter-Agency Council on Women, and Linda Tarr-Whelan, President and CEO of the Center for Policy Alternatives. Other speakers include Michael Dowd, the Executive Director of the Battered Women Justice Center at Pace University, Barbara Ferris, the President and Founder of International Women's Democracy Center and Delores Crockett, Deputy Director of the Women's Bureau U.S. Department of Labor.

draft

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN
"BRING BEIJING HOME"
APRIL 23, 1996

Good morning. I wish I could be there with you today as you gather to "Bring Beijing Home" for the women of North Carolina. ~~I was privileged to take~~ part in the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, ~~and~~ I am heartened to know that you are continuing the very important work that was begun last September in Beijing.

I want to thank the delegates to the NGO Forum and the World Conference who are present for sharing the policies and ideas you helped formulate in China. The fact that you are gathered here today is a statement of your interest and engagement in the issues facing us on the eve of an exciting and challenging new century. I hope that all of you will share what you have learned today with your family and friends, your co-workers and colleagues, ~~back at home, in whatever where you live.~~ *and your neighborhoods back home.*

The U.N. Conference focused world attention on issues that matter most in the lives of women and their families: access to education, health care, basic legal and human rights, and the opportunity to participate in the political life of their countries. Our job now is to realize the goals of the Conference.

Each of you plays a vital role in converting words into concrete actions. What you do at a local level does not just affect your community, it has a ripple effect that can change the status and conditions of women around the world. ~~Let us create a~~ world in which every family has the hope of a strong and stable future, every woman is treated with respect and dignity, and every boy and girl is loved and cared for equally.

Best wishes to you all.

###

so that we can
move closer to
creating

Having had the

continuing to discuss and explore the and strategies

and your neighborhoods back home.

[Handwritten initials]

Source: Randon
TB Approved by PS

OFFICE OF SCHEDULING FOR THE FIRST LADY

DATE 3/12/96

ORGANIZATION/ EVENT	North Carolina Council for Women
DATE	April 27
LOCATION	VIDEO
EVENT DESCRIPTION	"Bring Beijing Home" statewide conference "Forum for the Future"
STATUS	ACCEPT _____ REGRET _____ PENDING _____ VIDEO _____ LETTER _____
CONTACT	Juanita M. Bryant
NOTES	→ would like video-taped speech of Mrs. Clinton 10-12 minutes Ann Case / Melania Wade says + P. tomorrow morning Note: is Juanita introducing video?

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN
526 N. WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27604-1199

PH# 919/733-2455

FAX# 919/733-2464

DATE:

3/11/96

TO:

Patti Solas, Office of the First Lady

FAX#

(202) 456-6244

PH#

(202) 456-6266

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):

4

FROM:

Juanita Bryant

Additional Comments:

also

Please give a copy

to Lisa Caputo and

Karen Finney

— Thanks





North Carolina Department of Administration

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Katie G. Dorsett, Secretary

N.C. Council for Women
Juanita M. Bryant, Executive Director

March 11, 1996

Ms. Patti Solis
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

*delegates - leadership role
Attendees - do same
in our communities.*

Dear Ms. Solis:

The North Carolina Council for Women is planning a statewide conference on April 27 to "Bring Beijing Home" as a follow-up of the United Nations Conference for Women held in Beijing. North Carolina had a delegation of 48 women attend the NGO Forum and two attend the UN Conference as observers.

*50 delegates
from NGO Forum
& Conference*

Our expectations for the conference, the "Forum for the Future," are quite high. We are planning to have approximately 500 participants, and we would like to have a strong agenda from which to work. We would most like to have a videotaped speech from the First Lady. Because Mrs. Clinton was present and participated in the U.N. Conference in Beijing, we feel she would be a very strong representative of the platform issues we are planning to address. We would like the videotaped speech of Mrs. Clinton to last for about 10 to 12 minutes.

My daughter, Debby Bryant, who is the director of Governor James B. Hunt's Washington office has spoken with Linda Moore of the Clinton/Gore Political Office, and I have spoken with officials of the N.C. Campaign Office in order to clear a presentation by Mrs. Clinton. They are all in agreement that it would be excellent to have a videotaped address by her for our conference participants.

We were all so impressed with the address by the First Lady in Beijing, and her participation in our North Carolina conference would add a great deal to our program. We would be glad to furnish you with some suggested remarks to localize the presentation to go along with her personal remarks.

*create a plan of action for N.Car.
workshops/panel discussion*

526 North Wilmington Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27604-1199 • Telephone 919-733-2455
State Courier 56-82-06 • Fax Number 919-733-2464

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer



3 plenary sessions

Page 2

Ms. Patti Solis

March 11, 1996

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We would like to include this on our invitations and in the printed program.

Please advise if you need any additional information, and you may call me at (919) 733-2455 or my assistant, Ann Case.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Juanita M. Bryant
Executive Director

JMB:alc

cc: Lisa Caputo
Karen Finney



Participating female legislators past and present (left to right): Ruth Cook, Representative Ruth Easterling, Wilma Woodard, Annie Brown Kennedy and Bertha Holt.

The N.C. Council for Women received notification of accreditation as an official NGO, enabling Mrs. Bryant and Representative Easterling to observe the actual meetings of the U.N. Conference. Another member of the N.C. delegation, Nancy Neal of Hamlet, was accredited through the National Women's Political Caucus.

... ..
great army of the Emperor Qin Shi Huang. The figures have been standing by the tomb of the emperor for over 2,000 years. The figures are of larger-than-life size, and each has different facial features and hairstyles, with details of uniform varying according to army rank.

The N.C. delegation joined the total number of NGO participants, which is estimated to be between 20,000 and 40,000. Advance registrants numbered 39,000. Information provided by the United Nations Information Center in Sydney, Australia, revealed that over 30,000 people attended the NGO Forum, which with the 17,000

registered participants at the Fourth World Conference, made the occasion the largest number of women and men ever to gather in connection with a United Nations global conference.

The theme of the forum was Equality, Development and Peace, and it was held between August 31 and September 8. The 1995 World Conference followed previous meetings in Nairobi (1985), Copenhagen (1980) and Mexico City (1975), and asked what has happened since Nairobi, what still needs to be done and how we can recapture the impetus of the U.N. Decade for Women. Workshops numbered over 300 on any given day of the forum. Topics and themes related to the twelve critical areas of concern addressed in the Platform for Action. The U.N. Conference was September 4 through September 15.

Among the highlights was the participation by U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who spoke on September 5 at the conference and September 6 at the forum. Mrs. Bryant and Representative Easterling were both at the conference to hear her remarks. She was a heroine to participants and the women of the world waited for hours to see her. Mrs. Clinton's participation was a highlight for women from around the world. She made history with her statement, "Women's rights are human rights," and captured the world with her call to action.

U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Madeleine Albright, who addressed the conference on September 6, took a leading role in promoting the U.S. goals for the U.N. Conference. In particular, she articulated the U.S. government commitments, which include:

- the establishment of a White House Council on Women to plan for U.S. implementation of the Platform for Action;
- the initiation of a six-year, \$1.6 billion plan to fight domestic violence and other crimes against women by the U.S. Department of Justice; and,
- the promotion of a grassroots campaign to improve conditions for women in the workplace by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Mrs. Bryant and CFW Chairperson Jane Carver heard Ambassador Albright's remarks outlining U.S. commitments and have been working toward planning a "Forum for the Future" in North Carolina to be held in early 1996 as a way to bring back some of the strategies for action presented at the forum and conference.

"It will be important to synthesize what we learned and convey it to the women here in North Carolina," stated Mrs. Bryant. The 1996 event will focus on the twelve critical areas of concern which are central to the Platform for Action. Additionally, the council has issued a Report to the Governor based on the trip, and will re-examine its position papers in an effort to bring them up-to-date as a result of information gleaned in China. The Council for Women also plans to review state laws in light of the Platform for Action and make recommendations to bring them in line with the U.S. commitments articulated at the conference. Finally, the council is working toward establishing a Speakers' Bureau to travel around the state to groups and organizations and take the forum and conference to the grassroots level.

Members of the N.C. delegation universally expressed the changes in their thinking as a result of attending the conference and forum. No one who attended this meeting will forget the faces of our sisters in other countries around the world, the fervor with which they embraced the notion of equality and their insistence that things must change for women if our civilization is to thrive and advance. The most meaningful souvenirs did not come from the roadside vendors, the department stores or the historic sites we visited; the most important things we brought home from Beijing are the exchanges we had with women from across the globe. Their faces and the memories of those shared words will remain forever impressed on each of our hearts as a reminder that we must expand our perspective to include the whole world as our neighborhood and every woman's children as our own. It is this feeling of inclusiveness which will move us beyond our differences and into the 21st century: one world, one people.



Pictured are members of the N.C. delegation who are present or past presidents of women's organizations (left to right): Terry Shank (N.C. League of Women Voters), Molly Johnson (N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs), June Kimmel (N.C. Women's Political Caucus), Juanita Bryant (current director of the CFW, past president of the state and international General Federation of Woman's Clubs), Barbara Ann Hughes (Aitrusa International and the Women's Forum) and Barbara Kornegay (N.C. Business and Professional Women).

BRINGING BEIJING HOME



Pictured above is most of the N.C. delegation

N.C. Council for Women Executive Director **Juanita M. Bryant** led the N.C. delegation of 48 women to the U.N. Fourth World Conference and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Forum on Women in Beijing, China. Governor Hunt appointed Mrs. Bryant to lead the official N.C. delegation, which departed August 28 for China and returned on September 13.

The delegation, which included Department of Administration Secretary **Katie G. Dorsett** and N.C. Representative **Ruth Easterling** (D-Mecklenburg), combined the U.N. Conference and the NGO Forum activities with some sightseeing. Former female legislators included **Ruth Cook** of Raleigh, **Bertha Holt** of Burlington, **Annie Brown Kennedy** of Winston-Salem, and **Wilma Woodard** of Beaufort. Four staff members, including Mrs. Bryant, participated from the N.C. Council for Women.



Participating female legislators past and present (left to right): **Ruth Cook**, Representative **Ruth Easterling**, **Wilma Woodard**, **Annie Brown Kennedy** and **Bertha Holt**.

The N.C. Council for Women received notification of accreditation as an official NGO, enabling Mrs. Bryant and Representative Easterling to observe the actual meetings of the U.N. Conference. Another member of the N.C. delegation, **Nancy Neal** of Hamlet, was accredited through the National Women's Political Caucus.

The goal of the U.N. Conference was to finalize the Platform for Action, which addresses twelve critical areas of concern identified as obstacles for women:

- poverty
- health
- armed conflicts
- power-sharing
- human rights
- environment
- education
- violence
- economic disparity
- institutions
- mass media
- equity for girls

The goal of the N.C. delegation was to "Bring Beijing Home" by adopting or developing initiatives to address the critical areas of concern.

The N.C. delegation arrived in Beijing on August 30, the day of the NGO Forum Opening Ceremony. Throughout that week and the next, participants had the option of attending the forum, plenary sessions or workshops. On September 8, the group traveled to the Ming Tombs and the Great Wall of China. The next day's itinerary included the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace. On September 10, the group toured the Heavenly Palace in the morning and then flew to Xian, where they spent the next day touring the Terra Cotta Museum, the Banpo Museum, the City Wall and the Wild Goose Pagoda. The following day, the group left for Japan, where a few stayed over but most of the delegation returned to the U.S.

The Terra Cotta Army was a highlight of the touring, as it is a relatively recent find. It was discovered in 1974, when peasants digging a well during a drought uncovered some clay warriors. Lying at the foot of Lishan Mountain and to the east of the city of Xian, the pits of the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses cover an area of about 20,000 square meters, where 6,000 clay soldiers and horses have been unearthed and were found arrayed in battle formation of the great army of the Emperor Qin Shi Huang. The figures have been standing by the tomb of the emperor for over 2,000 years. The figures are of larger-than-life size, and each has different facial features and hairstyles, with details of uniform varying according to army rank.

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Page 2
Ms. Patti Solis
March 11, 1996

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We would like to include this on our invitations and in the printed program.

Please advise if you need any additional information, and you may call me at (919) 733-2455 or my assistant, Ann Case.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Juanita M. Bryant
Executive Director

JMB:alc

cc: Lisa Caputo
Karen Finney

*Patti
on's Declined
should we
go
VIDEO*

OFFICE OF SCHEDULING FOR THE FIRST LADY

DATE 3/28/96

ORGANIZATION/ EVENT	North Carolina Council for Women
DATE	<u>April 27, 1996</u>
LOCATION	
EVENT DESCRIPTION	would like videotaped message from HRC for their "Forum for the Future" to bring home Beijing home" to the people of N.C.
STATUS	ACCEPT <input type="checkbox"/> REGRET <input type="checkbox"/> PENDING <input type="checkbox"/> VIDEO <input type="checkbox"/> LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT	Juanita M. Bryant
NOTES	received before → she believes we thought the event was <u>March</u> 27, not <u>April</u> 27

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN
526 N. WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27604-1199

PH# 919/733-2455
FAX# 919/733-2464

DATE: 3/27/96 OFFICE OF FIRST LADY
TO: Patli Solis, Lisa Caputo, Karen Finney
FAX# (202) 456-6244 PH# (202) 456-6266

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 6

FROM: Juanita Bryant Ann Case
Exc Dir. Adm. ASST.

Additional Comments: I need your help on the enclosed. Please see my original request dated March 11th. Would you PLEASE follow up with the Office of the First Lady as we want to list this on our invitations and printed programs.

Thanks so much.

Juanita

URGENT
For April 27 event





North Carolina Department of Administration

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Katie G. Dorsett, Secretary

N.C. Council for Women
Juanita M. Bryant, Executive Director

March 27, 1996

Office of the First Lady
The White House

We have previously requested to have a videotaped message from the First Lady for our conference "Forum for the Future." The conference will be on Saturday, April 27, 1996. We are looking forward to "bringing Beijing home" to the women and men of North Carolina. We have very high expectations for the "Forum for the Future" in that we are looking to have superb workshop panels and approximately 500 women and men in attendance including the 48 member delegation from North Carolina.

In view of the fact that there was some apparent confusion in thinking our event was to be held March 27 rather than the actual date of April 27, we are forwarding some additional information in the hopes that you will be able to meet our request. We have taken the liberty of drafting some suggested remarks for the First Lady and would very much like to have this presentation for our opening session. We feel a video message from the First Lady would be well received by the attendees.

We would greatly appreciate your letting us know as soon as you can if it will be possible to have the video message. We want to include the presentation as a special insert in our invitation and printed program.

Your assistance will be most appreciated, and we look forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any further questions you may contact me or my assistant, Ann Case, at (919) 733-2455.

Sincerely,

Juanita M. Bryant
Executive Director

JMB:alc



DRAFT

Remarks for Mrs. Clinton for
Forum for the Future
April 27, 1996
McKimmon Center, Raleigh, N.C.

Good morning. I bring you warm and special greetings from the President, and I only wish I could be there with you today as you are gathering to plan for the future for the women of North Carolina. I feel privileged to have played a role in the UN Fourth World Conference on Women. The Conference focused world attention on issues that matter most in the lives of women and their families: access to education, health care, basic legal and human rights and participating fully in the political life of their countries.

What we have learned is that if women are healthy and educated their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will thrive. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will prosper.

I want to commend Governor Hunt on his foresight in appointing Juanita Bryant to lead the North Carolina delegation of 48 participants to the conference and the forum last fall in China. His commitment to improving the lives of women and families in North Carolina is evident in such programs as Smart Start, which is nationally known. I am especially proud of the North Carolina delegation and the North Carolina Council for Women for following through on their commitment to "Bring Beijing Home" to North Carolina.

Specific national commitments were made in Beijing. These commitments must be endorsed and supported on the local level in order to effectively change policy and address the twelve critical areas of concern identified in the Platform for Action. The U.S. has taken active steps to follow up on the those commitments by:

- (1) establishing a White House Council on Women to plan for the U.S. implementation of the Platform for Action;
- (2) initiating a six-year, \$1.6 billion plan to fight domestic violence and other crimes against women by the U.S. Department of Justice;
- (3) promoting a grassroots campaign to improve conditions for women in the workplace by the U.S. Department of Labor;
- (4) implementing the White House "At the Table" program, encouraging women at the community level to express their thoughts to the President.

Under the leadership of the Council for Women and Juanita Bryant, North Carolina is actively working to bring the commitments made in Beijing to the grassroots levels of North Carolina. I commend them on their efforts. Thus far, the Council for Women has established a speakers' bureau, which has collectively addressed more than 500 groups about the conference and Forum. The Council is re-examining its position papers and the laws of the state in light of the recommendations made in Beijing, and plans to bring

Under the leadership of the Council for Women and Juanita Bryant, North Carolina is actively working to bring the commitments made in Beijing to the grassroots levels of North Carolina. I commend them on their efforts. Thus far, the Council for Women has established a speakers' bureau, which has collectively addressed more than 500 groups about the conference and forum. The Council is re-examining its position papers and the laws of the state in light of the recommendations made in Beijing, and plans to bring both up-to-date. Finally, this conference will educate and inform the women of North Carolina about what needs to be done to bring the commitments made at the U.N. Conference home.

Plans are continuing on the national level to address the concerns raised in the Platform for Action. Most critical, however, is your commitment to changing things on the grassroots level. You can do this by actively participating in the decision-making processes. Those of us who went to the U.N. Conference realized how fortunate we were to be able to participate in that historic event. We knew we represented those who could not speak for themselves, whether they could not be there because of financial constraints or because their governments would not allow them to participate. Now we have a chance to involve every man and woman in North Carolina in the decision-making processes that affect their lives and the lives of their families. It is imperative that we spread the messages of Beijing and Huairou and facilitate involvement at every level.

As a participant in this Forum for the Future conference, you have a responsibility to be an active, involved and conscientious citizen. Register to vote; become part of the political process in your community; resolve to make informed decisions about who will represent your interests "at the table." Just as there were many who were not able to be at the table in China, there are many who are unable to be with us today. Let us heed the call to action so that we can create a world in which every family has the hope of a strong and stable future, every woman is treated with respect and dignity, and every boy and girl is loved and cared for equally. Your presence here today makes it incumbent upon you to make sure our sisters find their voices and make them heard.



North Carolina Department of Administration

James B. Hunt Jr., Governor
Katie G. Dorsett, Secretary

N.C. Council for Women
Juanita M. Bryant, Executive Director

March 11, 1996

Ms. Patti Solis
Office of the First Lady
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Solis:

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Our expectations for the conference, the "Forum for the Future," are quite high. We are planning to have approximately 500 participants, and we would like to have a **strong agenda from which** to work. We would most like to have a videotaped speech from the First Lady. Because Mrs. Clinton was present and participated in the U.N. Conference in Beijing, we feel she would be a very strong representative of the platform issues we are planning to address. We would like the videotaped speech of Mrs. Clinton to last for about 10 to 12 minutes.

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We were all so impressed with the address by the First Lady in Beijing, and her participation in our North Carolina conference would add a great deal to our program. We would be glad to furnish you with some suggested remarks to localize the presentation to go along with her personal remarks.



Page 2

Ms. Patti Solis

March 11, 1996

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We would like to include this on our invitations and in the printed program.

Please advise if you need any additional information, and you may call me at (919) 733-2455 or my assistant, Ann Case.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Juanita M. Bryant
Executive Director

JMB:alc

cc: Lisa Caputo
Karen Finney

FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL FOR WOMEN

526 N. WILMINGTON STREET

RALEIGH, NC 27604-1199

PH# 919/733-2455

FAX# 919/733-2464

DATE: 3/19/96

TO: Sabrina Corlett

FAX# 202-456-5709

PH# 202-456-5708

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 6

FROM: Ann Case (The following is a note from Juanita Bryant,

Additional Comments:

Thanks and
Let us know if this doesn't come
thru okay—

Am sending a message the First
Lady has previously done which
I think is excellent. N.C. could
be incorporated.



Speaking Points for Mrs. Clinton

(1) The goal of the U.N. Conference was to finalize the Platform for Action, which addresses twelve critical areas of concern identified as obstacles for women: poverty, education, health, violence, armed conflicts, economic disparity, power-sharing, institutions, human rights, mass media, environment, and promoting equity for girls.

(2) The U.S. has identified several priority areas in the document on which they will concentrate efforts: the human rights of women with particular emphasis on violence against women, economic security including balancing work and family responsibilities, health, equality and power-sharing. The success of U.S. participation in the conference discussions will be directly related to the practical outcomes for women and girls in the United States.

(3) Specific national commitments were made in Beijing. These commitments must be endorsed and supported on the local level in order to effectively change policy and address these critical areas of concern. The U.S. has taken active steps to follow up on the commitments made in Beijing:

(a) the establishment of a White House Council on Women to plan for US implementation of the Platform for Action

(b) the initiation of a six-year, \$1.6 billion plan to fight domestic violence and other crimes against women by the US Department of Justice

(c) the promotion of a grassroots campaign to improve conditions for women in the workplace by the US Department of Labor

(4) The White House is implementing the "At the Table" program, encouraging women at the community level to express their thoughts and communicate what's on their minds to President Clinton.

(5) North Carolina is playing a very important role in the follow-up activities. Under the leadership of N.C. Council for Women executive director Juanita Bryant, North Carolina is working toward "Bringing Beijing Home" in its own way.

(a) This conference ("Forum for the Future") is a way to bring back some of the strategies for action presented at the forum and conference

(b) the council will re-examine its position papers in an effort to bring them up-to-date as a result of information gleaned in China

(c) the Council for Women is reviewing state laws in light of the Platform for Action and make recommendations to bring them in line with the U.S. commitments articulated at the conference

(d) the council established a Speaker's Bureau to travel around the state to groups and organizations and take the forum and conference to the grassroots level

Page 2

(6) Plans continue to be implemented on the national level to address the concerns raised in the Platform for Action. Most critical, however, is your commitment to changing things on the grassroots level. You can do this by registering to vote, becoming involved in the political process and making informed decisions about the people who will represent you "at the table."

BRINGING BEIJING HOME



Pictured above is most of the N.C. delegation

N.C. Council for Women Executive Director Juanita M. Bryant led the N.C. delegation of 48 women to the U.N. Fourth World Conference and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Forum on Women in Beijing, China. Governor Hunt appointed Mrs. Bryant to lead the official N.C. delegation, which departed August 28 for China and returned on September 13.

The delegation, which included Department of Administration Secretary Katie G. Dorsett and N.C. Representative Ruth Easterling (D-Mecklenburg), combined the U.N. Conference and the NGO Forum activities with some sightseeing. Former female legislators included Ruth Cook of Raleigh, Bertha Holt of Burlington, Annie Brown Kennedy of Winston Salem, and Wilma Woodard of Beaufort. Four staff members, including Mrs. Bryant, participated from the N.C. Council for Women.



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The N.C. delegation arrived in Beijing on August 30, the day of the NGO Forum Opening Ceremony. Throughout that week and the next, participants had the option of attending the forum, plenary sessions or workshops. On September 8, the group traveled to the Ming Tombs and the Great Wall of China. The next day's itinerary included the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Summer Palace. On September 10, the group toured the Heavenly Palace in the morning and then flew to Xian, where they spent the next day touring the Terra Cotta Museum, the Banpo Museum, the City Wall and the Wild Goose Pagoda. The following day, the group left for Japan, where a few stayed over but most of the delegation returned to the U.S.

The Terra Cotta Army was a highlight of the touring, as it is a relatively recent find. It was discovered in 1974, when peasants digging a well during a drought uncovered some clay warriors. Lying at the foot of Lishan Mountain and to the east of the city of Xian, the pits of the Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses cover an area of about 20,000 square meters, where 6,000 clay soldiers and horses have been unearthed and were found arrayed in battle formation of the great army of the Emperor Qin Shi Huang. The figures have been standing by the tomb of the emperor for over 2,000 years. The figures are of larger-than-life size, and each has different facial features and hairstyles, with details of uniform varying according to army rank.

The N.C. delegation joined the total number of NGO participants, which is estimated to be between 20,000 and 40,000. Advance registrants numbered 39,000. Information provided by the United Nations Information Center in Sydney, Australia, revealed that over 30,000 people attended the NGO Forum, which with the 17,000

registered participants at the Fourth World Conference, made the occasion the largest number of women and men ever to gather in connection with a United Nations global conference.

The theme of the forum was Equality, Development and Peace, and it was held between August 31 and September 8. The 1995 World Conference followed previous meetings in Nairobi (1985), Copenhagen (1980) and Mexico City (1975), and asked what has happened since Nairobi, what still needs to be done and how we can recapture the impetus of the U.N. Decade for Women. Workshops numbered over 300 on any given day of the forum. Topics and themes related to the twelve critical areas of concern addressed in the Platform for Action. The U.N. Conference was September 4 through September 15.

Among the highlights was the participation by U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who spoke on September 5 at the conference and September 6 at the forum. Mrs. Bryant and Representative Easterling were both at the conference to hear her remarks. She was a heroine to participants and the women of the world waited for hours to see her. Mrs. Clinton's participation was a highlight for women from around the world. She made history with her statement, "Women's rights are human rights," and captured the world with her call to action.

U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Madeleine Albright, who addressed the conference on September 6, took a leading role in promoting the U.S. goals for the U.N. Conference. In particular, she articulated the U.S. government commitments, which include:

- the establishment of a White House Council on Women to plan for U.S. implementation of the Platform for Action;
- the initiation of a six-year, \$1.6 billion plan to fight domestic violence and other crimes against women by the U.S. Department of Justice; and,
- the promotion of a grassroots campaign to improve conditions for women in the workplace by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Mrs. Bryant and CFW Chairperson Jane Carver heard Ambassador Albright's remarks outlining U.S. commitments and have been working toward planning a "Forum for the Future" in North Carolina to be held in early 1996 as a way to bring back some of the strategies for action presented at the forum and conference.

"It will be important to synthesize what we learned and convey it to the women here in North Carolina," stated Mrs. Bryant. The 1996 event will focus on the twelve critical areas of concern which are central to the Platform for Action. Additionally, the council has issued a Report to the Governor based on the trip, and will re-examine its position papers in an effort to bring them up-to-date as a result of information gleaned in China. The Council for Women also plans to review state laws in light of the Platform for Action and make recommendations to bring them in line with the U.S. commitments articulated at the conference. Finally, the council is working toward establishing a Speakers' Bureau to travel around the state to groups and organizations and take the forum and conference to the grassroots level.

Members of the N.C. delegation universally expressed the changes in their thinking as a result of attending the conference and forum. No one who attended this meeting will forget the faces of our sisters in other countries around the world, the fervor with which they embraced the notion of equality and their insistence that things must change for women if our civilization is to thrive and advance. The most meaningful souvenirs did not come from the roadside vendors, the department stores or the historic sites we visited; the most important things we brought home from Beijing are the exchanges we had with women from across the globe. Their faces and the memories of those shared words will remain forever impressed on each of our hearts as a reminder that we must expand our perspective to include the whole world as our neighborhood and every woman's children as our own. It is this feeling of inclusiveness which will move us beyond our differences and into the 21st century: one world, one people.



Pictured are members of the N.C. delegation who are present or past presidents of women's organizations (left to right): Terry Shank (N.C. League of Women Voters), Molly Johnson (N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs), June Kimmel (N.C. Women's Political Caucus), Juanita Bryant (current director of the CFW, past president of the state and international General Federation of Woman's Clubs), Barbara Ann Hughes (Atrusa InternaUonal and the Women's Forum) and Barbara Kornegay (N.C. Business and Professional Women).

I thought this was excellent

Message from the First Lady

BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, FIRST LADY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; HONORARY CHAIR, U.S. DELEGATION TO THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

I feel privileged to have played a role in the UN Fourth World Conference on Women. The Conference focused world attention on issues that matter most in the lives of women and their families: access to education, health care, jobs and credit; and the chance to enjoy basic legal and human rights and participate fully in the political life of their countries.

What we have learned around the world, and what I have taken away from my trips to South Asia and Latin America and through our own country, is that if women are healthy and educated, their families will flourish. If women are free from violence, their families will thrive. If women have a chance to work and earn as full and equal partners in society, their families will prosper.

As an American, I will continue to speak up for women in the United States who are raising children on the minimum wage, women who can't afford health care or child care, women whose lives and those of their families are threatened by violence, sometimes violence in their own homes.

I will continue to speak up for mothers who are fighting for good schools, safe neighborhoods, clean air and clean airwaves; for older women, some of them widows, who have raised their families and now find that their skills and life experiences are not valued in the workplace; for women who are working all night as nurses, hotel clerks, and fast food cooks so that they can be at home during the day with their kids; and for women everywhere

who simply don't have time to do everything they are called upon to do each day.

I urge you to bring the message of the World Conference home to your state, city and community. Let us heed the call so that we can create a world in which every woman is treated with respect and dignity, every boy and girl is loved and cared for equally, and every family has the hope of a strong and stable future.

Join the Working Women Count Honor Roll

BY KAREN NUSSBAUM, DIRECTOR, WOMEN'S BUREAU, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In Spring 1994, the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor reached out to working women across the country and asked how they felt about their jobs — what they liked, what they didn't like and what they wanted to change. More than a quarter of a million women responded to the "Working Women Count" survey. Working women said they needed change in three key areas: better pay and benefits, help balancing work and family, and more respect and opportunity on the job.

The Women's Bureau heard them. And through our *Working Women Count Honor Roll* program, so have businesses, state and local governments, unions, community groups, and nonprofit organizations nationwide.

The *Honor Roll* encourages employers and other organizations to make concrete changes in the lives of working women and their families. Since the *Honor Roll's* official launch on Labor Day 1995, hundreds have answered the call.

The Women's Bureau has promised to obtain more than a thousand pledges affecting the lives of at least a million working people in the next year. This goal is also one of the major U.S. commitments that Ambassador Madeleine Albright announced at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

We are pleased with the variety of participants that have already responded: insurance giant Aetna Life and Casualty; the Congress of National Black Churches; the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government, Lexington, Kentucky; McAlvain Construction, a small company in Boise, Idaho; and the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union Local 2 in San Francisco, California. Pledges range from flexible work schedules to child care on snow days; from business school scholarships to paid leave for participating in a child's school activities.

Employers are finding that *Honor Roll* programs not only benefit workers but also boost productivity. At a White House ceremony honoring several *Honor Roll* pledges, James J. Shiro, CEO of Price Waterhouse, said, "Companies have studied pay-back from programs like this, and we realize the positive impact in our bottom lines. The results make me wonder ... why isn't every company in the country supporting programs like this?"

The potential is there, but the Women's Bureau needs your help to turn it into real change. Anyone who wants to be on the *Honor Roll* can get pledge materials by calling 1-800-827-5335. You can also help spread the word by including this toll-free number in your newsletter, publication or on-line service. And we want to issue a special challenge to everyone who participated in United States regional preparatory meetings before the Fourth World Conference on Women, and everyone who cares about U.S. implementation of the Platform for Action agreed to in