

Giuliani Web Site Assails Idea of 'Senator Clinton'

By DAN BARRY

For several weeks, Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, have waged a kind of shadow campaign for the United States Senate. He is raising money and she is peppering people with questions, but both have refused to announce their intentions. It has all been so maddeningly... polite.

Until yesterday, that is, when the Mayor's Friends of Giuliani fund-raising committee posted a new Web site on the Internet. It is called Hillaryno.com and seeks to raise money and enlist volunteers for Mr. Giuliani by capitalizing on what the Mayor's advisers sense is an untapped world of inveterate Hillary haters.

The Web site — including an unflattering photograph of the First Lady with her mouth agape — portrays Mrs. Clinton as a would-be carpetbagger with aspirations for running for President. "Born in Illinois and carried to power in Arkansas, with no connection of any kind to New York," it reads, "Hillary has set her sights on the New York Senate seat and maybe... probably... set her sights even higher."

It also suggests that Mrs. Clinton is unqualified to serve in the Senate, recalling her "failed health care experiment" and saying that she has no governmental experience and has never been elected to public office. A subtitle to the Web site reads, "U.S. Senate: For Proven Leaders, Not a Proving Ground."

Those sufficiently outraged by the prospect of a Senator Clinton from New York are provided with a few ways to vent their anger — all to the benefit of Mr. Giuliani. In fact, the Web



A new Web site created by the Mayor's Friends of Giuliani fund-raising committee.

site strongly implies that the Republican Mayor will be running for the Senate seat being vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan next year.

For example, people are informed that they can donate to Friends of Giuliani, a Federal fund-raising committee, through the mail or on line. "Either way, your dollars will send your message loud and clear — Hillary No!"

People are also encouraged to sign a petition intended to "send a clear message that you

object to Hillary Clinton using the U.S. Senate as a stepping stone to higher office."

Bruce Teitelbaum, the executive director of Solutions America, Mayor Giuliani's political action committee, said that the Web site is intended to "alert people who are users of the Internet about Mrs. Clinton's potential run for the Senate."

Mr. Teitelbaum declined to elaborate further on why the campaign had decided to bolster Mr. Giuliani's support by attacking Mrs. Clinton; why, for example, the campaign does not have a Web site called Rudyyes.com.

Mr. Giuliani has said that Mrs. Clinton's entry into the New York Senate race would strengthen his resolve to run, and before this new Web site appeared, he said that he would refrain from criticizing her for not being from New York. Several Republican strategists have said that her candidacy would considerably bolster the state party's fund-raising efforts.

The Internet broadside did not exactly intimidate Mrs. Clinton's supporters; in fact, they described it as the kind of nasty stunt they would expect from Mr. Giuliani.

Judith Hope, the Democratic state chairwoman, said: "The tone of the Web site matches the direction of his approval numbers: negative, negative, negative." Her comment referred to the recent drastic dip in the Mayor's poll ratings, after the police killed an unarmed West African immigrant last month.

Norman Adler, a political consultant who works with candidates in both parties, said Hillaryno.com is "kind of amateurish." He added, "And I think it's jumping the gun."

Clinton as Giuliani Fund-Raiser



The Friends of Giuliani fund-raising committee has created a Web site, Hillaryno.com, that portrays Mrs. Clinton as a would-be

carpetbagger — an issue that the Mayor himself has said he will not raise if they face each other in a Senate race.

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POLITICS

Dan Balz

Giuliani Sets His Site on the First Lady

Nobody ever accused New York Mayor **Rudolph W. Giuliani** of being subtle. Check out the mayor's new Web site at www.HillaryNo.com. There's a not-so-flattering photo of a smiling **Hillary Rodham Clinton** flashing a thumbs-up and the message that New York's Senate seat isn't for rookies or outsiders. In big letters it reads: "U.S. Senate: For Proven Leaders, Not a Proving Ground."

"Born in Illinois and carried to power in Arkansas, with no connection of any kind to New York, Hillary has set her sights on the New York Senate seat and maybe . . . probably . . . set her sights even higher," the Web site says.

Bruce Teitelbaum, director of Giuliani's political action committee, Solutions America, said the Web site is designed to raise money and enlist volunteers for a Giuliani Senate campaign in 2000, if the mayor decides to run.

"Clearly Mrs. Clinton has said she is seriously considering running for the U.S. Senate," Teitelbaum said. "She's refused to put that speculation to rest. In fact, she's fueling it by saying she's not going to make a decision until later in the summer. It's fair to raise the specter of her potential candidacy to help raise interest in our campaign."

The use of the first lady's possible candidacy as a fund-raising tool comes as the mayor's approval ratings continue to slide in the face of public criticism over the police shooting of **Amadou Diallo**, an unarmed West African immigrant who was hit 19 times in a fusillade of 41 shots in February.



Rudolph Giuliani's PAC has put up a Web site targeting Hillary Clinton's potential bid for Senate.

Giuliani vs. Giuliani

NEW YORK—Hillary Rodham Clinton had a good month here. For one thing, she went to Cairo. For another, she said almost nothing about whether she will run for a New York Senate seat. All she had to do, it turns out, is let Rudolph Giuliani, her prospective opponent, be Rudolph Giuliani. It cost him more than 20 points in his approval rating.

Being Giuliani means being petulant. It means being overly moralistic, dividing the world into good guys and bad guys and not ever meeting with the bad guys. It means being so severe, so stern, so implacable in your positions that the difference between principle and obsession is too blurred for anyone to discern the difference. The mayor says he never sleeps. Well, maybe it's time for a nap.

The issue at the moment is the killing Feb. 4 of Amadou Diallo, a West African immigrant. He was shot 19 times. His killers were four white policemen assigned to the vaunted Street Crime Unit. They were looking for a rapist and came upon Diallo. They must have thought he was the suspect. They must have thought he was armed. The cops fired 41 times. Diallo was unarmed.

These sorts of things happen. Cops get scared. They do dirty, dangerous work. The Street Crime Unit is both famous and notorious for its aggressive attitude and tactics. Something happened—we know not what. We do know this: The Diallo shooting triggered explosive anger in the minority community, where, it is now becoming clear, Giuliani is seen as the mayor of white New York only.

Giuliani insists he did all the right things. He said he was sorry. He went to see the bereaved mother. He went to the funeral parlor.

But he could not criticize his beloved cops. Instead, he saved his criticism for those who did. He dismissed them as political opportunists, which of course some of them are. New York has seen this pattern before. After a Haitian immigrant, Abner Louima, accused the cops of torturing him, the mayor initially said the right things—and then dismissed all criticism of the police department.

Enter next the Rev. Al Sharpton, pastor of no particular church and, in the indelible phrase of my colleague Howard Kurtz, the city's foremost racial ambulance chaser. Before long, Diallo's mother would deal only with him. He organized daily protests at police headquarters, blocking the door until arrests were made. The protesters were never manhandled or even jailed. The direst threat was to their lunch plans.

And yet, the protesters—David Dinkins, Rep. Charles Rangel, Susan Sarandon and rabbis and ministers galore—have made their point. Much of the city sensed that the incredible reduction in crime was happening at a cost—at least to someone's dignity. When blacks and Hispanics complained of being hassled, of being stopped on the street armed with nothing but youth and a dark complexion, no one could reasonably express surprise. It had to be happening.

At the same time, Giuliani was shunning the black leadership. Until just recently, he would not meet with the Manhattan borough presi-

dent, Virginia Fields. Nor, until recently, would he meet with the state's comptroller, Carl McCall. Both are African American. Both are respected, mainline politicians. For some reason, though, Giuliani took one look at them and barred the door.

In the end, Giuliani may have endangered his own accomplishments. Crime is down by a stunning amount—there were 2,200 murders in 1992, 600 last year. Some of that is due to aggressive police work. The Street Crime Unit alone accounted for 40 percent of the illegal guns seized by the police. It is now demoralized and, by decree of the commissioner, no longer allowed to work in plainclothes. Uniformed, it is bound to be less effective.

The morning line on the New York Senate race went like this: Hillary Clinton's high standing in the polls was meaningless. She was a novelty, admired for her marital travails more than her political positions. She had never run for office and was astoundingly ignorant of anything north of, say, the Barney's store on Madison Avenue. If Giuliani ran, he would punch her up good. She would crumble to the canvas by October at the latest.

But it is Giuliani who's down—with a self-administered uppercut. His rigidity has cost him across the board. Whites and Hispanics are now significantly less supportive. Blacks never liked him much to begin with and now, if possible, they like him even less. If Hillary Clinton, seeing all this, reassesses her plans, who can blame her? Maybe she should run for mayor.



HILL, NO! A page from Mayor Giuliani's Web site.

RUDY'S SITE GIVES HILL SHORT END OF THE CLICK

By ROBERT HARDT Jr.

Mayor Giuliani has launched an anti-Hillary Clinton Web site — his first major attack on his possible opponent in the Senate race.

The "www.HillaryNo.com" site was placed on the Internet on Friday by Friends of Giuliani, one of the mayor's three political fund-raising arms.

"With no governmental experience, never elected to any public office, her failed health-care experiment under her belt, Mrs. Clinton now wants to be part of the Senate as we head into the next millennium," reads the site's main page.

"Born in Illinois and carried to power in Arkansas, with no connection of any kind to New York, Hillary has set her sights on the New York Senate seat and maybe ... probably ... set her sights even higher."

The site allows people to make credit-card donations to Giuliani, volunteer for the mayor, and sign a petition to "send a clear message that you object to Hillary Clinton using the U.S. Senate as a stepping stone to higher office."

Both Giuliani and Clinton are strongly considering running next year to fill the Senate seat being vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Harold Ickes, a close adviser to Clinton, said that he thought Giuliani has flip-flopped on the carpetbagging issue.

"His own Web site now flies in the face of what he assured the country would not be an issue from his point of view," Ickes said. "Now he has made it an issue, so I guess this is what one can expect."

Bruce Teitelbaum, who oversees the mayor's political-action committee, said it took several weeks to craft the "HillaryNo" Web site.

"We don't know if she's running or not, but we thought it would be clever to raise a few points about her possible plans," Teitelbaum said.

Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, was in Africa with the First Lady yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

Clintons Tour Morocco



Photos by Associated Press

Hillary Rodham Clinton, left, receives a kiss from a Berber girl in the Moroccan village of Tasselmente on Monday. The first lady, visiting North Africa with her daughter, Chelsea, announced a \$2 million U.S. program to establish a provincial small business lending center in Morocco, and a grant of \$100,000 to fight the blindness-causing disease trachoma. At right, Chelsea leaves the grave site of a former leader of the Jewish community in Marrakesh.

NAMES & FACES

TG's If

If **Tipper Gore** found herself living at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. in a couple of years, would she change anything besides the monograms on the towels? Well, yes: She wouldn't be as outspoken as the current first lady.

Should **Vice President Gore** capture the White House in 2000, she says, she'd probably keep a lower profile than **Hillary Rodham Clinton**, who has been a fixture in the Oval Office for the past six years.

"I've never done it that way," Gore said in Sacramento, where she subbed for **President Clinton** over the weekend after he canceled an appearance at the California Democratic Party convention due to the crisis in Yugoslavia.

With four children (one still at home), a grandchild due in June and two elderly parents in the Washington area, Gore notes she has a busy schedule. "I find that I only spend so much time on issues that I care about, and I spend a lot of time on keeping the family together."

Sands Souci

The reason **Hillary Clinton** couldn't stand in for her husband was because she was—what else?—camelback riding through the Sahara yesterday with daughter **Chelsea**. After a long and festive evening as guests of the Moroccan



Camel diplomacy: Chelsea Clinton gets a ride at dawn on the Moroccan dunes; she's with her mother touring North Africa.

government at a desert encampment, mother and daughter rose early and rode their dromedaries a short distance through

the dunes to watch the sun rise.

Eight White House journalists covering the first lady's 12-day tour of North Africa participated in the revelries with the understanding that the first lady's nonworking activities would not be reported in detail. This much, however, was made known: A memo to the her staff read, "Try to keep the noise down to a minimum so that people and camels can get their rest. Camels are known to be ornery, and we would like them to get all the rest they need."

BY ZORAIDA DIAZ—REUTERS

Down Ur

► Tipper Gore says she's a big admirer of Hillary Rodham Clinton but would be a different kind of first lady. The vice president's wife said she dispenses advice when asked, most often at home or other quiet times such as hikes with her husband, and she would not be a fixture in the Oval Office offering policy advice. "I've never done it that way," she told The Associated Press Saturday.



AP

Gore: Advises during quiet times

The Clintons in North Africa



By Abdelhak Senna, Agence France-Presse

Last stops: Above, Chelsea Clinton wears a head cover during a visit to the mausoleum of Moulay Ali Sherif on Saturday in Rissani, Morocco. Below, also Saturday, Hillary Rodham Clinton kneels at the grave of U.S. Private Celia Goldberg at the North Africa American Cemetery outside Tunis, Tunisia. Goldberg was killed in Tunisia during WWII. Right, the first lady rides a camel Sunday to watch the sun rise in the Western Sahara deserts of Morocco.



By Zoraida Diaz, Reuters



By Khue Bui, AP

Hillary's image rides high in jaunt across North Africa

Her act plays well in Morocco, but what will be next?

By Jennifer Harper
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Hillary Rodham Clinton has spent the past week in North Africa doing what she does best: polishing her multifaceted public persona.

And they loved her as diplomat, humanitarian and feminist in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, just as they did in India, which she visited a year ago with daughter Chelsea.

But will her global appeal play where it counts the most, at home?

Immersed in a 12-day goodwill tour of North Africa, Mrs. Clinton has been far from the narrow, often frenetic world of insider politics. She has toured health clinics, lunched with high-profile feminists, dined with other first ladies and toured the sites with Chelsea.

When an Egyptian tour guide suggested she might like to be an archaeologist, Mrs. Clinton responded with aplomb. "Well, I am looking for a new career," she said.

The first lady has been kissed on the cheek by a female admirer, pestered by reporters and applauded by crowds of veiled women. She has spoken about waste water, women's rights, education and Kosovo.

Mrs. Clinton complimented a Tunisian women's clinic for its policy of encouraging men to have vasectomies rather than counting on female birth control.

"I agree with that," Mrs. Clinton said. "You are the first health clinic I've visited anywhere in the world that has recognized that. I'm very impressed."

Mrs. Clinton is in her element on the broader international stage. She is at ease here — impeccably turned out, telegenic and even-tempered under relentless media scrutiny.

She began the North Africa trip with a bang, reaffirming both her interest in a run for the Senate and keeping a public presence after her husband leaves office.

In Cairo, she told reporters that she had made "lots of calls" and would "continue speaking out" on issues that have fascinated her for decades.

When bombs fell over Kosovo, Mrs. Clinton switched immediately to classic first lady mode, supporting American will — and her husband.

"As my husband the president explained last night to the American people, the United States and its NATO allies have acted to stop the brutal killings of people in Kosovo and avert a broader humanitarian crisis," she said Thursday and added she was praying for the American military.

On Friday, Mrs. Clinton spoke up for women's rights, condemning violence against women in some Islamic countries.

"It is time for the violence to end, so that Algerians can once again be free to work in peace and in safety," she said. "We also must speak up for the women of Afghan-



Hillary Rodham Clinton prepares to dismount yesterday after an early morning ride in Morocco on which she watched sunrise on the Sahara.

Mrs. Clinton is in her element on the broader international stage. She is at ease here — impeccably turned out, telegenic and even-tempered under relentless media scrutiny.

istan... once again in the misused name of religion."

In Morocco, Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea retreated to the desert Saturday as their Muslim hosts slaughtered lambs in celebration of their religion's most holy event, Eid el-Adha, or "Feast of the Sacrifice."

After an evening of feasting and entertainment, the Clintons arose early, mounted their camels and rode a few hundred yards over dunes of red sand to a point from which they watched the sun rise over the Sahara.

Mrs. Clinton returns home Thursday, and according to her spokeswoman, does not have public activities planned until the White House Easter Egg roll on April 5.

Her more distant future still fascinates many. Inquiring minds ask: Will she be appointed U.N. ambassador, leave her husband, move to Manhattan, take a lucrative spot in a corporation — or even run for Senate?

Her international credentials notwithstanding, the Senate doesn't look like a sure thing.

A Marist College poll released Friday found 45 percent of registered New York voters surveyed who said Mrs. Clinton should run for office, down from 56 percent a few weeks ago. Another 49 percent said she should not run at all — up from 37 percent in February.

Indeed, life in this hemisphere has not always been kind to Mrs. Clinton.

A few weeks ago, gleeful reports of a snarling first lady made the media rounds. The Fox News Channel broke a story March 10 detailing a hair-raising row between Bill and Hillary Clinton during a family vacation.

"I don't want to be in the same room with him, let alone the same bed," Fox quoted her as saying. She also refused to accompany her husband on his Central American trip because she could not get her own bedroom.

Frisk Mrs. Clinton

By Mark R. Levin

Hillary Clinton is eyeballing a Senate candidacy in New York. But before she packs her bags for the Big Apple, she has some unpacking to do here in Washington.

Now, I hate to bring this up, because we're all supposed to move on and put the myriad Clinton scandals behind us, but there are nagging little questions about Mrs. Clinton's role in two real estate scams — Whitewater and Castle Grande — that just seem to go unanswered.

According to published accounts, in 1978 the Clintons deducted \$10,131 as an interest expense on their Whitewater property despite paying much less in total interest that year. In 1979, the Clintons paid \$12,490 toward Whitewater, deducting most of the expense as interest when, in fact, \$2,900 was not. In 1980, the Clintons made a principal payment of \$9,000 toward Whitewater, yet they deducted the principal payment as an interest expense.

Between 1984 and 1985, the Clintons seemed to have improperly claimed a total of \$5,133 in deductions for interest payments supposedly made themselves but actually made by Whitewater, resulting in an understatement of their tax obligation for these years by about \$2,400. And in 1993, the Clintons apparently failed to disclose a taxable \$58,000 economic benefit they received as a result of a 1992 agreement that released them from a Whitewater-related debt they owed to their business partner, Jim McDougal.

Who signed the Clintons' tax returns for these years? The Clintons did. They're legally responsible for what they reported to the Internal Revenue Service, whether they read their income-tax returns or not. Here we have multiple years of

either inaccurate or fraudulent reporting of their tax liability.

Moreover, a \$27,600 loan was made in 1982 in Bill Clinton's name and issued by a savings and loan controlled by the late Jim McDougal. Mrs. Clinton testified that she has no knowledge about the loan. A \$5,081 check written in 1983 by Susan McDougal has a notation on it — "Pay off Clinton." The Clintons are apparently at a loss to explain this as well.

And, of course, in 1986, a \$300,000 Small Business Administration loan



HILLARY CLINTON

was secured fraudulently by Ms. McDougal. These tax monies were used to help the McDougals' cash-strapped enterprises, including the McDougal-Clinton Whitewater venture. Mr. Clinton has testified that he had no knowledge of the loan, contradicting the testimony of two other witnesses — David Hale and the late Jim McDougal.

Yes, as we're told, this is oh so confusing. And for scandals to resonate, they apparently must be simple to explain and understand. Well, then, let me make it simple: Thousands of tax dollars were used illegally in a complicated money-laundering scheme to support, and later pay off, the Clintons' Whitewater real-estate debts,

and everyone involved in these crimes was punished except the direct beneficiaries — the Clintons. They, we're to believe, knew nothing about any of it. In fact, the Clintons' defenders even go further: They were unwitting victims.

Then there was Castle Grande, a 1,000-acre development near Little Rock. The House Banking Committee best summarized this scam: "Following the purchase of the property for \$1.75 million, financed entirely by Madison [Guaranty Savings & Loan Association], individual parcels were sold in a series of transactions involving insiders that the federal bank examiners deemed 'fictitious' and designed purely to inflate values." Of course, Jim McDougal ran Madison. This fraud cost taxpayers over \$4 million.

The long lost Rose Law Firm billing records (you remember those — the records with Mrs. Clinton's fingerprints on them?) show that despite her earlier denial, Mrs. Clinton had, in fact, performed legal work on this deal in 1985 and 1986, for which she billed her client and for which her law firm was paid. In fact, Mrs. Clinton's client was Webb Hubbell's father-in-law, Seth Ward. Congressional investigators concluded that Mr. Ward was one of Mr. McDougal's straw purchasers, i.e., he helped inflate the value of Castle Grande.

The Arkansas Democrat Gazette reported that Mrs. Clinton denied doing any work on the real-estate project known as Castle Grande. She acknowledged working on the overall land purchase that included what eventually became known as Castle Grande. Why, then, did she charge Mr. Ward for those fourteen telephone conferences? Alas, try as she might, Mrs. Clinton can't remember. It all happened so long ago. And, of course, she has no idea how those darn billing records wound up on her conference table in the White House residence.

I'm one of those rare conservatives who hopes that Mrs. Clinton will run for the Senate in New York. Maybe then we'll finally get some straight answers. I understand that the New York media are a lot more inquisitive than their White House counterparts.

Mark R. Levin is president of Landmark Legal Foundation.

Lowey works, waits

Rep. Nita M. Lowey, New York Democrat, is a candidate in limbo, waiting for Hillary Rodham Clinton to make up her mind about running for the U.S. Senate from her state.

But the 61-year-old Mrs. Lowey is not sitting still, the Associated Press reports.

While Mrs. Clinton ponders whether she should enter the glare of a New York Senate race for the seat Daniel Patrick Moynihan is leaving in 2000, Mrs. Lowey crisscrosses the state, laying the groundwork in case the first lady says no.

"I think Hillary is seriously considering running for the Senate, and I've made it clear that if she does I would support her," Mrs. Lowey said. "In the meantime, I'm doing what I have to do to prepare."

That means raising money.

At last count, Mrs. Lowey had more than \$800,000 in her congressional campaign account, an impressive figure given that many Democrats are keeping their pocketbooks sealed as they wait for Mrs. Clinton's decision.

But Mrs. Lowey's ever-present smile tightens a bit as she answers questions about Mrs. Clinton.

"I would hope in the next couple of months she makes a decision," she said. "I think it's necessary that she makes a decision."



WHAT'S DUNE? Two camels take Chelsea (left) and Hillary Clinton for a ride on the Moroccan dunes yesterday. *Reuters*

Arabian night for Hillary & Chelsea

THE DUNES OF MER-ZOUGA, Morocco — In the dark chill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton mounted camels and plodded a snaking trail toward the Saharan sunrise.

It was a hushed finale to a clanging Berber jamboree of song, dance, fire and beasts.

The First Lady and her daughter retreated to the desert Saturday and yesterday, as the Muslim hosts of this week's Moroccan leg of a North African odyssey slaughtered lambs for one of the religion's most holy events, Eid el-Adha, "Feast of the Sacrifice."

King Hassan lavished extravaganzas on the Clinton women and their entourage of 50, erecting especially for them a modern "Arabian Nights" set in the crook of the shifting red dunes.

Claps, chants and drumbeats of Berber tribal troupes greeted the party and kept up a clamor for more than four hours, from sunset to bonfire.

In a giddy, predinner rite reminiscent of a gaggle of bridesmaids before a wedding, tribal

women wrapped the Americans in traditional Berber costume.

Mrs. Clinton wore that of an honored lady: the "ahrouy," a silver-white, elaborately wrapped robe, and "tahrouyt," a black silk scarf and shawl decorated with bangles.

Chelsea, 19, opted for a shepherd's azure robe and head wrap.

In green- and white-striped tents, staffed by white-robed servants wearing the traditional maroon fez, course after course came on gold-edged Bavarian dinner china and French silver.

Whole quartered lambs, curried chickens, prune-stewed beef, rice, fresh fruit, hot green tea, sweet wine and, finally, champagne.

Throughout Saturday night's dinner, Mrs. Clinton held court at a center table. Under her laughing watch, almost everyone in the party took a turn on the sand with the Ahidous and Ahouch troupes, whose flailing arms and hopping feet followed neither rules nor rhythm. *AP*

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March 27, 1999 14:31 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 159 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton arrives in Morocco

DATELINE: ER RACHIDIA, Morocco, March 27

BODY:

US First Lady Hillary Clinton arrived in this town in the foothills of Morocco's Atlas Mountains on Saturday from Tunis on the final leg of her first north African tour.

Clinton, accompanied by daughter Chelsea, was met at the airport by Er Rachidia governor Mustapha Ait Sidi Moha.

Clinton was to visit a school and hospital center in southern Erfoud before travelling further south to Rissani to lay a wreath on the mausoleum of Moulay Ali Sherif, an ancestor of Morocco's ruling Alawite dynasty.

She will travel later Saturday to the desert town of Merzouga, where she will sleep in a tent.

On Sunday Clinton is to go to Marrakesh, tour the Asni Valley and see the famous Mamounia palace before going Monday to Ouarzazate and Fez.

She will meet King Hassan II at some point during her six-day stay, officials said.

Clinton began her tour in Egypt, where she spent five days, followed by a three-day visit to Tunisia.

am/gd/jl

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March 27, 1999 12:28 GMT

SECTION: International news

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HEADLINE: Tunisian groups grill Hillary Clinton on US human rights

DATELINE: TUNIS, March 27

BODY:

US First Lady Hillary Clinton was grilled during her visit to Tunisia by women's and rights groups on the United States' human rights record.

In a letter, a copy of which was obtained by AFP on Saturday, the five groups questioned her on the application of the death penalty in her country and the treatment of women prisoners.

The letter, citing recent reports by the rights group Amnesty International, expressed "deep concern over serious violations of human rights" in the United States.

The signatories included the Tunisian branch of Amnesty.

The letter to Clinton, who left Tunis for Morocco on Saturday following a three-day visit, denounced "the fate reserved for some detained women" who are subjected to "sexual harassment, the use of chains when they are pregnant and even sometimes rape."

The death penalty, still on the books in many US states and practised in some of them, was also deplored in the letter.

The message also called attention to the fact that the United States "has not yet ratified the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and the (convention) on eliminating all forms of discrimination against women."

"As first lady, we believe that you can do a lot to improve the human rights situation in your country," it said.

The other signatories were the Tunisian League of Human Rights, the feminist Women Democrats Association, the Association of Young Lawyers and the African Committee of Lawyers Defending Human Rights, a newly formed regional group.

The five organizations joined forces with four others to draft a message to US President Bill Clinton on the occasion of International Women's Day, March 8, pleading for better incarceration conditions in the United States.

An Amnesty report published ahead of International Women's Day said 138,000 women were serving time in US jails in 1997, about three times the 1985 figure.

While in Tunis, Hillary Clinton hailed Tunisia's "progress on behalf of women and women's rights," calling it "a model not just for the Arab world but a

Agence France Presse, March 27, 1999

model for the entire world," while singling out for condemnation the victimization of women in Algeria and Afghanistan.

On Saturday, Clinton visited a US military cemetery in Carthage where US soldiers killed in World War II are buried.

Shortly before her departure from Tunis the US first lady met President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali and his wife, officials said.

Clinton left here for Morocco, accompanied by daughter Chelsea. She had earlier spent five days in Egypt at the start of her first North African tour.

Shortly before her departure from Tunis she met President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali and his wife, officials said.

bsh/am/gd/pvh

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 27, 1999

· FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1999 · USA TODAY

FIRST LADY'S TOUR: First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter, Chelsea, arrived in Tunis, Tunisia, for a three-day visit — part of a tour of North Africa. Clinton visited a youth training and women's center in an impoverished Tunis suburb before heading to the presidential palace in Carthage.

Her schedule includes a speech Friday to a women's gathering and visits to two tourist sites, including the archaeological remains of the Roman coliseum of El-Jem. On Saturday, Clinton goes to the American military cemetery in Carthage where U.S. soldiers killed in World War II are buried. She leaves for Morocco later Saturday.

Hillary hails Kosovo strike while touring Egypt clinic

TUNIS — Hillary Rodham Clinton defended NATO's attack on Yugoslavia yesterday before flying from Egypt to Tunisia and speaking out for women's rights.

"The United States and its NATO allies have acted to stop the brutal killing of people in Ko-

sovo and avert a broader humanitarian crisis," she said at a women's clinic in Luxor, Egypt.

"We are hoping and praying that the brave men and women ... who have undertaken this mission will be able to carry it out safely and will bring it to as swift an end as possible."

Drawing a contrast between the work of the clinic and the armed confrontation over Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic's refusal to accept a peace deal for Kosovo, she said: "Today we are in a place that is celebrating life."

On the fifth day of her 12-day North African goodwill journey, Mrs. Clinton turned her emphasis to women's rights — after advocating religious tolerance and closer ties with the Islamic world during a stay in Egypt that began on Sunday.

In Luxor, she said women needed to have choices over birth control and other health issues, and hailed an Egyptian government effort to involve clinics in other activities, such as literacy programs.

Reuter

Bill survivor

HAROLD Ickes seems to have avoided the financial ruin that legal fees brought to other former White House staff members. Ickes, who was one of **Bill Clinton's** most trusted political aides, is said to have bought a \$1 million-plus house in Washington, D.C. The three-story manse on P Street has a deck with a view of the Potomac. But if, as expected, Ickes runs **Hillary's** proposed New York Senate campaign, he'll be spending more time looking at the Hudson.

51ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 25, 1999 17:07 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 219 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton begins visit to Tunisia

DATELINE: (UPDATES with visit to youth center, ADDS details. Picture)

BODY:

TUNIS, March 25 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton was greeted by the Tunisian president's wife here Thursday after she arrived for a three-day visit as part of a tour of north Africa.

Leila Ben Ali, the wife of President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali, met her counterpart from the United States at Tunis-Carthage airport when she flew in from a five-day visit to Egypt accompanied by her daughter Chelsea.

Tunisia's minister for women and family Neziha Zarrouk also welcomed the first lady.

Clinton visited a youth training and women's centre in an impoverished Tunis suburb before heading to the presidential palace in Carthage.

On Friday, her schedule includes a visit to a hard-hit rural district which became a beneficiary of a national solidarity programme launched in 1993 to improve living standards in poor areas.

She is then to give a speech to a women's gathering before starting a tourist trip to Kairouan, an Islamic holy city in the centre of the country, and the archaeological remains of the Roman coliseum of El-Jem.

On Saturday, Clinton goes to the American military cemetery in Carthage where US soldiers killed in World War II are buried. She is also due to see more archaeological remains in Carthage before leaving Tunis for Morocco on Saturday afternoon.

am/nb/gd/cml

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1999

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
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March 25, 1999 Egypt-US-Hillary 11:21 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 554 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton wraps up Egypt visit

DATELINE: (Pictures)

BODY:

By Lachlan Carmichael

LUXOR, Egypt, March 25 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton wrapped up a five-day visit to Egypt here on Thursday during which she promoted women's rights, religious tolerance and health care for the rural poor.

Before leaving for Tunisia she announced a 40 million dollar grant to improve a sewage treatment in Luxor and visited a family planning clinic.

"The clinic is helping parents make choices about the size of their families and is saving lives (through vaccination programs)," Clinton said.

The recently renovated New Karnak Health Clinic is one of 4,000 out-patient clinics nationwide that has received USAID financial and technical assistance.

Clinton praised Egypt's family planning programme.

"You have brought down the rate of infant and maternal mortality and raised the rates of immunization to be among the highest in the world," she said

USAID has provided Egypt 31 million dollars for family planning activities since 1996. As a result, the use of contraceptives rose to 54 percent in 1997 from a 48 percent level in the early 1990s and double the 1980 rate.

The fertility rate also declined from 5.2 children in 1980 to 3.3 in 1997, according to the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

Egyptian officials said the US-Egyptian health and education programmes would certainly co-opt any militant effort to win the hearts of rural Egyptians.

Islamic militants have in the past supported health and education programmes of their own.

"Upper Egypt has been neglected for decades and this a fuel for terrorism," Ahmad Nubi, the director of the Luxor press center, told AFP.

On Monday Clinton pledged 34.4 million dollars for health care in Egypt after inaugurating a similar US-funded clinic for the poor in northern Cairo.

Clinton announced a USAID 40-million-dollar grant to expand the Luxor Waste Water Treatment System.

Agence France Presse, March 25, 1999

"This programme will help safeguard the health of about 30,000 people in this community. It will also help safeguard the treasures and tourist attractions in this community," Hillary said about Luxor's Pharaonic temples.

Waste water which seeps into the grounds, and sometimes floods streets, is one of the biggest threats facing Egypt's archeological heritage because it can corrode ancient stones.

But under the US-assisted sewage program, waste water will be carried out from the community and recycled for irrigation purposes.

Over the past 20 years USAID has provided about 2.7 billion for water and waste water in Egypt, resulting in new or better services for one in three Egyptians.

Clinton made the announcement during a visit to a Coptic Christian primary school supported by USAID, where children are taught democracy by electing their own school leaders, environmental awareness and civic duties.

Egyptian officials, meanwhile, are hoping that Clinton's visit will bolster the tourist industry damaged by the November 1997 massacre in Luxor of 58 foreigners by Islamic militants.

Islamic militants have carried out a series of deadly attacks on foreign tourists during the past decade as part of their bid to undermine the government which relies on billions of dollars in annual tourism revenues.

Clinton wraps up her North Africa tour April 1 with a visit to Morocco.

lc-hkb/txw

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1999

3RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
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March 25, 1999 Kosovo-US-Hillary 08:06 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 254 words

HEADLINE: Hillary prays for NATO forces

DATELINE: LUXOR, Egypt, March 25

BODY:

US First Lady Hillary Clinton said here on Thursday she was praying for the NATO forces involved in air strikes on Yugoslavia, and hoped for a swift end to the operation.

"As my husband the president explained last night to the American people, the United States and its NATO allies have acted to stop the brutal killings of people in Kosovo and avert a broader humanitarian crisis," Clinton said.

"We are hoping and praying that the brave men and women in the military action who have undertaken this mission will be able to conduct it safely and will bring it to a swift an end as possible," she told reporters.

"My prayers and the prayers of peace-loving people around the world are with those brave men and women and their families. May God Bless them," Clinton said.

The first lady made the remarks at a US-supported out-patient clinic in Luxor on the last day of a visit to Egypt during which she has been speaking out in favour of women's rights, religious tolerance and health care.

The New Karnak Health Clinic, which has been renovated recently, is one of 4,000 out-patient clinics nationwide that have received financial and technical assistance from the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

Like most of these clinics it is located in a rural area and offers immunization for children as well as family planning services.

Clinton is expected to leave later in Thursday for Tunisia. She will also visit Morocco before wrapping up her tour of North Africa on April 1.

lc-hkb/txw

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1999

CAMPAIGN 2000

Hillary Hears Strains of The Music She Will Face

TO SCANDAL COGNOSCENTI, THERE WAS nothing new in the headline last week that **KEN STARR'S** chief deputy once drafted an indictment against **HILLARY CLINTON**. But the confirmation by prosecutor **W. HICKMAN EWING**, coming at the outset of Whitewater figure **SUSAN MCDOUGAL'S** trial for contempt, sent chills through the First Lady and those advising her as she considers a run for a New York Senate seat, sources say. As a sign of things to come, says one, "this most recent news gives you pause."

The case against McDougal, along with the June 14 trial of Hillary's former law partner **WEBSTER HUBBELL**, are certain to stir all the old questions about Hillary's own



Hillary Clinton

ethics. Her name was mentioned no fewer than 36 times in the indictment against Hubbell last fall. But despite the new signal of how bumpy a ride she may face, Hillary headed off to North Africa no closer to a decision, an adviser says. "She's exactly where she was four weeks ago." —By Karen Tumulty/Washington

SECRETS, PART ONE

The Fallout from Nuclear Leaks to China

U.S. CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER **RAY KELLY** is adding agents and money to his agency's strategic-investigations unit because of Chinese efforts to smuggle out advanced U.S. weapons components and know-how. Last month agents thwarted China's second attempt to obtain military gyroscopes used in guidance systems for "smart" munitions, missiles and fighter



Ray Kelly

aircraft. More customs cases are under way involving Chinese efforts to pilfer so-called critical technologies. FBI counterespionage specialists fear that the problem of spying isn't confined to Chinese visitors to the national labs. The FBI is taking a hard look at activities by scientists from several other nations, most notably Iran. For some years, Iranian scientists have visited the labs for exchanges that are ostensibly peaceful and beneficial, such as counterproliferation talks. Still, security at the labs has been so lax that FBI officials now want to find out if the Iranians or other foreigners picked up arms-related information on the sly. —By Elaine Shannon/Washington

SECRETS, PART TWO

Another Case of High-Tech High Jinks?

AS IF THEY WEREN'T IN ENOUGH TROUBLE for letting the Chinese steal nuclear secrets, the national labs are about to get blasted for some high-tech appropriation of their own. In the past six years, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has raked in \$3.5 million in commercial license fees—and many millions more in government contracts—for a new ultra-wide-band "pulse" radar that can peer through walls and spot Stealth planes. Former Livermore researcher **THOMAS MC EWAN** filed his first patent for "micropower impulse radar" in 1993, for which he was named "Distinguished Inventor of 1994."

The problem is, McEwan wasn't the first to invent the technology—if he invented it at all. It was first patented in 1987 by **LARRY FULLERTON**, founder of Alabama-based Time Domain Corp., and featured at a 1990 Los Alamos meeting attended by McEwan and his Livermore associates. In response to a Time Domain challenge, the U.S. Patent Office has initially rejected Livermore's key patents. Next month the House Science Committee will release a report that, sources tell TIME, will cite more cases of intellectual-property infringement committed by the weapons-making labs as they scrambled to find new *raison d'être* in the post-cold war era.

—By Arnold Mann/Washington



Larry Fullerton

THE DRAWING BOARD



She's no 'Senator Pothole'

Turkey's warning, Richardson's stock, Forbes's foes, G-men intelligence

BY PAUL BEDARD

Friends want **Hillary Rodham Clinton** to understand that the job of New York senator isn't all peaches and cream. One big drawback is the expectation she'd take up the state's domestic chores once handled by former Sen. **Alfonse D'Amato**, affectionately dubbed "Senator Pothole." Mrs. C is getting an earful of warnings about how she'd have to spend time in Washington collecting pork for New York and, when back home, how she'd have to schmooze donors in Gotham and milk cows with farmers upstate. "New Yorkers won't be taken for granted," says one confidant, challenging Clinton's hope of carving out a role as "national senator." Another issue: Insiders say she wants to live in the Big Apple regardless of her Senate decision while her hubby is California dreaming.

Uniform anger

Morale in the Uniformed Division of the Secret Service has plummeted anew amid unusual staffing changes ordered at the top. Insiders tell Whispers that the brass have eliminated several key posts inside the White House and ordered supervising sergeants to stand guard. "They're dismantling the rank structure," says one officer who blamed the changes on agency leaders anxious to please the Clintons, who have shunned Uniformed Division members ever since several testified in the **Monica Lewinsky** scandal. But spokesman **John Tomlinson** says the complaints are off the mark. The changes, he says, "shouldn't be seen as provocative but as good management."

And he dismisses reports that the division will be eliminated.

Rule breaker

Turkey is showing signs of ease with the almost daily American airstrikes on Iraq. The United States depends on the Turkish air base at Incirlik to launch its aerial policing of northern Iraq and, increasingly, its bombing of military targets there. But Turkish Defense Minister **Hikmet Sami Turk** signaled in an interview that his country feels the United States is close to violating an agreement that Incirlik-based aircraft will fire only in self-defense. "The United States is inclined to give a

broad interpretation" of the deal, he says, while Turkey feels continuation of the operation "depends on the strict application of the rules of engagement."

Playing offense

If Energy Secretary **Bill Richardson** were a stock, you can bet that Wall Street would have yelled "sell" when reports of China's theft of secrets from nuclear labs broke. But Richardson has moved to turn the scandal into a plus, largely by cleaning house and tightening security at the labs. The result: Some Democrats say he's now in the running to be Vice President **Al Gore's** running mate in

2000, and not just for his whip cracking at Energy. Allies say he helps Gore on two other fronts: As a Hispanic, he helps diffuse Texas Gov. **George W. Bush's** bid for those voters, and his experience as U.S. envoy to the United Nations could settle jitters cited in polls that Democrats are lousy at foreign policy.

Plain speaking

From time to time, the Midwest gives Washington a rare straight shooter. Oklahoma's Rep. **Ernest Istook** is the latest example. The Republican just took over the chairmanship of the House Appropriations Committee's Washington, D.C., subcommittee and is asking panel members to check out the city and its new mayor. Istook, however, doesn't want to probe the old-fashioned way: by holding hearings. In a memo, he says, "Formal hearings are not always the best or most efficient way to gather the information. They can serve to bring information into the spotlight, but congressional hearings can also be tedious, overfilled with posturing and rhetoric, and not the most effective use of our time."

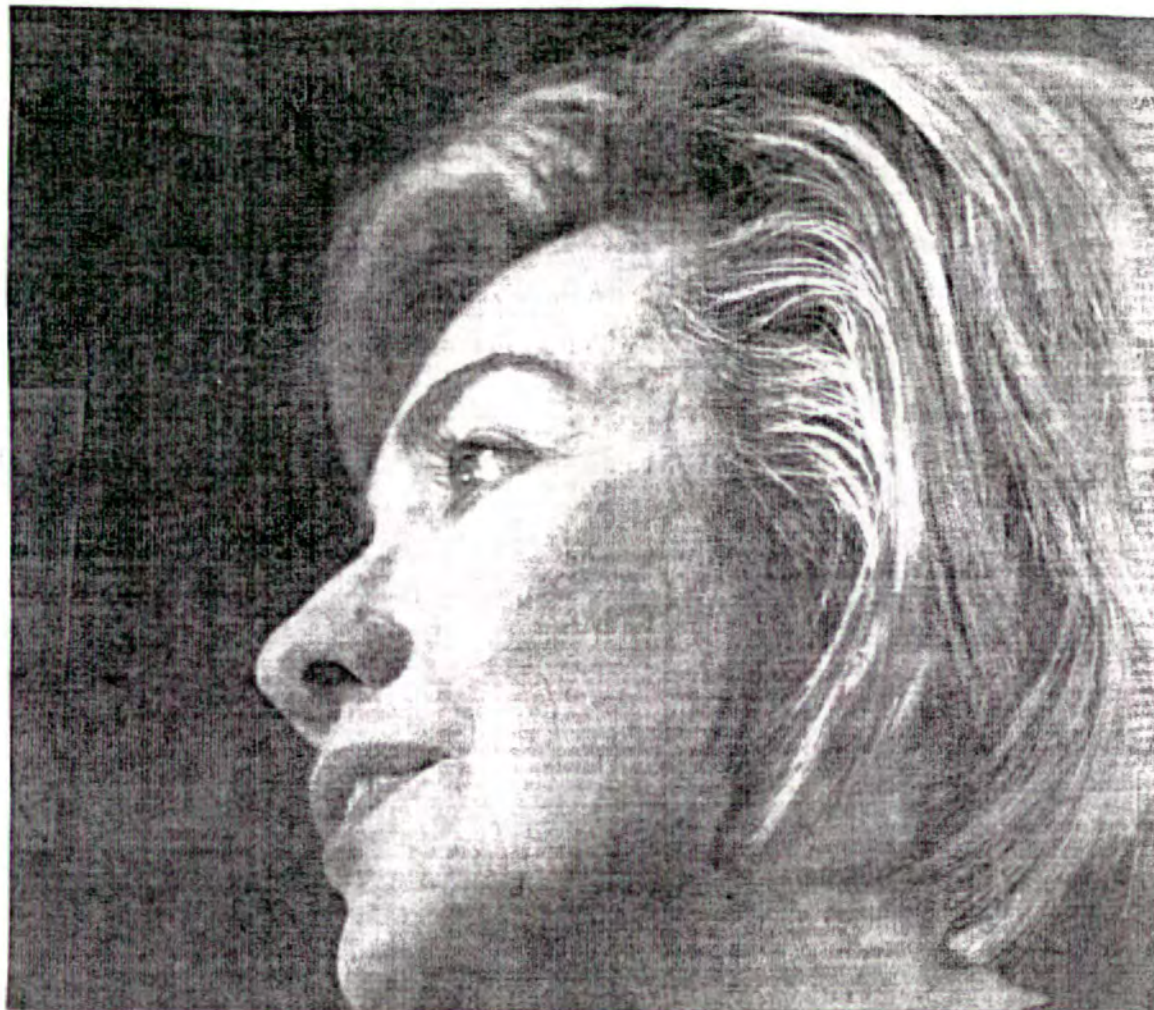
Top target

When **Steve Forbes** announced his presidential bid in Concord, N.H., last week, protesters with United for a Fair Economy brought in from Boston chanted against his 17 percent flat tax proposal. Though the group is described as an economic research group, Forbes allies went to work to see whom the organization represented. And what they found excited them: The protesters are pro-labor and Dem-



As senator, Hillary Rodham Clinton couldn't ignore local problems.

[The Washington Post]
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1999



The potential candidate: For the moment at least, Hillary Rodham Clinton is whatever New York politicians seem to want to make of her.

BY NANCY DEGEN / THE WASHINGTON POST
PHOTOGRAPH BY [illegible]

HILLARY CLINTON, THE NEW IDEAL

They're Crazy About Her in New York. But What Are We to Make of Her?

By MICHAEL POWELL
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK

She glides across the floor of the grand ballroom with her sculpted blond hair and black ensemble and that beatific smile. Financiers in Armani suits strain for a glimpse. Society ladies rise on tippy-toes, nip-and-tucked chins raised to the vaulted ceiling. A few hop upon red-velvet Louis XIVth chairs and loose whooping cheers.

It's Her. She. The first lady.

Hillary Rodham Clinton gives a royal wave or two, and applause dances and leaps about her in kinetic waves. She's alighted at the Plaza Hotel for a Democratic Party fund-raiser, but not as the embattled wife of a troubled and lame-duck president.

No, no.

She is the presumptive Democratic Senate candidate. (If only she'll take it! say New York's political guys. Oh please, please, please!) She is the woman that Newsweek declared the hottest commodity in American political life.

And she knows it, and plays with the moment. "I was told that some thought I might have an announcement to make"—she affects a pregnant pause—"but I don't."

And the standing-room-only audience erupts yet again.

"I so admire her for everything she's put up with," whispers a fortyish woman with an alpine pile of red hair. "She'll make a great senator."

It's the latest strange turn of a long strange trip, the transformation of Hillary Clinton. The woman who once insisted she would not simply stand by her straying man now finds marital humiliation the vessel of

her elevation.

But to what?

To some amalgam of Princess Di and Eleanor Roosevelt, Evita and Sen. Clinton? How did this self-described feminist, who helped stage manage her husband's presidential career and battled for health care reform, emerge as an icon of persevering womanhood? And as the hot hope of New York's fading liberal Democrats?

Even Democrats who admire and cheer her find the image inversions vertigo-inducing.

"It's very good to see her held in such high public regard but rather sad to think about the reasons why," says Peter Edelman, who quit the Clinton administration to protest the signing of the welfare reform bill but remains friendly with Hillary Clinton. "As she becomes

See FIRST LADY, C8, Col. 1

For Mrs. Clinton, Tea Leaves and Sympathy

FIRST LADY. From C1

more a traditional first lady, more ceremonial, her poll ratings rise."

Presidential historian Robert Dallek discerns a historical rhythm at work: "It's a classic American case of progressive ends for conservative reasons. She's being talked of as senator, even president. But it's not because of her Yale law degree and considerable accomplishments so much as her victimhood."

But here's the thing about life as an air-brushed symbol: For all her eloquent championing of woman and children, health care and abortion rights, the private Hillary Clinton risks becoming ever more opaque.

Her husband, as always, is an easier read: The perpetual Slick Willie, caught between the gratifications of the flesh and the call of higher service. A prolix man versed in a thousand policy options but with a notoriously slippery center.

Loyalty, personal and political, bewitches him. His aides no sooner stumble out the door of the White House than they rend the air with their doubts, and sign television and book deals to better cushion their moral truth-telling.

Hillary Clinton is another matter. She can be folley, even stirring on the stump (or, alternately, sound like a platitudinous valedictorian). And she is an observant student: She has learned to lean into the podium in the casual manner of her husband, can get off a mild joke at her own expense, and explode a 1,000-megawatt smile when she has to.

But she rarely indulges in the confessional anecdotes that are her husband's stock in trade. Nor is she enamored of public contrition; Bill bites his lower lip and summons the tremulous lump in his throat with a character actor's ease.

Not Hillary.

She is a Midwestern Methodist, not given to yalping about her personal life. In times of trouble, she goes posture-perfect, that tight smile signifying you're-not-quite-sure-what.

"She likes to say, 'How can you hold someone's hands if you're wriggling your own?'" says a former aide. "It may be denial, but that's her way."

And yet she commands retainers' loyalty with an ease unknown to her husband.

"She's very private, and always talks about zones of privacy," says Neel Lattimore, her former press secretary. "She's incredibly loyal to her staff. She'll call you at home on the weekend to thank you for your work, and that generates loyalty in return. You want to protect her."

So her friends and aides build a wall about her, a protective edifice that all but forces well-wishers to imagine their own version of the first lady. Take the notion—commonplace in liberal circles—that Hillary Clinton tacks to the political left of her ever-triangulating husband. To listen to New York's liberal Democrats is to imagine the first lady as Mother Jones in knit suits. She will, they incant, vanquish those nasty Republicans—New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Gov. George Pataki—and restore liberal rule to the state.

"She's not running on Bill's record, she's running on the 'Romantic Party' ticket," says Mitchell Moss, director of New York University's Urban Research Center. "Her advocates in New York are the same people who can't get over the fact that Bella Abzug lost to [Daniel Patrick] Moynihan by one point in the 1976 Democratic primary."

The rendering of Hillary Clinton as super-liberal strikes friends as incomplete. She's comfortable, they note, with some catechisms of the liberal faith: She's much taken with "her mission" for children and families, and holds dear the notion that government "can change the way that people live their lives," as a friend put it.

But the idea that she represents, in any concrete way, a lefty faction within the centrist confines of the White House is fanciful.

"The people who predict that her profile will be more liberal than his, they don't have any basis to go on," Edelman says.

Perhaps the last word in this regard should fall to that inveterate Sverigali and former Clinton political adviser Dick Morris. He's no particular soul mate of the first lady, and he views her as something of a liberal. But he claims she was his advocate in nudging Clinton toward the ideological center when their presidential enterprise was listing badly.

And her taste for the jugular matches his own.

"We both came from the half of Clinton's life that likes to mix it up, negative ads, go after opponents." A little clot of admiration forms in Morris's throat. "There was no ideology in Arkansas. She was tough."

Watching and Waiting

It's a marriage endlessly pawed over, Bill- and Hillary-watching raised to a Kremlin-reading art form. She sits next to him, but she's

not smiling. She went skiing with him in Utah, but she came home early. She claims to have a bad back, but she spent a couple hours sitting on a wood bench at church. She let him hold her hand! She won't go to Central America with him...

It never ends.

Perhaps no subject is likely to cause Hillary Clinton more agitation in a possible Senate race than questions about the state of her marriage. The latest, unconfirmed, off-the-record, anonymously sourced, under-the-right-circumstances-it-could-be-true story had the president and the first lady agreeing on a trial separation.

It arrived courtesy of a breathy double shot from Team Murdoch: Fox News and the New York Post. Rita Cosby of Fox tells us: "... a Clinton family friend tells Fox News that the first couple barely speak in private, that quote, 'They have nothing to talk about anymore. The only thing they have in common is Chelsea.'"

It's anyone's guess what to make of this. The Bill & Hillary machine is no less adept at spin than its enemies. (The deeply conspiratorial among the Republicans speculate that the first family floated the rumor to an enemy organ, the better to politically distance Herself from Himself.)

"It's to her advantage to separate," says the ever-helpful Morris. "It's not politically advantageous for someone with 63 percent personal approval ratings to hang out with someone with a 34 percent. It might be contagious."

Perhaps. But for the record...

"For those who were there in Utah [on vacation with the Clintons], as opposed to those who think they were there, it was absolutely lovely," says Terry McAuliffe, a Clinton friend and fund-raiser. "We played board games and had hours of conversation. I'm sure there's some tension, given this year, but I saw nothing of it."

This much, too, is true. Throughout these days of alleged marital tension, the first lady and the president have wined and dined New York pals and labor leaders. And aides describe the president, who insists publicly that he hasn't "a clue" about his wife's plans, as invigorated by her prospects. The ultimate politician is given to rattling off obscure facts about little known political figures in remote rural counties of New York.

His legendary memory is a political Baedeker for his wife the aspiring pol: He knows whom to talk with in Onondaga County, how to snare a mayoral endorsement in Rochester, the best way to woo a farmer in Pottsdam...

"It's like he wants to be her manager," says one New Yorker familiar with the discussions. "It's his next campaign; his solution to the question of what's next."

There is a dollop of the surreal in this. If Hillary Clinton's recent prominence owes something to her grace in the face of degradation, she cannot escape the shadow cast by her husband's tomcatting. (Not to mention the unproven but disturbing charges of sexual abuse lodged against the president by Kathleen Willey and Juanita Broaddrick.)

So one finds Hillary Clinton at the United Nations on a recent trip to New York, basking in a loud standing ovation and inveighing against worldwide disrespect of women and girls.

"It's no longer acceptable," she lectures the assembled delegates, "to say that the abuse and mistreatment of women is cultural. It should



The hope of New York's liberal Democrats, with Alexis Herman, secretary of labor, at a National Education Association event this month in Washington.

be called what it is: criminal."

Her passion and her cause this day are heartfelt; the first lady has tilted this landscape for years. But anyone even vaguely familiar with the first couple's travails cannot help but wonder if her words this day carry an unwanted subtext.

There is, too, the question of her years spent under a special prosecutor's microscope. Former White House aide George Stephanopoulos recently wrote a "memo" to the first lady in *Newsweek*, reminding the magazine's 2 million readers of her every headache.

"Whitewater, billing records, cattle futures, the travel office and Castle Grande (real estate development) will all be back," he writes. "Do you really want to spend your last year in the White House reliving the most painful episodes of your tenure?"

His solicitude is touching.

Still, it's the unusual politician who steps into a senatorial race with even rumors of a bad marriage banging about in the attic. But her likely opponent in a general election, Giuliani, is not—how to put this delicately?—a family values exemplar.

Giuliani's first marriage ended when he obtained an annulment on the grounds that his wife was his second cousin. And his present wife is so estranged that she refuses to campaign for him or mention his name in interviews.

Talk of marriage, in this electoral context, looms as a zone of mutual assured destruction.

Getting in Line

They're edgy, this roomful of New York City pols, awaiting their audience with Her. They're stuck in a hall of mirrors on the second floor of New York's ersatz Versailles: the Plaza Hotel. Lunch is being trundled into the first lady's suite, and one by one the borough presidents, assemblymen and city councilwomen will follow.

Politicians do not happily suffer waiting rooms. But this is royalty, so who's complaining? Brooklyn council member Ken Fisher marks time by handicapping Hillary's electoral prospects: He's very enthusiastic.

"She's Schumer but with a dress!" Fisher intends the comparison to New York's freshman U.S. senator as a compliment. "Besides, we consider all celebrities to be honorary New Yorkers."

There's something to this. Beltway pundits pass much verbiage each Sunday talking about her carpetbagger problem, but that's overstated. New Yorkers are famously parochial cosmopolitans who rock themselves to sleep comforted by the notion that *anyone* who is *anyone* yearns to be a New Yorker. So if Hillary Clinton wants to represent them in Congress—hey, that goes to show the lady's pretty smart.

"So they say she's from Arkansas. So what's that? So who cares?" says Sandra Stein, an assistant school superintendent in the Bayside area of Queens, who is now quite disgusted with the mayor and quite impressed with the first lady. "We'll make her a New Yorker."

Against such optimism falls reali-

ty's weight. The early polls, the insanely optimistic stuff showing her 15, 20 points up on Giuliani, have faded. The most recent New York Times poll has her on top, but by an 11-point margin that's thin enough to guarantee a dogfight with the city's Rottweiler mayor.

And there's the question of her celebrity sheen, and abrasions to come. First ladies don't have campaigns; they have missions. (Her most recent trip to New York was a "mission to save America's treasures.") They travel in Air Force planes with lots of legroom and limos that roll down highways swept clean of traffic, and they talk to the press when they deign to do so.

Everything will change when she announces her Senate candidacy. It's Pygmalion in reverse: She loses her status as sainted victim and becomes a commoner all at once. Her traffic goes bumper to bumper and the tabloid headlines go to 75-point type as the reporters try to peel skin off bone.

As Democratic pollster Harrison Hickman put it: "Running in New York is like being thrown on a Bunsen burner on your first day in chemistry class."

Moss of New York University is not convinced Hillary can follow another famous carpetbagger, Bobby Kennedy. "It's one thing to be the brother of an assassinated president," he says, "and another to be the wife of an impeached president."

There is, too, the question of her knowledge of New York and the issues she'd raise, which in turn hooks back to the question: Who is Hillary Clinton? New York's Democratic politicians tend to talk about Her as the immaculate candidate, a woman sprung from the Democratic National Committee's forehead. She can, they marvel, talk mosquito spraying in the Adirondacks and cleanup of the scummy Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn, and dispatch Giuliani with the back of her well-

manicured hand.

In return, New York's congenitally contentious political class is making her a most extraordinary offering: a free pass through the Democratic Senate primary. They've even told their next strongest candidate—Rep. Nita Lowey—to put a cork in it until the first lady decides.

"It's absolutely bizarre. I mean, what are Hillary's issues?" says Katrina vanden Heuvel, editor of the liberal *Nation* magazine in New York City. "It's a manufactured candidacy, with help from the politicians in the smoke-filled rooms."

Perhaps. But right now Hillary Clinton's got New York's political class as tongue-tied as a bunch of young swells on their first date. Bronx Borough President Ferdinand "Freddie" Ferrer is one of the first pols to get ushered into her suite at the Plaza Hotel.

It left him ever so slightly rapturous.

"I haven't felt this way in 30 years," the mustachioed pol exclaims. "I would work for her non-stop. She's the best."

Did he think maybe she was just playing him along?

"Oh no! Take it from me, I *know* perfunctory meetings. I like her and she likes me. She said she wouldn't be living in the White House if not for my work for Bill Clinton in 1992."

Clearly, her touch is as impeccable as her plans are inscrutable.

And yet...

Even some excitable New York politicians acknowledge a nagging worry: Maybe this is another way for her to switch the channel from all Monica, all-the-time. Maybe this is a way, for just a few months, for Hillary, the Statesman to stand alone.

To escape the same fact that now feeds her fame: that she's the long-suffering wife of a straying man who not so long ago was nearly evicted from the White House by the United States Senate.

FIRST LADY IN EGYPT: First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton reflected on the political struggles of an ancient Egyptian queen while she toured tombs and temples. As she and her daughter, Chelsea, inspected the Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, Clinton was told of the queen's rivalry with a stepson who tried to erase all depictions of her from the temple. "She was not the first woman in that position (of queen). Why the animosity?" asked Clinton, who has in the past blamed President Clinton's political scandals on the animosity of his opponents. A guide said the ill will was not out of spite but politics. The first lady was heard to respond, "Sometimes it looks the same."

**Hillary sticks to plans
on North Africa tour**

LUXOR, Egypt — U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will proceed with her goodwill journey through North Africa despite the launching of NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia, her spokeswoman, Marsha Barry, said yesterday.

Asked if Mrs. Clinton, who is due to travel from Luxor in Egypt to Tunisia today, would change her plans because of the strikes, Miss Barry said, "No."

The first lady spent the fourth day of her 12-day trip touring the temples and tombs of Egypt's Pharaohs. She is due to return to Washington from Morocco, the last of three countries on her itinerary, next Thursday.

Why the First Lady Should Be the Last Choice for the Empire State

HILLARY Clinton may make of herself a gift to the state of New York, which must replace retiring Sen. Pat Moynihan. So she may wish to prepare answers to the sort of questions she can expect.

In upstate New York (yes, Mrs. Clinton, there is such a place; it is somewhat north of the Carlyle Hotel), the industrial corridor from Schenectady to Buffalo is hurting. The corridor includes Seneca Falls, birthplace of women's suffrage, to which you have made a pilgrimage. Women began to get impatient for the vote when they began to get money, some of them by working in Seneca Falls' knitting mills. Today the mills' owners are moving operations to North Carolina. Do the problems of this corridor cause you sleepless nights down there within the beltway?

You favor carving a Palestinian state into Israel's back. Schools run by the Palestinian Authority, which would run such a state, teach that the Holocaust is a Zionist lie. How is Israel helped by a contiguous

state run by Holocaust deniers?

You directed the drafting of your husband's health-care bill, of which Martha Derthick of the University of Virginia wrote: "I have never read an official document that seemed so suffused with coercion and political naivete... with its drastic prescriptions for controlling the conduct of state governments, employers, drug manufacturers, doctors, hospitals and you and me." Was that your idea of nifty legislation?

Your husband said your legislation failed because sinister interests misled Americans about it. Moynihan said, "The American people got it clear enough." He said your plan clearly aimed "to cut the number of doctors in the country by a quarter" in order to cut demand by limiting supply. "If you have fewer doctors you have fewer doctor bills. But you don't associate it with improving medicine." And, the senator noted, your bill aimed to cut costs by cutting "the number of specialists in half." Moynihan vehemently objected, arguing

that specialists are a function of science — new discoveries create new specialties. Moynihan, defending New York's great teaching hospitals (have you heard of them?) which produce specialists, said, "We are not swamped with specialists; we abound in them. And that is surely the glory of this great moment of medical discovery." Should the most intellectual



GEORGE F. WILL

senator be replaced by an advocate of anti-scientific, dumbed-down medicine?

Your health-care task force met in secrecy that was challenged in a lawsuit by the American Association of Physicians and Surgeons. The judge, imposing \$286,000 in sanctions against the administration for the AAPS's legal fees, denounced what he called the "cover-up" of efforts to keep the

health-care planning secret. Noting that "reprehensible" misstatements had been made to him, he denounced decisions "made at the highest levels of government." He said the executive branch "was dishonest with this court" and declared that "some government officials never learn that the cover-up can be worse than the underlying conduct." Does such behavior run in the family?

Webb Hubbell, the felon who is your former law partner, was made the third-highest official in the Justice Department during your supervision of the staffing of the most-politicized, least-trusted department in modern memory. Will you promise that if elected you will not serve on the Judiciary Committee?

Some say the \$100,000 you made as a rookie "investor" with a \$1,000 plunge in cattle futures looks awfully like a bribe. You say fiddlesticks, it was just the fruit of reading *The Wall Street Journal*. If you are that gifted with money, will you promise to seek a seat on

the Finance Committee?

In 1992, you participated in an American Bar Association tribute to Anita Hill, saying that all women who care about "integrity and morality in the workplace are in professor Anita Hill's debt." How fares morality in your current workplace, the White House? You believed Hill's assertion that Clarence Thomas spoke inappropriately to her, although she seems to have made at most one contemporaneous report of this to a friend, followed him to a new job and invited him to speak where she was teaching in Oklahoma. Do you disbelieve Juanita Broadrick, who at the time told five people separately that your husband raped her?

Utica is a) a heavy metal rock group; b) a porn star; c) a new cosmetic available at Bergdorf's; d) a city upstate?

Was there a wee barb in Moynihan's statement that your candidacy would bring "Illinois/Arkansas enthusiasm" to New York?

First Lady Treads Carefully Through Egypt's Politics

By HOWARD SCHNEIDER
Washington Post Foreign Service

CAIRO, March 23—In a country that has banned some political parties, arrested human rights workers and detained thousands of suspected Islamic radicals without trial, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton surveyed Egypt's progress toward democracy and civil society in a speech today and decided it was doing pretty well.

In a carefully worded, half-hour address, Clinton avoided even implicit criticism of an important U.S. ally where security concerns are paramount and the government historically has been hesitant to turn any operations over to businesses or other

organizations. Instead, she praised the government for expanding opportunities for nongovernmental organizations involved with health care and women's rights. She said she was looking forward to visiting a "democracy school" in Luxor that teaches people about citizenship, and that reductions in the rates of population growth and infant mortality showed progress is being made.

An aide told the Associated Press that Clinton did express concern to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak about the treatment of the country's Coptic Christian minority—an issue Egyptian officials say has been greatly distorted by Western politicians and journalists.

But such worries largely have been consigned to

the background during her trip to North Africa with her daughter, Chelsea, who is on her spring break from Stanford University.

Capping a three-day visit to the Arab world's largest city, Clinton shied away from controversial themes.

Rather, she asked her audience to imagine—they were ancient Egyptians assembling cargo for their journey to the afterworld—what they will need on the journey to a new life in the 21st century.

It was a metaphor that let her stick to such safely neutral themes as religious tolerance and education—appropriate to a trip that has been light on substance and heavy on sightseeing.

Hill to Egyptians: Never give up on dream of peace

By MARILYN RAUBER
Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton yesterday urged Egyptians to "never give up on the dream of peace" in the Mideast but kept mum on her controversial support for a Palestinian state.

Mrs. Clinton, in a speech at Cairo's American University, steered clear of controversy, preaching religious tolerance and urging the Mideast to "reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination."

Mrs. Clinton's carefully chosen words disappointed some in the crowd who wanted her to elaborate on her remarks last year backing Palestinian statehood.

"She's quite well-known here for her comment on Palestine, so I was hoping for a little more, something definitive," said Tom Farkas, an administrator at the university where Mrs. Clinton spoke for 40 minutes.

In a satellite hook-up with students in Switzerland last year, the First Lady set off a firestorm by saying it was in the "long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state."

The White House quickly distanced itself from her statement, which threatens to hound her if she decides to run for the New York Senate seat being va-

cated by Daniel P. Moynihan.

Yesterday, Mrs. Clinton trod gingerly.

"We will never and must never give up on the dream of peace," she said.

She said there were those "in every religion" who preach intolerance and violence against "believers of other faiths" — and emphasized the United States was "not perfect" either, citing church burnings and hate crimes.

The First Lady and daughter Chelsea also toured sacred Muslim, Christian and Jewish sites before flying south to Luxor, where they visited the Luxor Temple and posed for photos.

**Hillary, princess of
whines: Editorial /
Page 30**

Rudy trims First Lady's lead: poll

By FREDRIC U. DICKER
State Editor

ALBANY — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's lead over Mayor Giuliani in the U.S. Senate race has narrowed, a new



LAP OF LUXOR-Y: Hillary Clinton and daughter Chelsea visit the Temple of Luxor yesterday in Egypt yesterday. AP

poll shows.

The Quinnipiac College survey found Mrs. Clinton leading Giuliani, 50-39 percent, among registered voters, down from 54-36 in a Feb. 23 Quinnipiac poll. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

"The first-round euphoria about Hillary Clinton's possible Senate bid has faded a bit," said Quinnipiac polling director Maurice Carroll.

Fifty-one percent of New Yorkers have a favorable view of Mrs. Clinton while 21 percent gave her mixed reviews and 5 percent said they don't have an opinion.

Giuliani, in the midst of weeks of controversy over the police shooting of Amadou Diallo, received a 38-26 favorable rating, with 23 percent giving him mixed reviews and 13 percent saying they don't have an opinion.

The new poll found former U.S. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, who

says he might seek the GOP nomination, would lose to Mrs. Clinton 56-34 percent.

D'Amato was rated unfavorably by 42 percent of those surveyed compared to 32 percent who gave him a positive rating.

Meanwhile, Suffolk County Republican U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio, who also is eying the Senate race, would lose to Mrs. Clinton, 56-23 percent, the poll shows.

The poll also found Giuliani would beat U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey, 48-30, if she were his opponent in the race for Senate.

Lowey, of Westchester, says she's likely to seek the Democratic Senate nomination if Mrs. Clinton doesn't.

The poll also found Lowey would defeat Lazio, 33-20 — with 38 percent undecided — if the Senate race was between the two of them.

A Zogby International poll last week showed Giuliani ahead of Mrs. Clinton, 48.4-36.9 percent, among "likely voters." Quinnipiac surveyed "registered voters."

Hillary, Princess of Whines

Are you ready for Princess Hillary — or perhaps Eleanor Rodham Clinton?

On her sans-Bill jaunt through Egypt, the First Lady revealed that her goal for the future isn't really to serve in a legislature so much as it is to be what might be called an "Issues Ambassador."

Said the First Lady: "I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on, having to do with improving the lives of children and giving more opportunities to all kinds of people, particularly women, and improving relations around the world, among democracies, and making it clear that we have a lot to learn and give to one another in the world."

Someone with so grand an outlook, a mission if you will, would surely find the stuck-in-Washington, work-a-day world of the Millionaires Club a trifle unrewarding.

A senator is obligated to make the quotidian interests of his state the first priority on his agenda. In Clinton's case, that would mean creating opportunities for New Yorkers, *including men*, before doing so for oppressed women the world over.

What she clearly wants is to be another Princess Diana, an Eleanor Roosevelt — an internationally adored spokeswoman for the underprivileged and destitute.

That's a perfectly acceptable goal. But princesses belong in palaces and photo-ops, not the U.S. Senate.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 24, 1999 Egypt-US-Hillary lead 13:31 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 443 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton visits temple of first woman pharoah

DATELINE: (RECASTS, ADDS quotes. Pictures)

BODY:

By Lachlan Carmichael

LUXOR, Egypt, March 24 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton visited the temple of the first woman to become Pharaoh of Egypt amid tight security on Wednesday as speculation swirled about her own plans for public office.

Armed Egyptian police stood guard on the hills overlooking Hatshepsut temple as Hillary Clinton began her tour of the site where Islamic militants slaughtered 58 foreign holidaymakers 16 months earlier.

Fifty-eight tourists, most of them Swiss, and four Egyptians, were gunned down in November 1997 outside the 3,500-year-old temple on Luxor's west bank by six members of the armed Islamic fundamentalist group Jamaa Islamiyya.

Hillary Clinton, dressed in a green shirt, khaki pants and straw hat, spent an hour at the temple accompanied by her daughter Chelsea.

During her visit to Egypt, the wife of US President Bill Clinton has dodged questions about her rumoured race for a Senate seat but says she wants to play a public role in future.

Asked by journalists if Clinton could be the first "woman pharaoh" in the United States, tour guide Rick Williams from Idaho, laughed and said: "Yes, why not ... throughout all the scandal, she was the big winner."

Officially Clinton has not announced her candidacy but she is believed to be interested in the seat of retiring New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

"I don't necessarily know if it's Hillary but I think the time is right for a woman president," said tourist Denis Hayden.

"Mrs. Dole has given a lot of credence" to a idea of a woman in the White House, he said, referring to Elizabeth Dole who announced plans a week ago to stand for president.

Egyptian officials, meanwhile, are hoping that Hillary Clinton's visit will provide a shot in the arm to a tourist industry damaged by the Luxor massacre.

Islamic militants have carried out a series of deadly attacks on foreign tourists during the past decade as part of their bid to undermine the government which relies on billions of dollars in annual tourism revenues.

Agence France Presse, March 24, 1999

"I'm thrilled she's here," Cynthia Starkovsky, a tourist from San Diego, said of the visit by the US First Lady. "I think it's great that the wife of the president is taking an interest in these antiquities."

Tour guide Williams said he has brought several tourists back to Luxor after the massacre. "Tourism has come back from where it was ... devastated."

The first lady later headed for a luncheon at Chicago House, the Luxor base of the archeological team from the University of Chicago.

She is to visit Tunisia and Morocco before wrapping up her north African tour on April 1.

lc/txw/cl

LOAD-DATE: March 24, 1999

2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
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March 24, 1999 Egypt-US-Hillary 09:34 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 221 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton visits Queen Hatshepsut temple

DATELINE: (Pictures)

BODY:

LUXOR, Egypt, March 24 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton visited the Pharoanic temple here Wednesday where 58 foreign tourists were massacred in November 1997 by Islamic militants.

Armed Egyptian policemen stood guard on the hills overlooking the temple of the first woman to become Pharaoh of Egypt as the wife of President Bill Clinton began her tour.

Fifty-eight tourists, most of them Swiss, and four Egyptians, were gunned down on November 17, 1997 outside the temple on Luxor's west bank by six militants from the armed Islamic fundamentalist group Jamaa Islamiyya.

"I'm thrilled she's here," Cynthia Starkovsky, a tourist from San Diego, said of the visit by the US First Lady. "I think it's great that the wife of the president is taking an interest in these antiquities."

Egyptian officials are hoping that Hillary Clinton's visit will provide a shot in the arm to a tourist industry damaged by the Luxor massacre.

Islamic militants have carried out a series of deadly attacks on foreign tourists during the past decade as part of their bid to undermine the government which relies on billions of dollars in annual tourism revenues.

Hillary Clinton, who is accompanied by her daughter Chelsea, is to visit Tunisia and Morocco before wrapping up her north African tour on April 1.

lc/cl

LOAD-DATE: March 24, 1999

Hillary concedes she may run in N.Y.

No decision yet, but she's weighing her chances for Senate

By Sandra Sobieraj
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAIRO — In a most unlikely place to talk American politics — at an Egyptian health clinic — Hillary Rodham Clinton acknowledged yesterday an interest in running for the U.S. Senate.

She said she has been making "lots of calls" on the subject over the past month but has not made a decision. The only thing she is certain of, she added, is that she wants to keep a public role after she and her husband leave the White House.

Mrs. Clinton, who was on the first day of a 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, told reporters that whatever happens in her political future, "I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on."

"Any way I can continue to do that, I intend to. But the form that will take I really can't predict at this time."

Yesterday's news conference was her most expansive discussion of running for office. Mrs. Clinton took six questions.

In the lobby of Cairo's El Basatine clinic for women and children, reporters noted that her husband had expressed his support if she decided to run for the Senate.

"As you know, I've made lots of calls over the past month," said Mrs. Clinton, who initially danced away from the question.

She has been sounding out friends, advisers and political consultants on her chances of winning the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

"I will continue that when I return home," she said.

But, she added before heading off to lunch with the wife of President Hosni Mubarak, "right now I



Wahiba el-Sayed, a garment maker, hugs Hillary Rodham Clinton in Cairo and urges her to seek office: "She's a very strong woman."

want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt."

Interest in the first lady's political ambitions was evident in the marketplace.

"We are nominating her," Wahiba el-Sayed said through a translator. "She's a very strong woman, a very active woman."

The veiled, 50-year-old woman,

a garment maker, insisted photographers snap a picture of her kissing the first lady's cheek.

In her speech at the clinic, Mrs. Clinton singled out as her priorities creating opportunities for women, improving the lives of children and improving relations between world democracies.

She also said that she wants to prevent "bad abortions," and spoke up for "integrated family planning" services for all women.

First Lady Discusses Senate Run

From Associated Press

CAIRO—In a most unlikely place to talk American politics—at an Egyptian health clinic—Hillary Rodham Clinton acknowledged an interest in running for the U.S. Senate.

She's been making "lots of calls" on the subject over the past month but hasn't made a decision, she said. The only thing she is certain of, she added, is that she wants to keep a public role after she and her husband leave the White House.

Monday was the second day of Mrs. Clinton's 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, and word of her possible candidacy for a Senate seat from New York got here before she did. At the Khan el-Khalili marketplace, Mona Abdel clapped her hands together and shook with excitement as Secret Service agents filed down the market's alleyway.

"She's applying for the Congress," said Abdel, 25. "I will nominate her for sure."

Mrs. Clinton told reporters that whatever happened in her political future, "I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on. Any way I can continue to do that, I intend to. But the form that will take I really can't predict at this time."

The news conference Monday was her most expansive discussion of running for office. Mrs. Clinton took six questions.

In the lobby of Cairo's El Bassatine clinic for women and children, reporters noted that her husband had expressed his support if she decided to run for the Senate. An Egyptian journalist stepped forward to ask Mrs. Clinton about her "plans for the future."

first lady momentarily played it coy. "Well, tomorrow I'm going to Luxor," she said to chuckles from the assembled doctors, nurses and Egyptian officials.

It took three more questions to draw her out on the topic.

"As you know, I've made lots of calls over the past month," she said. She has been sounding out friends, advisers and political consultants on her chances in a bid for the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York.

"I will continue that when I return home," she said.

But, she added before darting off to lunch with the wife of President Hosni Mubarak, "right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt."

Interest in the first lady's political ambitions was evident in the marketplace.

"We are nominating her," Wahiba el-Sayed said through a translator. "She's a very strong woman, a very active woman."

The veiled, 50-year-old woman, a garment maker, insisted photographers snap a picture of her kissing the first lady's cheek.

Metalworker Sayed el-Said Mahmoud el-Sharakly had engraved two brass, copper and silver picture frames—one for Mrs. Clinton and one for daughter Chelsea.



EYE FOR ANTIQUITY: Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea visit the 11th-century Ben-Ezra synagogue in Cairo yesterday. *Byline*

Hillary still isn't talking on Senate bid

By MARILYN RAUBER
Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday she still hasn't decided if she'll run for the Senate — but made it clear she wants to stay in public life after she leaves the White House.

"But the form that will take — I really can't predict at this time," Mrs. Clinton said coyly when quizzed in Cairo, Egypt, where she's traveling with daughter Chelsea and a press entourage.

Meanwhile, some New Yorkers sounded skeptical Mrs. Clinton — whose public support last year for a Palestinian state upset many Jewish voters — will ever throw her hat into the Senate ring.

They noted anyone serious about running in New York likely would include Israel on a visit to the Mideast.

Mrs. Clinton is making the 12-day trip to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco to strengthen "the bonds of understanding between the United States and the entire Arab world," her office says.

Speculation about the First Couple's rocky marriage — in the wake of the president's sex-and-lies fling with ex-intern Monica Lewinsky — is also haunting Mrs. Clinton.

In Egypt's state-owned Al-Ahram newspaper, veteran columnist Anis Mansour declared, "Their relationship is completely over."

"The divorce proceedings will go very smoothly because the judge will not have to summon witnesses. Almost all the globe's pop-

ulation are witnesses on Clinton's infidelity," Mansour wrote.

A Post poll shows most Americans believe Mrs. Clinton has stayed in the marriage because she loves the power, not the man.

For the first time yesterday, the First Lady — who last month issued a statement acknowledging interest in retiring New York Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan's Senate seat — spoke about her future plans, saying:

"I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on," such as "improving the lives of children, and giving more opportunities to people, particularly women."

7TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 22, 1999 US-Hillary-Senate 14:53 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 327 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton dodges questions about Senate race

DATELINE: CAIRO, March 22

BODY:

US First Lady Hillary Clinton dodged questions about her rumoured race for a Senate seat during a visit to Egypt Monday but said she wanted to play a public role in the future.

Officially Clinton has not announced her candidacy but she is believed to be interested in the seat of retiring New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

"I have been talking to a lot of people and I will continue that when I return home," she told reporters during a tour of US-funded projects in Cairo.

"Right now I want to focus on the ... very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt."

Recent opinion polls in the United States have shows Clinton leading other likely candidates, including New York City Republican Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

Clinton would win 48 percent of the vote if elections were held now, a nine-point lead over Giuliani, a New York Times/CBS News poll found last week.

The first lady said she would nevertheless pursue a public role in the future even after US President Bill Clinton leaves office.

"I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on. And any way that I can continue to do that, I intend to. But what form that will take I really can't predict at this time," she said.

Last week the president said his wife would be a "terrific senator" if she decided to run for the New York Senate seat in 2000.

"She knows so much about public policy," he said in Washington on Friday.

"She cares so much about the issues, especially those that have a particular impact on New York, including the education and economic issues that would be very important to the people there," Clinton said.

Hillary Clinton arrived here on Sunday as part of a three-nation tour of North Africa to campaign for women's rights, education and health care and promote US-Arab ties. She will also visit Tunisia and Morocco before returning home April 1.

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LOAD-DATE: March 22, 1999

HRC EVENING NEWS COVERAGE

MARCH 22, 1999

CNN

Short piece showing Mrs. Clinton walking through a synagogue (I believe) talking with several people. Said that even half way around the world, questions about her possible Senate bid follow her. HRC acknowledged interest in the seat, is making calls and plans to continue that when she returns. She would like to remain in a public role after leaving the White House.

World News Tonight

Short piece showing Mrs. Clinton sitting at a table speaking with women. Said that she acknowledged publicly that she is seriously considering running for the Senate. She is making calls, but she can only say for sure that she wants to keep a public role after leaving the White House.

NBC Nightly News

~~Did not see anything about the First Lady's trip. (I was on the phone a bit, so if it was short I may have missed it.)~~

(Same as World News Tonight.)

I had WHCA tape the programs. and will have them available on your return.

First Lady Confirms Talks on N.Y. Senate Bid

By HOWARD SCHNEIDER
Washington Post Foreign Service

CAIRO, March 22—First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton confirmed today that she is consulting friends and advisers about a possible run for the Senate in New York, saying that is just one option she is exploring to stay involved in public life when President Clinton's second term ends.

Talking to reporters on the second day of a trip to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, Hillary

Clinton said she intends to find some way to continue working on the issues she is most interested in after leaving the White House in January 2001.

Whether that means delving into electoral politics or something else remains to be seen. But the first lady indicated she is serious about exploring a run for the seat held by Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.), who is retiring.

"I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf

of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on," Clinton said. "The form that will take I really can't predict at this time."

"I've talked to a lot of people in the last month, and I will continue that when I return home," she said of her consultations with advisers and friends.

The comments marked the first time Clinton has responded directly to questions raised by her strong showing in polls pitting her in a hypothetical Senate race against New York Mayor

Rudolph W. Giuliani, a Republican.

She agreed to the rare question-and-answer session following her tour of a Cairo health center, apparently in an effort to dispense with the issue while she is traveling and turn the spotlight to the issues of religious tolerance and historic conservation that are the centerpieces of her North Africa trip.

"Right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important part-

nership and friendship between the United States and Egypt," she told the audience of reporters, doctors and hospital staff.

Touring here with her daughter Chelsea during Chelsea's spring break from Stanford University, the first lady has divided her time among Cairo's ample mix of Muslim, Christian and ancient historic sites, weaving together an effort to reach out to the Islamic world with her personal interest in historic preservation.

She is also trying to call attention to the money being invested here by the U.S. Agency for International Development in sewer and other

public works projects critical to maintaining some of Cairo's most important architecture.

On Sunday, for example, she visited the Salih Talai Mosque in one of Cairo's oldest Islamic neighborhoods, an elegant, open-air building that until a few months ago was surrounded by pools of open water that threatened to erode the foundation.

That problem has been fixed, and, in conjunction with Egyptian authorities, a 700-year-old, intricately carved beechwood minbar has been restored.

The minbar is a pulpit-like platform at the top of a short staircase for the mosque's prayer leader,

NEW YORK

**Mrs. Clinton Touts Mission
And Hints of Senate Plans**

Hillary Rodham Clinton deflected questions in Cairo yesterday about whether she planned to run for the Senate from New York, but said she was looking for a way to advance the issues involving children and women "I've spent more than 25 years working on."

Mrs. Clinton paused during a 12-day tour of North Africa yesterday to answer — or, rather, deflect — questions about her plans. She repeatedly emphasized that she was in Egypt to promote good will and good works, not her political prospects.

But in response to a question about the best way to promote her "global mission" on behalf of women, Mrs. Clinton said: "I don't know the answer to that. But I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on, having to do with improving the lives of children and giving more opportunities of all kinds to people, particularly women, and improving relations around the world."

Mrs. Clinton, who had previously issued only a written statement and made an oblique public joke about the Senate race, is considering a campaign for the seat to be vacated by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who is retiring in 2000.

JAMES BENNET

N.Y. SENATE RACE: In her most expansive comments yet on a possible Senate bid, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said that she's been making "lots of calls" to friends and advisers but hasn't decided whether to run. In Cairo on a 12-day visit to Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, Clinton said she wants to "continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on. Any way I can continue to do that, I intend to. But the form that will take I really can't predict at this time." She said she will continue sounding out supporters before deciding whether to seek the open Senate seat of retiring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y.

Perilous statehood mission

When Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat meets today with President Bill Clinton, he is expected to ask the president to support the creation of a Palestinian state. But considering Mr. Arafat's continuing failure to stop terrorism against Israel, President Clinton should issue him a clear ultimatum: Drop any plans to unilaterally declare Palestinian statehood or face a cutoff of U.S. aid.

Mr. Arafat is largely responsible for the current impasse in the Middle East peace process. The Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations begun in Oslo, Norway, in 1993 would not be on the verge of collapse had Mr. Arafat abided by his commitments to help safeguard Israel's security. Now, he is making a bad situation worse by threatening to declare Palestinian statehood on May 4 when the five-year period of interim Palestinian rule established by the Oslo accords expires. Such a unilateral action would destroy the Oslo peace talks, precipitate a violent confrontation with Israel, and explode the prospects for a stable peace.

President Clinton must defuse this ticking time bomb. Palestinian noncompliance has already led Israel to suspend implementation of the Wye River accord, signed only last October. According to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Mr. Arafat's Palestinian Authority has defaulted on many of its Oslo obligations. It has failed to: reduce the size of the Palestinian police force to 30,000 members; confiscate illegal weapons from Pales-



Yasser Arafat

tinian civilians and police; outlaw Palestinian groups that support terrorism against Israelis; arrest terrorists and end the "revolving door" policy that quickly frees terrorists from Palestinian jails; and refrain from inciting violence against Israelis.

A unilateral Palestinian declaration of independence, however, would deliver a fatal blow to the ailing peace talks and set the stage for a bloody confrontation. Violent clashes would result as both sides sought to establish control over disputed territories.

Nevertheless, Mr. Arafat clings to the statehood option. Part of the blame for this can be laid at the doorstep of the Clinton administration, which has done little to dissuade him. First Lady Hillary Clinton stated on May 6, 1998, that it would be in the "long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to

become a state." And President Clinton's Dec. 14, 1998, visit to Gaza had many features of a state visit. The Palestinians certainly drew this conclusion, displaying banners featuring Mr. Clinton and Mr. Arafat with the caption, "We have a dream: Free Palestine."

Congress recently tried to stiffen the administration's spine on the statehood issue. The Senate overwhelmingly passed a resolution on March 11 urging the president to "unequivocally assert United States opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state." The House passed a similar resolution on March 16.

In his upcoming White House meeting, Mr. Arafat will reportedly agree to delay statehood, perhaps until Jan. 1, 2000, in return for Mr. Clinton's promise to recognize a Palestinian state. The president must firmly reject this offer. It only

would reward Mr. Arafat's brinkmanship and encourage him to engage in other negotiating gambits prohibited by Oslo.

President Clinton should not only should refuse to recognize a unilaterally declared Palestinian state, but should urge other states to withhold recognition and work to penalize the Palestinian Authority for violating the Oslo accords. U.S. aid to the Palestinians, currently \$400 million per year, should be withdrawn.

The president should also insist that Mr. Arafat abide by his commitments under the Oslo accords and negotiate the statehood issue directly with Israel. He should inform Mr. Arafat this is the only acceptable avenue for attaining statehood. Mr. Arafat must understand that only through strict adherence to past agreements can he hope to gain Palestinian statehood in a future agreement.

President Clinton must further urge Mr. Arafat to seek an agreement with Israel extending the negotiating period for final status issues. There is nothing sacred about the May 4 deadline. Every target date originally established for the interim negotiations has been missed, and it is unrealistic to expect both sides to meet this deadline.

The stakes are high. By threatening to declare Palestinian independence, Mr. Arafat is also threatening to destroy the Oslo peace accords. President Clinton should warn him that such a policy would severely harm U.S.-Palestinian relations, provoke a cutoff of U.S. aid, and deprive Palestinians of a chance to attain statehood through peaceful negotiations. Mr. Arafat must be convinced he has little to gain and much to lose if he shirks his Oslo commitments and unilaterally proclaims Palestinian statehood.

James Phillips, whose expertise is Middle East affairs, is director of administration for the Davis International Studies Center at the Heritage Foundation.

48TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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CBS News Transcripts

SHOW: CBS THIS MORNING (7:00 AM ET)

March 22, 1999, Monday

TYPE: Newscast

LENGTH: 268 words

HEADLINE: FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON AND HER DAUGHTER, CHELSEA, ARRIVE IN CAIRO
FOR 12-DAY VISIT TO AFRICA

ANCHORS: HATTIE KAUFFMAN

REPORTERS: RICHARD ROTH

BODY:

HATTIE KAUFFMAN, co-host:

First lady Hillary Clinton and daughter Chelsea are in Egypt this morning, the first stop of a three-nation, 12-day swing through North Africa. The two arrived in Cairo yesterday for what White House officials describe as a cultural visit to the Muslim world. Richard Roth has the story.

RICHARD ROTH reporting:

She came on behalf of her husband, she said, but she came without him. Hillary Clinton and her daughter Chelsea arrived in Cairo at the start of a 12-day trip to Northern Africa that administration officials call a bridge-building mission between the US and the Islamic world. And their first stop was at a medieval fort that's the emblem of Cairo's Islamic roots, the citadel that still symbolizes a defeat of Christian crusaders.

This is Mrs. Clinton's 19th foreign trip without the president, a goodwill tour to boost Arab-American friendship and a spring break getaway for Chelsea.

At a Cairo mosque being restored with American aid, the Clintons were told this was Mother's Day in Egypt. This far from Washington, politics seemed to be on no one's agenda.

Unidentified Man: You have brightened our day.

ROTH: Mrs. Clinton said she was here to honor tradition and to celebrate a bond.

Mrs. HILLARY CLINTON: ...the partnership and friendship between our countries and between the people of the United States and Egypt.

ROTH: The first lady plans to speak out on education and democracy and women's rights. What she won't be talking about on this trip, aides say, are her own plans for the future. Richard Roth, CBS News, Cairo.

CBS News Transcripts, March 22, 1999, Monday

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: March 22, 1999

THE RELIABLE SOURCE

By Ann Gerhart and Annie Groer



Clinton covers her head to enter the Citadel in Cairo.

BY KARE BLA—ASSOCIATED PRESS

NOW YOU KNOW . . .

After landing in Cairo yesterday, first lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** and daughter **Chelsea** toured the alabaster Mohammed Ali Mosque within the Citadel, the monumental fortress that has towered over Cairo since 1176. Tomorrow they'll view Old Testament scrolls at Ben Ezra Synagogue and visit the Coptic Museum and other sites important to the Egyptian capital's minority Christian community.

Their 12-day North African trip is intended to highlight Islamic contributions to the world. "For too long, our close ties with the Arab world have been compromised by negative stereotyping on both sides," the first lady said before she left Washington. The trip, she said, will "help strengthen the

bonds of friendship among our nations."

■ At a time when political operatives of all stripes are cranking out kiss-and-tell memoirs, gray eminence **Bob Strauss** is shelving his.

The former Democratic Party chief and **George Bush's** ambassador to Moscow started the project last year with writer **Peter Ross Range**. Strauss, a partner in the law firm Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, was going to shop the book to a publisher only when it was finished.

"I got bored," Strauss, 80, told *The Source*. "The things I wanted to write are not things people wanted to read. I didn't want to gossip."

First Lady Begins N. Africa Tour

From Reuters

CAIRO—First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton toured mosques and monuments and saw a mummy Sunday to open her 12-day North Africa trip, which is billed as a bridge-building visit to the Islamic world.

"We are delighted to start our visit here in Egypt, and here in the heart of old Cairo," the first lady said as she visited Islamic antiquities with her daughter, Chelsea, who is on break from her studies at Stanford University. Starting her tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, Mrs. Clinton aimed on her first day to highlight Islamic contributions to culture as a way to help dispel suspicions between East and West.

She is to visit the Coptic Christian area of Cairo today to call attention to Egypt's tradition of religious diversity, ahead of a speech the following day urging religious tolerance.

As Mrs. Clinton arrived at the Citadel, which has towered over Islamic Cairo since 1176, she apologized for running late because her plane was delayed by engine trouble in Washington and by poor weather in Ireland, which forced her plane to be diverted to England to refuel.



Associated Press

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton puts on a scarf before touring the Citadel of Salah al Din on Sunday in Cairo.

Clinton spokeswoman Marsha Berry said Sunday's visits also underscored the importance of preserving cultural treasures, one of Mrs. Clinton's favorite causes.

Mrs. Clinton is also expected to use her North African tour to promote the rights of women and children, call for religious tolerance and encourage democratic

advances.

She is to meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today and visit the New Horizons program for young women, which deals with issues such as reproductive health and female genital mutilation. Although such ritual mutilation is officially discouraged, it is widespread in Egypt.



Reuters

North African itinerary

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea tour the Mohammed Ali Mosque in Cairo yesterday, with the minarets of another mosque visible in the distance. The Clintons are on the first leg of a 10-day visit that will also take them to Tunisia and Morocco.

WASHINGTON AND THE W

First lady and daughter embark on 12-day tour of North Africa



By Zoraida Diaz, Reuters

Mother and child: Above, Hillary Rodham Clinton tours old Cairo, Egypt, on Sunday with daughter Chelsea, who is on spring break from Stanford University. Right, the first lady covers her head according to Muslim tradition before visiting a citadel. Starting a 12-day trip to Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, Clinton said she was pleased to be in Cairo on the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli accords.



By Khue Bul, AP



EGYPTIAN ODYSSEY: Hillary and Chelsea Clinton yesterday salute those on hand to greet them in Cairo.

Reuter

Hillary and Chelsea visit sacred Muslim sites during Cairo tour

CAIRO — First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton toured old Cairo with her daughter, Chelsea, yesterday on the first leg of a North African tour that has been billed as a bridge-building visit to the Islamic world.

"We are delighted to start our visit here in Egypt, and here in the heart of old Cairo," said Mrs. Clinton as she visited Islamic antiquities, including the Mohammed Ali Mosque at the Citadel, where she and Chelsea wore headscarves as a mark of respect.

The First Lady stopped at the 11th-century Bab Zuweila gate during a trip

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries."

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

aimed at dispelling any suspicions between East and West.

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries," Mrs. Clinton said in an official state-

ment. She added that the visit was aimed at deepening dialogue and seeing "first-hand how Egyptians are moving towards the future while preserving their extraordinary culture and heritage."

"During my visit, I will have the opportunity to see Cairo and Luxor and experience both the diver-

sities of the civilizations past and present."

The head of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Gaballah Ali Gaballah, showed Mrs. Clinton inside al-Salih Tala'i Mosque, built in 1160, where she handed out certificates to craftsmen who helped restore the mosque's 700-year-old minbar, a pulpit from which an imam speaks.

Starting a 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, she said in the statement she was pleased to be in Cairo on the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, or Camp David accords of 1979, which laid the foundation for

Robert D. Novak

Senate Steppingstone

The notion of Hillary Rodham Clinton running for the Senate from New York has been transformed from fanciful speculation to realistic probability for the worst of reasons: the First Lady's private life and personal ambitions.

This explanation comes not from Mrs. Clinton's "vast right-wing conspiracy" or even from less conspiratorial critics. Rather, friends of the First Lady and high-ranking figures in the administration are the ones predicting she will make the Senate run and saying why.

They surmise that her relationship with Bill Clinton contributes to her decision and are certain that she considers the Senate a steppingstone to the presidency, an audacious ambition that itself is connected to her relations with the president.

For concerned Democrats, such a rationale for a Senate campaign does not promise a favorable outcome. The shaky predicates of Mrs. Clinton's candidacy suggest that the seat held with distinction for a quarter-century by Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan may now go to Rudolph Giuliani, the Republican mayor of New York City.

I began to grasp the baroque nature of this story three weeks ago when a senior administration official offered to bet me a dinner that the First Lady would run for the Senate. Why, I asked, would she covet the hectic, unrewarding life of a U.S. senator? "She doesn't," the official replied. "But this is the only way she can run for president."

After the initial shock wore off, I checked with

prominent Democrats in Washington and New York and found a widespread perception that this truly was Mrs. Clinton's plan. A presidential candidacy for Hillary Clinton seems as inappropriate as it would have been some 60 years ago for her role model, Eleanor Roosevelt.

In her defense, New York Democrats note that Robert F. Kennedy, another outsider and neophyte candidate, ran for the Senate from New York in 1964 only to seek the presidency in 1968. But he was already an icon, heir to the myth of his murdered brother and symbol for the discontented in a ruptured American society.

Whether Mrs. Clinton stands for anything more than her husband's poll-oriented, election-directed policies is unclear. A case can be made that she has grown closer to a Senate race as she has appeared more distant from the president following public revelations of his reprehensible personal behavior.

Mrs. Clinton departed early from a family skiing vacation and did not accompany the president on recent trips to Central America (a place she loves) and Hope, Ark., to dedicate his boyhood home. The explanation of back trouble was undermined last Wednesday night when she sat for three hours at the Washington Opera.

As the capital's buzz about the first couple's alleged estrangement grew louder, Mrs. Clinton suddenly appeared at her husband's side during one of Washington's most lugubrious events: the annual radio-television dinner. She reverted to her supportive role,

flashing a radiant smile through the president's witty remarks and even during the interminable musings of humorist Garrison Keillor.

Mrs. Clinton's reemergence as the politician's wife emphasized how different this role is from a candidate's. Years of being required to assume this fawning posture may partially explain why she is anxious to prove her own merit.

But the revelation Thursday in a Little Rock federal court that a Whitewater indictment against the First Lady had been drafted but never presented to a grand jury predicted what she can expect in a New York Senate race. A woman with a short fuse and no tolerance for criticism would subject herself to unlimited questions for the first time.

Even before such an ordeal, Mrs. Clinton is less of a sure thing than many Democrats claim. Polls showing her well ahead of Giuliani have interviewed either too many nonvoters or too many New York City residents. The reliable pollster John Zogby has the mayor running ahead of her—by 11.5 percentage points in a March 10-12 survey.

But New York Democrats have no alternative. The party that produced the likes of Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Robert Wagner Sr., Mario Cuomo and Pat Moynihan has no alternative to a non-New Yorker who her own supporters say seeks to relieve her personal frustrations by fulfilling grandiose ambitions.

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N.Y.: Just Her Stepping Stone?

THE notion of Hillary Rodham Clinton running for the Senate from New York has been transformed from fanciful speculation to realistic probability for the worst of reasons: the First Lady's private life and personal ambitions.

Friends of Mrs. Clinton and high-ranking figures in the administration are the ones predicting she will make the Senate run and saying why. They surmise that her relationship with Bill Clinton contributes to her decision and are certain that she considers the Senate a stepping stone to the presidency, an audacious ambition that itself is connected to her relations with the president.

I began to grasp the baroque nature of this story three weeks ago, when a senior administration official offered to bet me a dinner that the First Lady would run for the Senate. Why, I asked, would she covet the hectic, unrewarding life of a U.S. senator? "She doesn't," the official replied. "But this is the only way she can run for president."

After the initial shock wore off, I checked with prominent Democrats in Washington and New York and found a widespread perception that this truly was Mrs. Clinton's plan. A presidential candidacy for Hillary Clinton seems as inappropriate as it would have been some 60 years ago for her role model, Eleanor Roosevelt.

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Kennedy, another outsider and neophyte candidate, ran for the Senate from New York in 1964 only to seek the presidency in 1968. But RFK was already an icon, heir to the myth of his murdered brother and symbol for the discontented in a ruptured American society. Whether Mrs. Clinton stands for anything more than her husband's poll-oriented, election-directed policies is unclear.

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Even before that ordeal, Mrs. Clinton is less of a sure thing than many Democrats claim. Polls showing her well ahead of Giuliani have interviewed either too many non-voters or too many New York City residents. The reliable pollster John Zogby has Mayor Giuliani running ahead of her by 11.5 percentage points in a March 10-12 survey.

But New York Democrats have no alternative. The party that produced the likes of Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Robert Wagner Sr., Mario Cuomo and Pat Moynihan has no alternative to a non-New Yorker who her own supporters say seeks to relieve her personal frustrations by fulfilling grandiose ambitions.



ROBERT D. NOVAK

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GOP infighting over

NEW YORK'S Republican Party is on the verge of an explosive civil war over Mayor Giuliani's likely run for the U.S. Senate next year, worried insiders say.

The potential combatants include virtually every top Republican in the state — Giuliani, Gov. Pataki, Al D'Amato, state GOP boss Bill Powers, and Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno.

The goal of the anti-Giuliani camp is to damage the mayor in next year's primary, even if it hands



the U.S. Senate seat to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"It's 1989 all over again," one of the state's most influential and respected Republican figures said with disgust, referring to Giuliani's first attempt to become mayor

and his loss to Democrat David Dinkins.

Ten years ago, D'Amato convinced cosmetics billionaire Ronald Lauder to run an unsuccessful, but incredibly expensive and bitterly negative, Republican primary campaign against Giuliani, which was widely seen as causing Giuliani's narrow defeat by Dinkins in the general election.

The ongoing GOP cold war between Pataki and Giuliani almost got hot last week, when the governor and his aides

Giuliani could hand victory to Hillary

blamed the mayor for leaking a letter from Joe DiMaggio's lawyer accusing Pataki of exploiting the Yankee Clipper's death.

Only quick intervention by several top GOP leaders prevented the bitter episode — which ended the supposed Pataki-Giuliani peace pact negotiated two weeks earlier — from getting worse.

The battling intensified again yesterday, when Pataki, in a appearance on ABC's "This Week," appeared to side with the

largely Democratic forces critical of the mayor's handling of the Amadou Diallo tragedy.

The pro-Giuliani forces — the mayor, Powers and Bruno (R-Rensselaer) — control thousands of patronage jobs and, in the case of Powers and Bruno, the loyalty of hundreds of GOP operatives.

The anti-Giuliani forces — Pataki, D'Amato, Pataki aide Zenia Mucha, Conservative Party Chairman Michael Long, Pataki/D'Amato campaign guru Arthur Pin-

kelstein, U.S. Rep. Rick Lazio and Westchester DA Jeanine Pirro and her influential, and recently indicted lobbyist-husband, Albert Pirro — also have an enormous number of loyalists throughout the state.

Insiders said D'Amato and Long have recently bragged of their determination to stop Giuliani, even at the expense of a Democratic victory.

Lazio and Jeanine Pirro are being eyed by the anti-Giuliani forces as possible opponents to the

mayor in next year's Senate primary.

The immediate causes of the hostility are Giuliani's 1994 support for the re-election of Gov. Mario Cuomo and the current rivalry between the two men for the national GOP spotlight.

Bruno, who denounced "Judas Giuliani" in 1994 after the mayor endorsed Cuomo, has made it clear that he believes Giuliani is the strongest potential GOP contender for Senate next year, and the one most likely to get out a strong Republican vote.

Powers, who has held several private meetings with Giuliani, predicted late last week at a meeting of Hearst newspaper editors in Texas that Giuliani would beat any challengers in the primary next year.

The tensions were played out on a small scale two weeks ago, when Pataki skipped the Albany County Republican Committee's Lincoln's Birthday Dinner, which just happened to feature Giuliani as the keynote. The governor's absence

infuriated Albany Republicans, who attributed it to Giuliani's presence.

Pataki then found time last week to show up for the annual Schenectady County GOP Dinner — sans Giuliani — a move that further angered Albany Republicans.

Fredric U. Dicker's radio show, "Live from the State Capitol," can be heard weekdays from 10:05 a.m. to 11 a.m. and Sundays from 1:05 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the Web at www.wrow.com.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 21, 1999 US-Hillary-Egypt lead 17:58 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 388 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton in Egypt on first leg of North Africa tour

DATELINE: (UPDATES with visits to Islamic Cairo sites. Pictures)

BODY:

CAIRO, March 21 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton toured Islamic landmarks here with her daughter Chelsea on the start Sunday of her first visit to Egypt and a North Africa tour to campaign for women's rights.

From Egypt, the first lady will visit Tunisia and camp in the Moroccan desert before wrapping up on April 1 a tour also devoted to promoting US ties with the Arab world.

Clinton's first stop was at the magnificent Citadel overlooking Cairo built by Salah al-Din al-Ayubi, a great Islamic military leader who captured Jerusalem from the Crusaders.

Accompanied by the secretary general of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Gaballah Ali Gaballah, the two Americans then went down the hill to the Fatimid quarter of the Egyptian capital, for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at a mosque recently restored with US funds.

The Salih Tala'i mosque's minbar, the marble altar-like structure where the prayer leader preaches to the faithful, was restored with a 2.5-million-dollar grant by the US Agency for International Development.

The money also was used to deal with underground water that was threatening the foundations of the mosque built in 1161.

During her stay here, Clinton is scheduled to dedicate a new hospital in Cairo, announce a new maternal health and pediatric program and discuss family planning at a Luxor clinic.

On Monday, Clinton tours Old Christian Cairo and Ben Ezra Synagogue.

She will address students at the American University in Cairo on Tuesday before flying to the southern Nile resort of Luxor where she will visit Karnak Temple and other pharaonic landmarks.

In Tunisia Thursday, Clinton will visit an education and training center for youths in Tunis that also runs a credit program for business women.

She will address women's organizations on the work to be done to improve women's rights and visit religious sites in Kairouan Friday.

Agence France Presse, March 21, 1999

In Morocco, Clinton will speak at an education conference, visit a rural health clinic and talk about religious tolerance in Marrakesh. She will also go to Fez to inaugurate a maternity ward, see a US-supported low-income housing project and spend the night in the desert.

Clinton arrived here earlier in the day and was greeted at the capital's international airport by Cairo governor Abdel Rehim Shehata.

hkb/bsm

LOAD-DATE: March 21, 1999

4TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

The Xinhua General Overseas News Service
Xinhua General News Service

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MARCH 21, 1999, SUNDAY 16:00 Eastern Time

LENGTH: 185 words

HEADLINE: u.s. first lady inaugurates mosque in cairo

DATELINE: cairo, march 21; ITEM NO: 0321002

BODY:

visiting american first lady hillary rodham clinton sunday inaugurated al-saleh tala'ei mosque in the heart of cairo. the mosque was restored at a cost of 2.5 million u.s. dollars by egypt's supreme council of antiquities in cooperation with the united states agency for international development (usaid), egypt's middle east news agency reported. hillary crested five workers with appreciation certificates for their efforts in the restoration work of the mosque. hillary, accompanied by her daughter chelsea, arrived in cairo during the day for a five-day visit within a north african tour which will also take her to tunisia and morocco. the visit came within the context of the friendly and cooperation relations between egypt and the u.s., the news agency said. she will meet with egyptian president hosni mubarak and his wife suzanne. she is also to visit tourist and archaeological sites in egypt, including islamic and coptic monuments. she will tour some projects implemented by the usaid in egypt and deliver a speech at the american university in cairo.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 21, 1999

7TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Agence France Presse
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March 21, 1999 US-Hillary-Egypt 13:16 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 274 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton in Egypt on first leg of North Africa tour

DATELINE: (Picture)

BODY:

CAIRO, March 21 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton, accompanied by her daughter Chelsea, arrived on her first visit to Egypt Sunday as part of a North Africa tour to campaign for women's rights and promote US ties with the Arab world.

Clinton was greeted on her arrival at the capital's international airport by Cairo governor Abdel Rehim Shehata.

From Egypt, the first lady will visit Tunisia and camp in the Moroccan desert before wrapping up her tour on April 1.

During her stay here, Clinton will dedicate a new hospital in Cairo, announce a new maternal health and pediatric program and discuss family planning at a clinic in Luxor.

On Sunday she is set to tour Islamic Cairo, namely the Citadel overlooking the Egyptian capital and Bab Zuweila Gate in the Fatimid quarters of Cairo and Monday she tours Christian Coptic Cairo and the Ben Ezra Synagogue.

She will address students at the American University in Cairo on Tuesday before flying to the southern Nile resort of Luxor where she will visit the Karnak Temple and other pharaonic landmarks.

In Tunisia Thursday, Clinton will visit an education and training center for youths in Tunis that also runs a credit program for business women.

She will address women's organizations on the work to be done to improve women's rights and visit religious sites in Kairouan Friday.

In Morocco, Clinton will address an education conference, visit a rural health clinic and talk about religious tolerance in Marrakesh. She will also visit Fez to inaugurate a maternity ward, visit a US-supported low income housing site and spend the night in the desert.

hkb/txw

LOAD-DATE: March 21, 1999

8TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Deutsche Presse-Agentur

March 21, 1999, Sunday, BC Cycle
19:03 Central European Time

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 609 words

HEADLINE: ROUNDUP: Hillary Clinton visits Islamic Cairo at start of Arab tour

BYLINE: By Khaled Dawoud

DATELINE: Cairo

BODY:

U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter Chelsea at the start of their tour of Arab nations Sunday visited one of Cairo's largest mosques, the Egyptian Museum and inaugurated a restored 700-year-old monument in Islamic Cairo.

Ms Clinton wore a brown suit with long sleeves, wide trousers and a scarf around her neck in respect of Islamic rules which oblige women to cover their bodies, except for the hands and face, during her visits to two mosques and other Islamic monuments.

Chelsea wore dark blue trousers, a jacket and a white shirt but had a scarf at hand in case she was asked to cover her hair.

Probably out of courtesy, both women and the huge crew of American female journalists accompanying them were given an exception and allowed into the mosques without covering their hair.

Ms Clinton first visited the over 170-year-old Mohammed Ali mosque and castle, a huge building which Egypt's former ruler built on a hilltop overlooking Cairo. Mohammed Ali's ancestors ruled Egypt for nearly 150 years before they were toppled by army officers led by late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel-Nasser.

Ms Clinton, surrounded by scores of Egyptian and U.S. security men, then inaugurated a 700-year-old redecorated wooden minbar, or a pulpit, at Al-Saleh Tala'i mosque in the heart of Islamic Cairo.

The minbar is the place where the leader of the Islamic prayer, or imam, delivers his speech during weekly Friday prayers.

The U.S. International Aid Agency (USAID), in conjunction with the Egyptian Antiquities Council, are involved in several projects to restore important monuments in Cairo.

Ms Clinton said in a short speech after a ribbon-cutting ceremony that she was "pleased to have a chance to come and see first-hand this magnificent mosque and the work that has been done to conserve and preserve it for generations to come."

She later honoured five Egyptian archaeologists who spent more than six months working on the most minute details to restore the minbar to its original shape.

As Egyptians and the rest of the Arab world celebrated Sunday what is known as Mothers' Day, Ms Clinton said that "it feels wonderful" to be in Cairo during this occasion.

Ms Clinton's 12-day tour, which also includes Tunisia and Morocco, aims at strengthening "the bond of friendship" between the United States and Arab nations and surpassing what she described before leaving Washington Saturday as "negative stereotyping on both sides".

During her visit to Egypt, which will end on Thursday, the U.S. first lady will celebrate with the Egyptians the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Camp David treaty in 1979 when Egypt became the first Arab country to ink a peace agreement with Israel.

The Clintons' stay in Egypt includes tours of the capital's Pharaonic, Islamic and Coptic Christian monuments, visits to a hospital and youth centre in a working-class Cairo neighbourhood, supported by the USAID program, as well as meetings with the U.S. community in Cairo and President Hosny Mubarak and his wife Suzanne.

On Tuesday, after a speech at the 80-year-old American University in Cairo (AUC), Clinton and her daughter leave for the ancient town of Luxor in Upper Egypt, where they will visit the magnificent Pharaonic sites, including the Valley of the Kings and Valley of the Queens and the Karnac temple.

Despite the Arab world's general dissatisfaction with Washington's Middle East policy, considered biased towards Israel, Ms Clinton's public support of the Palestinians' right to establish their own independent state last year, has been highly welcomed in the region. dpa kd mu

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 21, 1999

16TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 21, 1999, Sunday, BC Cycle
13:20 Central European Time

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 452 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton arrives in Egypt at start of Arab tour

DATELINE: Cairo

BODY:

U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter Chelsea arrived in Cairo Sunday at the beginning of a regional tour aimed at boosting trust between United States and Arab countries, official sources said.

The 12-day visit, which also includes Tunisia and Morocco, aims at strengthening "the bond of friendship" and surpassing what Mrs Clinton described before leaving Washington on Saturday as "negative stereotyping on both sides".

A White House statement said Mrs Clinton will underscore throughout her trip the commitment of the U.S. to strengthening bonds of understanding with the entire Arab world and will check the achievements of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in the fields of education, health and social development.

During her visit to Egypt, which will end on Thursday, the U.S. first lady will celebrate with the Egyptians the 20th anniversary of the Camp David peace treaty which made Egypt in 1979 the first Arab country to sign a peace agreement with Israel.

The Clintons' stay in Egypt includes tours of the capital's Pharaonic, Islamic and Coptic Christian monuments, visits to a hospital and youth centre in a working-class Cairo neighbourhood, supported by the USAID program, as well as meetings with the U.S. community in Cairo and President Hosny Mubarak and his wife Suzanne.

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In Tunisia, Mrs Clinton will hear about the North African nation's "remarkable record" on women's rights, and in Morocco, she will learn about their experiment with political pluralism, religious tolerance and growth of civil society, said a White House press release.

On Sunday afternoon, the Clintons will visit the 11th century Islamic Cairo quarter as well as the Egyptian Museum which includes the country's largest collection of Pharaonic treasures.

Deutsche Presse-Agentur, March 21, 1999

Despite the Arab world's general dissatisfaction with Washington's Middle East policy, considered biased towards Israel, Mrs Clinton's public support of the Palestinians' right to establish their own independent state last year, has been highly welcomed in the region.

Her comments on the critical issue last May in an interview with the Voice of America radio won her a long standing ovation at the Palestinian National Council (parliament) in December, when she joined U.S. President Bill Clinton on the first visit by a U.S. leader to the Palestinian self-ruled Gaza Strip. dpa
hm vc

EDITOR-NOTE:

Eds: Repeats to fix slug

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 21, 1999

142ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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March 19, 1999 17:19 GMT

SECTION: Domestic, non-Washington, general news item

LENGTH: 223 words

HEADLINE: Hillary Clinton to tour Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, March 19

BODY:

US First Lady Hillary Clinton leaves Saturday for a 12-tour of North Africa to campaign for women's rights, camp in the Moroccan desert and promote US relations with the Arab world.

On her first stop in Egypt, Clinton will dedicate a new hospital in Cairo, announce a new maternal health and pediatric program and discuss family planning at a clinic in Luxor.

She will also tour the historic sites of the Citadel and Bab Zuweila Gate in Cairo, and the Karnak Temple and the Valley of the Kings and Queens in Luxor.

In Tunisia Thursday, Clinton will visit an education and training center for youths in Tunis that also runs a microcredit program for business women.

She will address women's organizations on the work to be done to improve women's rights and visit religious sites in Kairouan Friday.

Morocco is the last leg of the three-country tour where Clinton will address an education conference, visit a rural health clinic and talk about religious tolerance in Marrakesh.

Clinton will also visit Fez to inaugurate a maternity ward and visit a USAID-supported low income housing site.

The first lady, who frequently campaigns for women's rights in developing countries, will also visit historic neighborhoods and mosques and spend the night in the Moroccan desert.

She returns to Washington April 1.

gc/rl

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 19, 1999

215TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Hotline

March 19, 1999

SECTION: HOTLINE PEOPLE

LENGTH: 163 words

HEADLINE: HRC: GOING TO MIDDLE EAST, BUT NOT TO ISRAEL

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton "embarks on a two-week Middle East tour on Saturday that leaves out Israel." The failure to include Israel in her itinerary is "adding to the perception" in Jerusalem "that Washington is snubbing" the government of PM Benjamin Netanyahu "in the run-up to the crucial May 17 election." A WH statement said HRC's visit to Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia was aimed at "strengthening the bonds of friendship between the United States and these nations -- and the bonds of understanding between the United States and the entire Arab world." Even though her visit in Egypt "is intended to mark the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, she will not include the neighboring Jewish state in her itinerary." It was not appropriate for her to visit Israel at this time "because of the election," the statement said, adding that she plans to visit Israel and Jordan later in '99 (Goodenough, CNS, 3/19).

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 19, 1999

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First lady finds North Africa tour welcome respite

6:32 p.m. ET (2333 GMT) March 31, 1999

[an error occurred while processing this directive]

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP) — Greeted with reverence and adulation, Hillary Rodham Clinton proclaimed her tour of North Africa a welcome escape and a success for U.S.-Arab relations.

"I always like getting away from Washington," the first lady said Wednesday as she and her daughter Chelsea wrapped up their 12-day tour — part sightseeing, part U.S. diplomacy — through Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

"I hope for our country this has also been a trip that has helped to move the agenda forward as to how we relate to people in this region of the world," the first lady said in a brief news conference.

Particularly, she said she hoped her tours helped to erase the "stereotypes and negative images" that some Arabs and Americans harbor toward one another.

Preparing to depart Thursday for Washington, Mrs. Clinton sounded reluctant to face decisions about whether to seek the Democratic nomination for Senate in New York in 2000.

"I've really tried to put it out of my mind the last 10 days," she said.

She focused instead on the headlines at hand, joining Western leaders in condemning Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic for the Serbs' treatment of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo.

But her husband did not mind musing on what the responsibilities of a husband of a senator might be.

"I don't know, but I am willing to fulfill them," Clinton said with a laugh during an interview with CBS anchor Dan Rather that focused largely on the crisis in Kosovo. "You know, I would fill in at dinners, make speeches when she had to vote. I'd be the main caseworker at the New York state office. I'd do whatever I was asked to." [an error occurred while processing this directive] The first lady said she's been "horrificed" by the news she has seen on TV from Kosovo and the "propaganda" from the Serbs. She accused Milosevic of "a kind of perverted political decision-making."

Mrs. Clinton nodded at a reporter's suggestion that her forcefulness on such a national security crisis was unusual for a first lady.

"It was important for me to speak out and, of course, I made clear that my husband knew that I was going to do that," Mrs. Clinton said.

Almost daily telephone calls from President Clinton have allowed the first lady to keep abreast of world developments while she was encountering

adoring villagers, flattering foreign leaders and ancient wonders.

While protesters outside the White House accused the president of starting World War III in Kosovo and new polls showed New Yorkers cooling to the idea of the first lady as one of their senators, in North Africa she found only enthusiastic receptions.

"May God repay you for this. May God glorify you," an elderly Moroccan woman repeated over and over as Mrs. Clinton toured the run-down squatter community of Koudia.

From King Hassan came this word, according to U.S. Ambassador to Morocco Edward Gariel: "We will not only treat her as a head of state, but as a member of my family."

For example, the king dispatched to Mrs. Clinton's five-star hotel a pile of silk robes and invited her to his dynasty's mausoleum at Rissani. Never before had the mausoleum been opened to a non-Islamic visitor.

Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali turned the first lady's 15-minute courtesy call into an hourlong summit on tough issues, including his country's "shortcomings" on human rights.

"That really is going to be her greatest legacy — calling attention to human rights, violations against women," historian Carl Anthony said.

On this trip, coming at the close of her husband's sex-and-impeachment scandal, the first lady showed a certain exuberance — laughs shared with diplomats and tour guides, the bounce of her hips as she clapped and flailed her arms to the beat of a Berber drummer.

She also endeavored to normalize relations with reporters, many of whom covered her husband's impeachment. She held two small news conferences, included the press in her "let-her-hair-down" desert sleepover, and had two off-the-record dinners with reporters.

Still, she offered few clues about her plans, political or otherwise.

Clearly, though, she welcomes the chance to give her views on certain issues, such as the rights and health of women and children around the globe.

"I don't believe that my one voice is in any way sufficient to speak out on some of these issues, but I will continue to add it no matter what decision I make about my own future."

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Here's the Pitch.

Hillary Clinton Shows Stateswoman Mode In N. Africa

REUTERS 6.22 p.m. ET (2323 GMT) March 31, 1999

MARRAKESH, Morocco — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton returns home Thursday after a tour that has taken her from Egypt to Morocco in a bid to improve American relations with the Islamic world.

The 12-day trip across North Africa has given Clinton a chance to promote her policies on an international stage as she weighs up whether to run for the U.S. Senate next year — a decision she said she would resume working on when she gets back to Washington.

"There are strategic and human interests both that I hope have been advanced by this trip," Clinton said Wednesday during a brief meeting with reporters accompanying her. "I hope that I have done something to increase the understanding between these countries and the people who live here, and our country and Americans."

She said that during her trip she had made little progress in her deliberations on whether to run for a New York Senate seat. Among other options she is considering is an international career after President Clinton leaves the White House at the end of his second and final four-year term.

"I'm still weighing all this in my own mind, and I've really tried to put it out of my mind," she said. "I've wanted to be fully in this experience."

Tuesday, one of the two women members of Morocco's parliament cautioned Clinton about the difficulties of elective politics.

"Undoubtedly the political arena is one of the most hazardous arenas for women to practice (in)," said parliament member Badia Skalli during a meeting between the first lady and women leaders.

Aides to Clinton said she has given as little indication in private as she has in public about which way she was leaning.

"I think she is still very conflicted," said one aide.

But the aide said she hoped speculation would ease now that the Kosovo crisis has dominated government and media agendas.

Clinton during her trip toured ancient and holy sites of Islam, Judaism and Coptic Christianity. She spoke out for religious tolerance, women's rights and education for girls, and discussed human rights concerns privately in meetings with the leaders of Egypt and Tunisia.

She saw numerous examples of people working to solve basic development problems, such as providing money to start a business or clean water.

In addition, she responded to the launching of NATO's air offensive against Yugoslavia with a condemnation of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic that was unusually strong for a president's spouse addressing a major developing crisis.

Wednesday she explained that her horror over Serbian ethnic cleansing in Kosovo outweighed the traditional reserve of U.S. first ladies.

"I'm just horrified by what I have seen, but I am particularly horrified by the use of propaganda and the manipulation of the truth and the revision of history that the Serbian government is engaged in right now," she said.

"It was important for me to speak out, and of course I made clear that my husband knew that I was going to do that," she said. She had pointed out Tuesday that most of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians are Muslims.

Clinton was welcomed by Muslims throughout her trip, many of whom had been thrilled by her May 1998 statement endorsing the idea of Palestinian statehood. Although the White House quickly said she was expressing her own opinion and not U.S. policy, and she has not reiterated the idea since, she was received as a friend of the cause.

"This is a struggle you have taken on to assert the rights of the Islamic and Arab people. Let me pay tribute to your support to the Palestinian people," said Mohammed El Yazghi, Morocco's minister of regional planning, environment, urban development and housing, in introducing her Tuesday.

Clinton leaves for Washington Thursday evening, after spending the day in Fez visiting a hospital, meeting with a group of nonprofit organizations and paying a call on Prime Minister Abderrahmane El Youssoufi.

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Mrs. Clinton 'Horried' By Reports From Kosovo

REUTERS ▢ 1:20 p.m. ET (1821 GMT) March 31, 1999

MARRAKESH, Morocco — U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said Wednesday she was "horried" by reports of ethnic cleansing in Kosovo and that she would resume considering a Senate bid after she returns from her North African trip.

Mrs. Clinton explained her forceful defense the day before of NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia, saying her horror over Serbian ethnic cleansing in Kosovo outweighed the traditional reserve of U.S. first ladies in addressing fast-developing crises.

"I'm just horried by what I have seen, but I am particularly horried by the use of propaganda and the manipulation of the truth and the revision of history that the Serbian government is engaged in right now," she said.

She spoke in Morocco during a brief news conference with reporters accompanying her on her good-will tour, which ends Thursday.

The tour has given Mrs. Clinton a chance to stride the world stage with an energetic policy agenda, as she weighs a run for a U.S. Senate seat from New York in 2000 against other possible ambitions such as United Nations ambassador.

Aides say she remains divided on whether to run. Said Mrs. Clinton, "I will start thinking about that again on my return home."

Mrs. Clinton had defended the NATO campaign Tuesday in a speech on religious tolerance, saying the allies had acted to prevent Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic from carrying out a plan for the "massive and systematic destruction" of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians.

She said she had discussed her plans to speak out with President Clinton.

"It was important for me to speak out, and of course I made clear that my husband knew that I was going to do that," she said. She added that the message carried additional significance in North Africa, with its overwhelmingly Muslim population. She had pointed out Tuesday that many of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians are Muslim.

Mrs. Clinton said that during her 12-day trip she had made little progress in her deliberations on whether to run for the Senate.

"I'm still weighing all this in my own mind, and I've really tried to put it out of my mind ... I've wanted to be fully in this experience," she said.

Referring to her long-held agenda of women's and children's issues, health care and economic development for the poor, she said, "These issues should be priorities no matter what I do and they really, I hope, are priorities for people both in public and private life."

"I don't believe that my one voice is in any way sufficient to speak out on

some of these issues, but I will continue to add it no matter what decision I make about my own future."

Aides to Mrs. Clinton said she has given as little indication in private as she has in public about which way she was leaning. "I think she is still very conflicted," said one aide.

But the aide said she hoped speculation would ease now that the Kosovo crisis has dominated government and media attention.

Mrs. Clinton dodged a question about whether the trip was a welcome break from Washington after more than a year of scandal over her husband's affair with Monica Lewinsky. "I've always liked getting away from Washington" she said. "This has been a long-planned and long-anticipated trip that has been far beyond my expectations."

She said President Clinton was "green with jealousy" that he could not be along for the trip, which has taken her from the ancient temples of Egypt to the dunes of the Sahara.

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Mrs. Clinton horrified by Milosevic's actions

7:53 a.m. ET (1254 GMT) March 31, 1999

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton said today she is adding her voice to the Western chorus of condemnation of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic because she's "horrified by the use of propaganda and the manipulation of the truth."

Speaking with reporters near the close of her 12-day trip through North Africa, Mrs. Clinton nodded at the suggestion that her forceful statement Tuesday on the grave situation in Kosovo was unusual for a first lady.

"It was important for me to speak out and, of course, I made clear that my husband knew that I was going to do that," Mrs. Clinton said.

On Tuesday, Mrs. Clinton lashed out at Milosevic and accused him of a long-calculated strategy of ethnic cleansing to prop up his political power in Yugoslavia. Her expansive comments coincided with an effort by the Clinton administration and its allies to raise the cost to Yugoslavia for its scorched-earth torching of Kosovo.

Today, Mrs. Clinton said Milosevic was engaged in "a kind of perverted political decision-making."

"I've seen, as many people have, the pictures and heard the stories on the television and in the news and I'm just horrified by what I have seen," Mrs. Clinton said.

"But I am particularly horrified by the use of propaganda and the manipulation of the truth and the revision of history that the Serbian government is engaged in right now."

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31ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Associated Press
AP Online

March 30, 1999; Tuesday 15:59 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 556 words

HEADLINE: First Lady: Milosevic Driven by Ego

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ

DATELINE: MARRAKECH, Morocco

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton castigated Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic on Tuesday for what she cast as an ego-driven agenda to fuel war and execute Albanian boys 'in cold blood.'

Delivering in measured tones a carefully scripted lecture on tolerance, Mrs. Clinton forcefully defended NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia and said Milosevic has been plotting the crisis over the last decade in order to prop up his power.

Earlier Tuesday, Mrs. Clinton ducked a volatile issue of Middle East peace one her critics have used to try and complicate her Senate prospects in New York when she ignored a Moroccan official's tribute to her as an advocate for Palestinian statehood.

Her remarks on tolerance, to an Arab audience in the ruins of the 17th-century El Badi Palace, framed Mrs. Clinton's first expansive defense of the NATO bombing that is consuming her husband's attention back home.

The first lady charged that Milosevic was never interested in peace with the ethnic Albanians of Kosovo province, not even as Serb representatives sat down to negotiate a Kosovo peace this month in Rambouillet, France.

'While the Kosovar representatives were saying yes to peace, the Serbians were planning a campaign of massive and systematic destruction,' Mrs. Clinton said.

She sketched a methodic ethnic-cleansing drive by Serb military and police forces, 'burning homes and destroying entire villages, separating men and boys from their families and executing them in cold blood.'

Mrs. Clinton said Milosevic started 10 years ago 'fanning the flames of ethnic and religious division.

'He did it for his own personal political advantage. ... Exploiting the consequences of division, waging war on his neighbors and his people is what he thought was in his own personal interest.'

Mrs. Clinton is nearing the end of a 12-day tour of Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco that she intended to strengthen U.S.-Arab friendship.

AP Online, March 30, 1999

It has been apparent that some Arabs here view that friendship in especially personal terms with the first lady because of her offhanded remark last year that 'it will be in the long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state.'

In a squatter community along the road to Casablanca, Arabs newly earning titles to their homes cheered Tuesday as Mohamed el-Yazghi, Morocco's minister for regional planning, introduced Mrs. Clinton as a champion for Palestinian statehood.

'This is a struggle you have taken on: To assert the rights of the Islamic and Arab people to dignity,' el-Yazghi said.

'Let me ... pay tribute to your support to the Palestinian people in terms of self-determination and building an independent state on their land.'

Taking the lectern next, Mrs. Clinton ignored the tribute and went ahead with her announcement that the United States would guarantee \$7.8 million in housing loans for Morocco.

Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, told a reporter off stage that the first lady takes no position on Palestinian statehood.

'She's supported the peace process and thinks the parties involved should be the ones to decide that,' Berry said.

As Mrs. Clinton mulls whether to run for a Senate seat from New York in 2000, her Republican opponents have tried to stir Jewish opposition by reviving the Palestinian comment she made last year.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 30, 1999

79TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Richmond Times Dispatch

March 30, 1999, Tuesday, CITY EDITION

SECTION: EDITORIAL, Pg. A-10

LENGTH: 208 words

HEADLINE: WHY SHOULD TAXPAYERS FUND CLINTONS' VACATION?

BYLINE: Donald T. Kinsley

DATELINE: BOWLING GREEN

BODY:

Editor, Times-Dispatch:

There they go again! In the March 21 Times-Dispatch - , a small article appeared about the 12-day "Arabian Nights" vacation of Hillary and Chelsea Clinton to North Africa ["First Lady, Daughter Foster U.S.-Arab Ties"].

They are not accompanying the President. Surprise! And, as the article reports, this is the 19th overseas trip made by Hillary without the President. All of these trips have been paid for by taxpayers' money.

By what right do these drones travel on our tax dollars? Neither Hillary nor Chelsea holds public office. Neither is an employee of the State Department. Neither has been elected by the citizens of this country to represent them abroad. At best, they represent an administration so tarnished by scandal as to be ridiculous. These free vacations for the First Family have been going on too long.

Soon I will send in my IRS form 1040 with its various enclosures, including a check for the purpose of funding the legitimate functions of the United States government. My tax dollars are not intended to pay for the vacations of Hillary and Chelsea. If Hillary desires to travel in foreign lands, then let her make a few more commodity investments and travel at her own expense.

LOAD-DATE: March 31, 1999

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Mrs. Clinton decries Islamic violence against women

10.08 a.m. ET (1509 GMT) March 26, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton went before the professional women of Tunisia today to speak out against religious fundamentalism in a neighboring country so severe that girls are splashed with acid "because someone deemed their skirts too short."

Her targets were the Islamic fundamentalists ripping apart Algeria, next door, and the ruling Taliban fundamentalist religious element in Afghanistan where women "are being brutalized by the Taliban once again in the name — the misused name — of religion."

"We must speak up for the women and people of Algeria who are victims of a war that is civil in name only," the American visitor said.

Tens of thousands of Algerians have been killed over seven years of war waged by Islamic radicals, Mrs. Clinton said. An Islamic insurgency erupted after the military-backed government canceled elections that the since-banned Islamic Salvation Front had been expected to win.

"We hear stories of girls whose legs were burned with acid because someone deemed their skirts too short. We hear stories of women who were raped and pressed into slavery, women whose throats were slit and bodies thrown into a well."

Many in her Arab audience nodded as Mrs. Clinton continued: "Those who perpetuate these hateful deeds pervert the great religion in whose name they claim to act."

The first lady, saying she was in Tunisia on behalf of President Clinton, also spoke out against Afghanistan, where she said women are brutalized for slight violations of a strict religious code.

In the middle of a 12-day tour of North Africa, Mrs. Clinton said she mostly wanted to celebrate Tunisia's investment in women's equality, education and health.

Tunisian first lady Leila Ben Ali said she was proud that to know that 22 percent of Tunisia's lawyers and judges are women.

But even before delivering today's address to about 1,000 professional women, Mrs. Clinton got a lesson on this authoritarian nation's clamps on free expression.

She sat down Thursday with a dozen of Tunisia's prominent female activists, including a film director, a human rights advocate and an opposition party member of parliament.

But the ladies' discussion at the cliff-top residence of U.S. Ambassador Robin Raphel, overlooking Carthage and the Gulf of Tunis, was hastily

closed to reporters after participants said they feared having their views broadcast in the media.

Tunisia, a sliver slightly smaller than Missouri wedged between the volatile Libya and Algeria, keeps a tight rein on political opposition.

It has no practical rights of freedom of speech or political expression, said one U.S. official.

But Mrs. Clinton said she was here mostly to celebrate the country's record of investments in women and children.

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Hillary Clinton Speaks Up For Women Rights

REUTERS 9 9:39 a.m. ET (1440 GMT) March 26, 1999

TUNIS — U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, in Tunisia Friday on the second leg of her goodwill trip to North Africa, spoke up for women rights in the world and decried violence against them in Algeria and Afghanistan.

"We must use our voices to speak up for women around the world who are still suffering in silence," she said in an address to hundreds of women and representatives of women's organizations in Tunis in presence of Tunisian first lady Leila Ben Ali.

"Seven years are enough...It is time for the political classes (in Algeria) to include all who oppose the use of violence and it is time for the violence to end, so that Algerians can once again be free to work in peace and in safety in their homes, their streets and their country," she said.

Algerian woman have not been spared in the violence gripping Algeria in the past seven years. Thousands of them have been reported killed, many having had their throats cut or been burned to death by Muslim rebels trying to topple the largely secular army-backed government and impose a puritanical state.

"We also must speak up for the women of Afghanistan who are being brutalized by the Taliban, once again in the...misused name of religion," Clinton said.

"There had been advances. We have seen the circle of human dignity expand in the (North Africa) region and through the world," she said. But she added that there was always a risk that women would lose rights they had gained.

On the sixth day of her 12-day North African goodwill journey Thursday, Mrs. Clinton called attention to the advanced state of women's rights in Tunisia since the country's 1956 independence, which the United States believes can serve as an example to other Islamic countries.

"I am impressed by the progress that women have made in Tunisia," she said.

"We must speak out when women are stopped from organizing non-governmental organizations, from freely expressing their views or participating in the political process," she added.

U.S. officials said that that portion of the speech was a reference to the Tunisian government's low tolerance for political expression.

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Mrs. Clinton decries Islamic violence against women

8:37 a.m. ET (1338 GMT) March 26, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, speaking in the Tunisian capital, lashed out today at the Islamic fundamentalists ripping apart this tiny nation's neighbor, Algeria.

"We must speak up for the women and people of Algeria who are victims of a war that is civil in name only," Mrs. Clinton exhorted to Tunisian women convening just a three-hour drive from the Algerian border.

Tens of thousands of Algerians have been killed over seven years of war waged by Islamic radicals, Mrs. Clinton said. "We hear stories of girls whose legs were burned with acid because someone deemed their skirts too short. We hear stories of women who were raped and pressed into slavery, women whose throats were slit and bodies thrown into a well."

Many in her Arab audience nodded as Mrs. Clinton continued: "Those who perpetuate these hateful deeds pervert the great religion in whose name they claim to act."

The first lady, saying she was in Tunisia on behalf of President Clinton, also spoke out against Afghanistan, where women "are being brutalized by the Taliban once again in the name — the misused name — of religion," she said.

In the middle of a 12-day tour of North Africa, Mrs. Clinton said she mostly wanted to celebrate Tunisia's investment in women's equality, education and health.

Tunisian first lady Leila Ben Ali said she especially wanted her American counterpart, a trained lawyer, to know that 22 percent of Tunisia's lawyers and judges are women.

But as Mrs. Clinton prepared for today's address before about 1000 professional women, she got a lesson on this authoritarian nation's clamps on free expression.

She sat down Thursday with a dozen of Tunisia's prominent female activists, including a film director, a human rights advocate and an opposition party member of parliament.

But the ladies' discussion at the cliff-top residence of U.S. Ambassador Robin Raphel, overlooking Carthage and the Gulf of Tunis, was hastily closed to reporters after participants said they feared having their views broadcast in the media.

Tunisia, a sliver slightly smaller than Missouri wedged between the volatile Libya and Algeria, keeps a tight rein on political opposition.

It has no practical rights of freedom of speech or political expression, said

one U.S. official.

But Mrs. Clinton said she was here mostly to celebrate the country's record of investments in women and children.

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Mrs. Clinton praises Tunisia's achievements on women's rights

2.28 a.m. ET (728 GMT) March 26, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton told Tunisians she came "to learn more about (their) extraordinary achievements" on women's rights. She also got a lesson on this authoritarian nation's clamp on political expression.

Preparing for today's address on women's rights at the Congressional Palace in the Tunisian capital, Mrs. Clinton sat down Thursday with a dozen of this nation's prominent female activists, including a film director, a human rights advocate and an opposition-party member of Parliament.

But the ladies' discussion at the cliff-top residence of U.S. Ambassador Robin Raphel, overlooking Carthage and the Gulf of Tunis, was hastily closed to reporters after participants said they feared having their views broadcast in the media.

Tunisia, a sliver slightly smaller than Missouri wedged between the volatile Libya and Algeria, keeps a tight rein on political opposition.

It has no practical rights of freedom of speech or political expression, said one U.S. official.

But the first lady, holding to the nonconfrontational style of her 12-day North Africa tour to date, said she was here mostly to celebrate the country's record of investments in women and children.

"I am delighted to be in Tunisia, one of the United States' oldest allies and a trailblazer in the fight for women's rights," the first lady said in a statement released at the Tunis airport.

There, she and her daughter Chelsea were greeted by a saber-wielding honor guard of elaborately cloaked military officers. The first lady's plane, getting in a bit early, was asked to circle the verdant coastline a half-dozen times while the red-carpet greeting was assembled.

The Tunisian government spends 20 percent of its annual budget implementing a program of health, education and employment rights for females.

Ninety-nine percent of Tunisian girls old enough for the first grade are in school, and 45 percent of college students here are women.

Family-planning services are widely available and abortion is legal. Tunisia, a predominantly middle-class nation, is the only Arab state to outlaw polygamy.

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63RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Los Angeles Times

March 28, 1999, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Opinion; Part M; Page 4; Letters Desk

LENGTH: 102 words

HEADLINE: SPRING TRIP

BODY:

* I see that once again taxpayers are footing the bill for Hillary and Chelsea Clinton to have a spring fling (March 22). Why does no one investigate what these trips cost and what value they are to us, the taxpayers?

Hillary Clinton will give a few speeches stressing her interest in children's and women's issues and then spend her time sightseeing with her daughter. I wonder how many citizens out here in the world of the great unwashed would love a trip of this kind every spring?

This is simply a gross injustice and I resent my taxes going for such purposes.

PAULINE DOANE

San Diego

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: March 28, 1999

95TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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AP Online

March 27, 1999; Saturday 12:08 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 224 words

HEADLINE: Tunisian Leader Admits Problems

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ

DATELINE: TUNIS, Tunisia

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton met for more than an hour Saturday with Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who assured the first lady human rights problems ''will be properly addressed,'' an administration official said.

In what was to have been a 15-minute courtesy call at the presidential palace at the close of Mrs. Clinton's two days here, the president and Mrs. Clinton talked privately. According to a U.S. official present, Ben Ali acknowledged ''shortcomings'' in his government's record on political freedoms but said a tight rein on dissidents in Tunisia helps keep Islamic extremists from making inroads from neighboring Algeria and Libya.

''The greatest bulwark against them is a strong citizenry,'' the official quoted Ben Ali as saying.

The Tunisian president expressed concern about the latest State Department report on human rights, which faulted Tunisia for restricting political expression. The U.S. official said Ben Ali invited the United States through its ambassador in Tunis or members of Congress to bring human rights allegations directly to the president, and ''he will personally ensure that they get properly addressed.''

From Tunis, Mrs. Clinton headed to Morocco, where she visited a school in rural Er Rachidia and announced a \$1.6 million U.S. grant to help Moroccan schools educate girls.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 27, 1999

104TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

The Associated Press

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March 27, 1999, Saturday, PM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 414 words

HEADLINE: First lady condemns Islamic radicals in Algeria, Afghanistan

BYLINE: By SANDRA SOBIERAJ, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: TUNIS, Tunisia

BODY:

Girls whose legs are burned with acid because ankles peek from beneath their skirts. Teen-agers raped and pressed into slavery. Trained professional women denied jobs and forced to beg for food.

Hillary Rodham Clinton decried such snapshots from Algeria and Afghanistan on Friday, and condemned Islamic fundamentalists there who brutalize women in the name of religion.

"Those who perpetrate these hateful deeds pervert the great religion in whose name they claim to act," the first lady said at a women's rights conference in the Tunisian capital, less than a three-hour's drive from the Algerian border.

The tens of thousands of Algerians killed by Islamic militants over seven years of fighting "were victims of a war that is civil in name only," Mrs. Clinton said, noting that she spoke on behalf of her husband and the American people.

She exhorted her audience of about 1,000 mostly professional Tunisian women, who enjoy a progressive variety of rights, also to speak out against Afghanistan, where women "are being brutalized by the Taliban once again in the name - the misused name - of religion."

In keeping with the non-confrontational style she's adopted toward her host governments on this 12-day North African tour, now at its midpoint, Mrs. Clinton made only a thickly veiled reference to Tunisia's tight clamp on political freedoms.

The government in this tiny country wedged between volatile Libya and Algeria maintains stability by imprisoning its critics and restricting the creation of political parties and nongovernmental organizations.

"We must speak out when women are stopped from starting NGO's, from freely expressing their views, or participating in the political process," Mrs. Clinton said.

The Associated Press, March 27, 1999

From Tunis, the first lady and her entourage ventured 100 miles south to the old Muslim holy city of Kairouan.

She toured one of the nation's 23 family planning and abortion clinics, where contraceptives and abortions are provided free to Tunisian women.

"Tunisia's far-sighted and successful family planning policies have played an important role in advancing the status of women," Mrs. Clinton said.

Inside the spotless clinic, she smiled and nodded when gynecologist Rached Nagra said he encourages men to consider vasectomies instead of looking to women to take care of contraception.

"I agree with that," Mrs. Clinton said. "You are the first health clinic I've visited anywhere in the world that has recognized that. I'm very impressed."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 27, 1999



Hillary Clinton Defends NATO Attacks

REUTERS 3:51 p.m. ET (2100 GMT) March 25, 1999

TUNIS — U.S. first lady Hillary Clinton defended NATO's attack on Yugoslavia Thursday, before flying from Egypt to Tunisia and speaking out for women's rights.

"The United States and its NATO allies have acted to stop the brutal killing of people in Kosovo and avert a broader humanitarian crisis," she said at a women's clinic in Luxor, Egypt before leaving for Tunisia.

"We are hoping and praying that the brave men and women in the military action who have undertaken this mission will be able to carry it out safely and will bring it to as swift an end as possible."

Drawing a contrast between the work of the clinic and the armed confrontation over Yugoslavian President Slobodan Milosevic's refusal to accept a peace deal for Kosovo, she said:

"Today we are in a place that is celebrating life."

On the fifth day of her 12-day North African goodwill journey, Mrs. Clinton turned her emphasis to women's rights, after advocating religious tolerance and closer ties with the Islamic world during a stay in Egypt which began Sunday.

At the clinic in Luxor, she said women needed to have choices over birth control and other health issues, and hailed an Egyptian government effort to involve clinics in other activities such as literacy programs.

Upon arriving in Tunisia, she toured a small business lending program that targets women. She then held discussions with a group of nine prominent women, including an opposition member of parliament and a human rights activist.

The United States regards Tunisia, an Islamic country, as having advanced women's rights, but U.S. officials say political expression in general there is sharply restricted.

"No matter where we as women live we have many of the same interests and concerns," Mrs. Clinton said. "So to create a dialogue around the world about women's roles and rights and responsibilities is one way of us learning more from each other."

"I am impressed by the progress that women have made in Tunisia."

Mrs. Clinton's meeting was closed to reporters because of the political sensitivity of what some participants might say.

Friday she is to make a speech on women's rights billed as one of the three major addresses of her North African trip.

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73RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

The Associated Press

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March 25, 1999, Thursday, PM cycle

SECTION: International News

LENGTH: 319 words

HEADLINE: Mrs. Clinton announcing U.S. grant to Egypt for wastewater system

BYLINE: By SANDRA SOBIERAJ, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: LUXOR, Egypt

BODY:

Water is turning Egypt's ancient wonders and modern tourist attractions - the great pylon gateways of Karnak Temple, the colossi of Ramses II - from stone to sand.

The United States, represented here this week by Hillary Rodham Clinton, is giving Egypt \$ 45 million for a wastewater system in Luxor. Archeologists hope the improved treatment of wastewater will not only improve the health and safety of today's people but also retard damage to yesterday's treasures.

The first lady, traveling with her daughter Chelsea, was announcing the grant at a school here this morning before going on to Tunisia.

Water damage has been a recurrent theme at each of Mrs. Clinton's stops since she arrived in Egypt on Sunday - from the rotted foundation of a 10th-century church in Cairo's Coptic quarter, to the salt residue threatening the brilliant colors of King Tut's tomb.

"You do have a lot of problems with groundwater that I didn't really understand until I was preparing for this trip," Mrs. Clinton told conservationists in Cairo at the start of her 12-day tour.

Archeologists say Egyptian tombs and temples that have survived for thousands of years are actually very fragile because of a rising water table. The problem was exacerbated in 1970 by the construction of the new High Dam on the Nile south of Luxor.

Higher groundwater is constantly absorbed into the sandstone walls of the temples, trapping salts in the stone that crystallize and gradually slough away the outer layer of the structures.

"Before, dryness preserved everything," said Ray Johnson, an American preservation expert working here. "Today, Egypt is getting wetter, there are more people, more irrigation, and saltwater eventually turns stone to sand."

The Associated Press, March 25, 1999

Over the past 20 years, the United States, through the Agency for International Development, has provided nearly \$ 3 billion for the water and wastewater systems of Egypt.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1999

98TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Herald-Sun (Durham, N.C.)

March 25, 1999, Thursday

SECTION: Editorial; Pg. A12;

LENGTH: 77 words

HEADLINE: On taxpayers' tab

BODY:

It's my understanding that first lady is a title bestowed upon the wife of our president as a matter of protocol. No one voted Hillary Rodham Clinton into office or into any other position in government.

Who is paying for her and daughter Chelsea's 12-day trip to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco? We the taxpayers have paid for their expensive, unnecessary vacations long enough! Must we now pay for Hillary Clinton's campaign expenses, too?

ALEX JONES

LOAD-DATE: March 25, 1999

Daily Mail, Friday, March 19, 1998

NIGEL Dempster

Hassan makes room for Hillary



When in Morocco: King Hassan and Hillary

■ NORMALLY, King Hassan II of Morocco, who once famously kept the Queen waiting for almost an hour on her state visit to his country in 1980, does not allow anyone else to stay at the same place as him. He has, however, made a surprising exception for Hillary Clinton.

America's First Lady, who will be on her own from Saturday touring Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, herself demands separate hotel accommodation from her husband Bill in the wake of the Monica Lewinsky affair. 'I don't want to be in the same room as him, let alone the same bed,' she is reported as saying.

But both Hillary and Hassan are expected next week at La Mamounia, the fabled Marrakech hotel, which was a favourite haunt of wartime leader Sir Winston Churchill. It was totally rebuilt at a cost of £60 million and reopened in 1986. A suite looking to the distant Atlas Mountains costs £497 a night.

So convinced is Hassan, 69, of his divinity — he claims to be descended from the Prophet Mohammed — that he closes cities and airports when he travels around Morocco. My long-standing Easter booking one year at the Gazelle d'Or in Taroudant was summarily cancelled when Hassan said he might be staying there. He never turned up.

I am told: 'The King prefers to have rather a lot of space to himself and doesn't normally allow anyone to be where he is.' Obviously, the charms of Hillary, who may stand for the U.S. Senate contesting a New York seat next

year, have outweighed the superstitious monarch's prejudices.

When Hassan invited the Queen for a three-day state visit in 1980 after he had been fêted in Britain, he embarrassed her by changing her programme at the last minute on several occasions, and one evening he arrived 54 minutes late for a banquet she was giving in his honour aboard Britannia in Casablanca.

As someone observed at the time: 'Now HM knows what it's like being a tourist.' Hassan eventually turned up with several uninvited guests, including some of his children and two servants carrying enormous refrigerated cases. He claimed that no discourtesy was intended.



Suite dreams: La Mamounia hotel in Marrakech

other fantasy
BASEBALL games charge you \$20

Mrs. Clinton backs husband on Kosovo

5:30 a.m. ET (1030 GMT) March 25, 1999

LUXOR, Egypt (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton said today she concurs with her husband's assessment that NATO bombing in Yugoslavia is justified to "avert a broader humanitarian crisis."

The U.S. first lady addressed the subject briefly while attending the opening of a medical clinic

"As my husband, the president, explained last night to the American people, the United States and its NATO allies have acted to stop the brutal killings of people in Kosovo and avert a broader humanitarian crisis," Mrs. Clinton said.

"We are hoping and praying that the brave men and women in the military action who have undertaken this mission will be able to conduct it safely and will bring it to as swift an end as possible," she said.

"My prayers and the prayers of peace loving people around the world are with the brave men and women and their families. May God bless them."

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Mrs Clinton Offers Prayers After NATO Attack

REUTERS 4.18 a.m. ET (919 GMT) March 25, 1999

LUXOR, Egypt — U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said Thursday she hoped for a quick end to NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia and offered her prayers for the soldiers carrying out the attacks.

"We are hoping and praying that the brave men and women in the military action who have undertaken this mission will be able to conduct it safely and will bring it to as swift an end as possible," she said.

"My prayers and the prayers of peace loving people around the world are with these brave men and women and may God bless them," said Mrs Clinton, speaking at the new Karnak women's health clinic in Luxor on the last day of her tour in Egypt.

NATO air strikes were ordered after Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic rejected a Kosovo peace agreement signed by the province's ethnic Albanians.

Aides said the first lady had no plans to change the itinerary of her 12-day trip in North Africa despite the NATO attacks launched Wednesday.

She learned about the attacks while at a dinner hosted by the Egyptian government in the 3,500-year-old Luxor Temple after a day touring tombs and temples of ancient Egyptian pharaohs.

Mrs Clinton announced Thursday new U.S. aid to help fight water pollution and preserve ancient monuments. She was due to travel to Tunisia later in the day on the next leg of her tour.

The \$45 million aid package to improve the sewage-treatment system of Luxor will limit destruction of some of ancient Egypt's great monuments caused by rising water tables.

"This project...helps protect the treasures of the past and the health of the people in the future," Mrs Clinton said, speaking at a children's school in Luxor.

She said the improvements would serve about 30,000 people and treat waste water and recycle it for irrigation.

Throughout her travels in Egypt since Sunday, Mrs Clinton has witnessed damage to ancient and historical sites caused by leaching of salts from ground water into building stone.

Experts said the completion in 1970 of the Aswan High Dam on the upper Nile river had accelerated the problem because it ended the annual flooding that washed away built-up salts.

A spokeswoman for Mrs Clinton said the improved system in Luxor, home of the Luxor and Karnak temples, will help by removing minerals from the waste water before it is discharged.

Mrs Clinton will promote development and women's rights in a visit to Tunisia ending Saturday. She returns to Washington Thursday after the last leg of her visit in Morocco.

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Mrs. Clinton announcing U.S. grant to Egypt for wastewater system

1:34 a.m. ET (635 GMT) March 25, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

LUXOR, Egypt (AP) — Water is turning Egypt's ancient wonders and modern tourist attractions — the great pylon gateways of Karnak Temple, the colossi of Ramses II — from stone to sand.

The United States, represented here this week by Hillary Rodham Clinton, is giving Egypt \$45 million for a wastewater system in Luxor. Archeologists hope the improved treatment of wastewater will not only improve the health and safety of today's people but also retard damage to yesterday's treasures.

The first lady, traveling with her daughter Chelsea, was announcing the grant at a school here this morning before going on to Tunisia.

Water damage has been a recurrent theme at each of Mrs. Clinton's stops since she arrived in Egypt on Sunday — from the rotted foundation of a 10th-century church in Cairo's Coptic quarter, to the salt residue threatening the brilliant colors of King Tut's tomb.

"You do have a lot of problems with groundwater that I didn't really understand until I was preparing for this trip," Mrs. Clinton told conservationists in Cairo at the start of her 12-day tour.

Archeologists say Egyptian tombs and temples that have survived for thousands of years are actually very fragile because of a rising water table. The problem was exacerbated in 1970 by the construction of the new High Dam on the Nile south of Luxor.

Higher groundwater is constantly absorbed into the sandstone walls of the temples, trapping salts in the stone that crystallize and gradually slough away the outer layer of the structures.

"Before, dryness preserved everything," said Ray Johnson, an American preservation expert working here. "Today, Egypt is getting wetter, there are more people, more irrigation, and saltwater eventually turns stone to sand."

Over the past 20 years, the United States, through the Agency for International Development, has provided nearly \$3 billion for the water and wastewater systems of Egypt.

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Here's the Pitch.

Mrs. Clinton Hears Woes Of Egyptian Queen

REUTERS 6.13 p.m. ET (2314 GMT) March 24, 1999

LUXOR, Egypt — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton reflected on the political struggles of the only female pharaoh to rule ancient Egypt and mused over her post-White House career while touring tombs and temples Wednesday.

Late in the day, Mrs Clinton learned of NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia while at an Egyptian government dinner in the 3,500 year-old Luxor temple. Her spokeswoman Marsha Berry said the first lady had no plans to alter her 12-day goodwill journey to North Africa, which continues Thursday with her traveling to Tunisia.

During the fourth day of her trip Wednesday, Mrs. Clinton and her daughter Chelsea inspected the massive Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, nestled in the golden desert cliffs where members of Egypt's royalty were buried above the river Nile.

The temple honoring Hatshepsut, who ruled Egypt 1,500 years before the birth of Jesus and was the only female pharaoh during the glory years of ancient Egypt's Old, Middle and New Kingdoms, was the site of a 1997 massacre of 58 foreign tourists by Egypt's biggest Islamic militant group.

The first lady was told of the queen's rivalry with a stepson who tried to erase all depictions of her from the temple after she died.

"Why the animosity?" asked Mrs. Clinton, who in the past has blamed President Clinton's political scandals on the animosity of his opponents.

One of her guides said the ill will was "not out of spite, but politics."

Mrs. Clinton was heard responding "sometimes it looks the same."

Although security in the area had been increased sharply since the 1997 attack, sentinels standing high on the cliffs above the Valley of the Kings gave evidence of even greater security for the first lady's visit.

As well as touring the temple, she stepped down into the tomb of King Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings and was given a rare look at the many-chambered tomb of pharaoh Seti I, normally closed while experts study how to preserve it, but opened to a visitor for the first time in 10 years.

She also visited the vividly decorated tomb of Queen Nefertari in the nearby Valley of the Queens.

Mrs. Clinton has said she would take a break during the trip from her deliberations on whether to run for a Senate seat in New York, but the issue was clearly on her mind.

In the Hatshepsut temple, she was complimented by her tour host, head of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Gaballah Ali Gaballah, on her

observations regarding a ceiling painting.

"Perhaps you should be one of us, an archeologist," he said.

"Well, I am looking for a new career," she said.

She also waxed philosophical about a ceiling painted with a deep blue sky and stars and another depiction of Hatshepsut adopting a man's form to enhance her authority.

"It's probably a contradiction, like all things — men, women, night, day," she said.

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2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 Associated Press
AP Online

March 24, 1999; Wednesday 14:14 Eastern Time

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 540 words

HEADLINE: Mrs. Clinton Tours Temple

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ
AP-Mrs-Clinton-Tourist ,0578

DATELINE: LUXOR, Egypt

BODY:

In the Valley of the Queens, Hillary Rodham Clinton may have found her calling.

'Well, I AM looking for another career,' she quipped.

The first lady and her daughter, Chelsea, were touring the 3,400-year-old temple of Queen Hatshepsut on Wednesday with archeologists and conservationists in tow.

'Look,' she instructed in the innermost chamber, where the ceiling was painted blue with stars. A combination, she concluded, of day and night. 'Like all things men, women, night, day.'

'You should be one of us,' said Gaballa Ali Gaballa, head of Egypt's antiquities council.

Mrs. Clinton, ever more willing to muse aloud about her own future after her husband's presidency is over, chuckled when she spoke of shopping for a new career.

While she's not yet sure about a run for the Senate in 2000, to walk among the queens on Wednesday, Mrs. Clinton wore her running shoes.

The ancient political turmoil of Hatshepsut rang familiar to Mrs. Clinton.

Shown one of the temple's few remaining reliefs of the queen, most of whose images were defaced or erased by stepson Thutmose III, Mrs. Clinton marveled: 'Why the enmity?'

'It was not out of spite, but politics,' explained restorationist Ray Johnson.

'Sometimes they look the same,' Mrs. Clinton reflected.

AP Online, March 24, 1999

Sounds like President Clinton is feeling left out.

'My husband is a little jealous,' Mrs. Clinton reported to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak after a call from Washington on her first morning.

Day Two, the president also checked in by phone.

'When I spoke to the president this morning, he reminded me that he had yet to even see the pyramids except through the window of an airplane,' Mrs. Clinton told an audience at the American University in Cairo.

She had a suggestion for her husband come Jan. 20, 2001:

'I assured him he could return perhaps when he no longer travels with 800 or 900 people and see the city and the sights and meet the people for longer than a day.'

Public whispering about the Clintons' marriage is not only an American tabloid preoccupation.

One day before Mrs. Clinton's arrival in Cairo, Al-Ahram, Egypt's largest daily newspaper, editorialized that she should divorce the president.

But before every audience she's addressed in Egypt Mrs. Clinton has left little doubt that the two remain very much connected.

At a Cairo maternal health clinic: 'I mentioned that to the president in my meeting with him this morning. ...'

At a youth center: 'As I mentioned to the president this morning. ...'

Opening her university address: 'When I spoke to the president this morning. ...'

And, what do the two of them talk about in these daily chats?

'Just catching up on things,' she said. 'I know it's raining back in Washington.'

Security agents in black with high-tech weapons perched atop the ancient cliffs around the valley.

But the obviously tight security for Mrs. Clinton's tour was the only suggestion of any concern.

In November 1997, a band of Muslim militants stormed the Temple of Hatshepsut and killed 58 foreign tourists there. As Mrs. Clinton and her daughter wandered the site Wednesday, no mention was made of that attack.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 24, 1999

12TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 The Detroit News, Inc.
The Detroit News

March 24, 1999, Wednesday

SECTION: Front; Pg. Pg. A16

LENGTH: 562 words

HEADLINE: First lady appeals for tolerance in Egypt

BYLINE: Sandra Sobieraj / Associated Press

BODY:

CAIRO -- Hillary Rodham Clinton visited some of Egypt's most important Muslim, Christian and Jewish sites Tuesday, then exhorted the people of the Middle East to "reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination."

The first lady's appeal for tolerance came in a country where Islam is the state religion, but the largely secular government has been under fire for years from Muslim militants.

Clinton is on a 12-day trip through Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

With daughter Chelsea at her side, the first lady marveled at the air shaft of a pulpit used to keep the Muslim imam cool as he preaches in a 700-year-old mosque. She stepped into the cellar of the Ben Ezra Synagogue, Egypt's oldest, whose foundations were laid in the 11th century on the site where, tradition holds, baby Moses was discovered among bulrushes. And she peered into the mildewed crypt of St. Sargius Church, where Mary and Joseph were said to have sheltered the baby Jesus as they fled into Egypt from King Herod's soldiers.

In her address at the American University in Cairo, Clinton was careful not to offend diplomatic sensitivities. Several times in her 40-minute speech, she noted that the United States is "not perfect" and that church burnings and hate crimes back home give evidence of intolerance.

"We have to reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination," Clinton said. "In every religion, there are those who would drape themselves in the mantle of belief and faith, only to distort its most sacred teachings -- preaching intolerance and resorting to violence against believers of other faiths."

Egyptian Christians, known as Copts, were frequent targets of the insurgent Muslims at the height of their violent unrest in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The government contends its strong and often-violent tactics have succeeded in quelling the domestic terror.

At St. Sargius Church, with its unmarked, basement-level entrance off an alley in Cairo's Old Coptic Quarter, Bishop Yohanna cast the best light on the situation for his American visitors.

"We feel that we are brothers and friends," he said. "We are one unit and one country. We love them, and they love us."

Troublemakers, he said, are "just a few religious fanatics."

From Cairo, Clinton flew south to Luxor, another trove of ancient treasures on the Nile. She and Chelsea spent more than an hour poking through massive Luxor Temple, then posing for tourists and news photographers at the feet of a colossus of Ramses III.

Today, the women planned to tour the temple of Queen Hatshepsut in the Valley of the Kings, where in November 1997 a band of militant Muslims killed 58 foreign tourists.

In her Cairo address, Clinton also celebrated the U.S.-mediated Israeli-Egyptian peace accord, reached in 1978, that led the next year to the first treaty between Israel and an Arab country. But the first lady shied away from the complicated issues that have hampered the peace process since.

Last year, in a satellite hookup with a youth conference in Switzerland, Clinton caused an international stir with her comment: "I think it will be in the long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state."

Tuesday, Clinton said only, "We will never and must never give up on the dream of peace that was really ignited by the Camp David accord."

GRAPHIC: First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and her daughter, Chelsea, tour the Temple of Luxor in Egypt on Tuesday. During the tour, she condemned violence and discrimination in the name of religion. Khue Bui / Associated Press

LOAD-DATE: March 24, 1999

21ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1999 The News and Observer
The News and Observer (Raleigh, NC)

March 24, 1999 Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A10

LENGTH: 278 words

HEADLINE: Mrs. Clinton walks, talks softly during visit to Egypt

SOURCE: THE WASHINGTON POST

BODY:

CAIRO, Egypt -- First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton surveyed Egypt's progress toward democracy and civil society in a speech Tuesday and decided it was doing pretty well.

The assessment came even though Mrs. Clinton was speaking in a country that has banned some political parties, arrested human rights workers and detained without trial thousands suspected of being Islamic radicals .

The first lady avoided even implicit criticism of an important U.S. ally where security concerns are paramount and the government historically has been hesitant to turn any operations over to businesses or other organizations.

She praised the government for expanding opportunities for nongovernmental organizations involved with health care and women's rights and said she was looking forward to visiting a "democracy school" in Luxor that teaches about citizenship.

An aide said Mrs. Clinton did express concern to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak about the treatment of the country's Coptic Christian minority - an issue Egyptian officials say has been greatly distorted by Westerners.

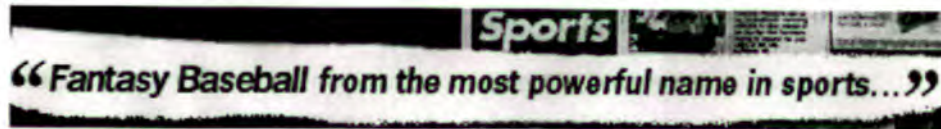
But such worries largely have been consigned to the background during her trip to North Africa with her daughter, Chelsea, who is on break from Stanford University.

Capping a three-day visit to the Arab world's largest city, Mrs. Clinton shied away from controversial themes and instead asked her audience to imagine - they were ancient Egyptians assembling cargo for their journey to the afterworld - what they will need on the journey to a new life in the 21st century.

It was a metaphor that let her stick to such safely neutral themes as religious tolerance and education.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 24, 1999



Mrs. Clinton Hears Political Woes Of Egyptian Queen

REUTERS 9.30 a.m. ET (1431 GMT) March 24, 1999

LUXOR, Egypt — U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton reflected on the political struggles of an ancient Egyptian queen and mused over her post-White House career while she toured tombs and temples Wednesday.

As she and her daughter Chelsea inspected the massive Temple of Queen Hatshepsut, nestled in the golden desert cliffs where Egypt's royalty were buried above the Nile, Mrs. Clinton was told of the queen's rivalry with a stepson who tried to erase all depictions of her from the temple after she died.

"She was not the first woman in that position (of queen). Why the animosity?" asked Mrs. Clinton, who has in the past blamed President Clinton's political scandals on the animosity of his opponents.

One of her guides said the ill will was "not out of spite, but politics."

To which Mrs. Clinton was heard to say "sometimes it looks the same."

Mrs. Clinton was in Luxor on the fourth day of a 12-day North African goodwill trip.

As well as touring the temple, she stepped down into the tomb of King Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings and was given a rare look at the splendid tomb of King Seti I, normally closed while conservators study how to preserve it, but opened to a visitor for the first time in 10 years.

She also visited the vividly decorated tomb of Queen Nefertari in the nearby Valley of the Queens.

Mrs. Clinton has said she would take a break during the trip from her deliberations on whether to run for a U.S. Senate seat in New York, but the issue was clearly on her mind.

In the Hatshepsut temple, she was complimented by her tour host, head of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Gaballah Ali Gaballah, on her observations regarding a ceiling painting.

"Perhaps you should be one of us, an archaeologist," he said.

"Well, I am looking for a new career," she said.

She also waxed philosophical about a ceiling painted with a deep blue sky and stars. "It's probably a contradiction, like all things — men, women, night, day," she said.

The Hatshepsut temple is the site of a 1997 massacre of 58 foreign tourists by Egypt's biggest Islamic militant group.

Although security in the area had been sharply increased since the attack, lone sentinels standing high on the cliffs above the Valley of the Kings

provided evidence of even greater security for the first lady's visit.

Although the United States and NATO have approved air strikes against Yugoslavia over President Slobodan Milosevic's refusal to agree to a Kosovo peace deal, aides to Mrs. Clinton said they were unaware of any plans to change her trip if attacks were launched.

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Mrs. Clinton treads carefully with talk of religious tolerance

3:23 p.m. ET (2025 GMT) March 23, 1999

[an error occurred while processing this directive]

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton visited some of Egypt's most important Muslim, Christian and Jewish sites Tuesday, then exhorted the people of the Middle East to "reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination."

The American first lady's appeal for tolerance came in a country where Islam is the state religion, but the largely secular government has been under fire for years from Muslim militants.

Mrs. Clinton said before she left on a 12-day trip through Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia that she was counting on news coverage to spread her message beyond North Africa's borders. Her touring in Cairo generated news photos of Egypt's religiously diverse history.

With daughter Chelsea at her side, the first lady marveled at the air shaft of a pulpit used to keep the Muslim imam cool as he preaches in a 700-year-old mosque. She stepped into the cellar of the Ben Ezra Synagogue, Egypt's oldest, whose foundations were laid in the 11th century on the site where, tradition holds, baby Moses was discovered among bulrushes. And she peered into the mildewed crypt of St. Sargius Church, where Mary and Joseph were said to have sheltered the Baby Jesus as they fled into Egypt from King Herod's soldiers.

In her address at the American University in Cairo, Mrs. Clinton seemed careful not to offend diplomatic sensitivities. Several times in her 40-minute speech, she noted that the United States is "not perfect" and that church burnings and hate crimes back home give evidence of intolerance.

"We have to reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination," Mrs. Clinton said. "In every religion, there are those who would drape themselves in the mantle of belief and faith, only to distort its most sacred teachings — preaching intolerance and resorting to violence against believers of other faiths."

Egyptian Christians, known as Copts, were frequent targets of the insurgent Muslims at the height of their violent unrest in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The government contends its strong and often-violent tactics have succeeded in quelling the domestic terror.

At St. Sargius Church, with its unmarked, basement-level entrance off an alley in Cairo's Old Coptic Quarter, Bishop Yohanna cast the best light on the situation for his American visitors.

"We feel that we are brothers and friends," he said. "We are one unit and one country. We love them, and they love us." [an error occurred while

processing this directive] Troublemakers, he said, are "just a few religious fanatics."

From Cairo, Mrs. Clinton flew south to Luxor, another trove of ancient treasures on the Nile. She and Chelsea spent more than an hour poking through massive Luxor Temple, then posing for tourists and news photographers alike at the feet of a colossus of Ramses III.

On Wednesday, the women planned to tour the temple of Queen Hatshepsut in the Valley of the Kings, where in November 1997 a band of militant Muslims killed 58 foreign tourists.

In her Cairo address, Mrs. Clinton also celebrated the U.S.-mediated Israeli-Egyptian peace accord, reached in 1978, that led the next year to the first treaty between Israel and an Arab country. But the first lady shied away from the complicated issues that have hampered the peace process since.

Last year, in a satellite hookup with a youth conference in Switzerland, Mrs. Clinton caused an international stir with her comment: "I think it will be in the long-term interests of the Middle East for Palestine to be a state." She called the goal "very important for the Palestinian people" and for the "broader goal of peace in the Middle East." U.S. policy holds that the Palestinians must negotiate their future with the Israelis.

Tuesday, Mrs. Clinton said only, "We will never and must never give up on the dream of peace that was really ignited by the Camp David accord."

Tom Farkas, coordinator of the Cairo American University's English language program, called Mrs. Clinton's soft approach predictable. But he said: "She's quite well-known here for her comment on Palestine, so I was hoping for a little more, something definitive."

In a meeting Monday with President Hosni Mubarak, which was scheduled as a 15-minute courtesy call but stretched to an hour, Mrs. Clinton voiced concern about the treatment of Egypt's 6 million to 10 million Coptic Christians.

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Mrs. Clinton Appeals For Religious Tolerance

REUTERS 3:01 p.m. ET (2002 GMT) March 23, 1999

LUXOR, Egypt — U.S. first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Tuesday appealed for religious tolerance in a rapidly changing modern world.

In a speech at American University in Cairo, she cited the ancient Egyptian practice of filling pharaohs' tombs with supplies for the afterlife, and said values such as religious tolerance were now essential items worth preserving.

"Think if you will about the values you would take to the next world," she said.

"We have to bring forward those lessons in tolerance and understanding that truly do stand the test of time and we have to reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination," she said.

Mrs. Clinton later flew to Luxor, where she and daughter Chelsea strolled among the towering columns, monumental statuary and epic hieroglyphics of the 3,500 year-old Luxor Temple.

"It marks the site where civilization was born, the big bang," Ray Johnson, field director of a University of Chicago-affiliated archaeology project in Luxor, said as he showed Mrs. Clinton the temple's "rejuvenation room."

She watched with an intellectual detachment as Johnson stood before an ancient carving explicitly depicting the advent of human life as a man in sexual climax.

During her three-day visit to Luxor, Mrs. Clinton also will visit the Valley of Kings and Queens and the Hatshepsut Temple, site of the November 1997 massacre of 58 foreign tourists by Egypt's biggest Islamic militant group.

Her speech came on the third day of a 12-day North African tour aimed at bridging the gulf between Islam and the West. Aides said the speech was targeted at the Islamic world, parts of which have reacted to modern life with a rise of militancy.

She spoke after touring Christian, Muslim and Jewish holy sites in Cairo during the previous two days.

"These three great monotheistic religions have so much to give one another and people everywhere. That can only happen if we respect, we listen and we care about the traditions and values that each of us hold dear," she said.

Mrs. Clinton said that aside from freedom of religious expression, the foundations of a modern democratic society included education and health care opportunities for all.

She did not mention her own political aspirations, as she contemplates a run for the U.S. Senate in 2000.

At a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Monday, Mrs. Clinton expressed concern about attacks on Coptic Christians. But in her speech she described visiting a Coptic church in Cairo and a nearby synagogue against the backdrop of the city's many mosques, some of which she toured Sunday.

"It gave me a vivid sense of the diversity that exists in this great country," she said. "Now that (diversity) can either be a source of division or a blessing. That is certainly how I view it in my own country."

Mrs. Clinton said even in the United States it had been necessary to fight intolerance shown in burnings of churches and a long history of racial discrimination.

She said recognizing the "diversity of humanity" was a "daily struggle" in a democracy.

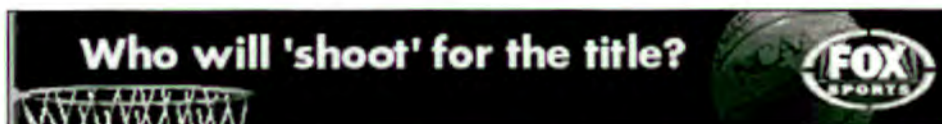
World leaders were more challenged than ever to prevent dissemination of prejudice because of new methods of communication, including the Internet, she added.

"We now have new tools of communication that can stir up divisions in the blink of an eye. Someone can go in the Internet and put out a message of hate that with a press of a button can be everywhere in the world," she said.

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Hillary Rodham Clinton Dodges Senate Issue In Egypt

REUTERS 12:47 a.m. ET (549 GMT) March 23, 1999

CAIRO, Egypt — With Egypt's bazaars buzzing with talk about her possible bid for the U.S. Senate, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton finally discussed the issue Monday but left nobody any wiser about her plans.

Answering questions publicly on the issue for the first time, she told reporters: "I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on.

"But the form that will take I really can't predict at this time," Mrs. Clinton said after a speech at a women's health center in Cairo.

She announced at the center a \$24.5 million U.S. donation for family planning and maternal health programs in Egypt, on the second day of a 12-day tour through North Africa to promote social issues and closer relations with the Islamic world.

Also Monday, she toured a synagogue and a 5th century Coptic Christian church in Cairo, expressed what aides said was concern in a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak about Islamic militants' attacks on minority Copts, and discussed with a group of women a videotape project they were involved in to spread awareness of women's issues.

In addition, she traipsed along a narrow alleyway of the Khan El-Khalili tourist bazaar area of Cairo to visit shopkeepers, some of whom were aware of her Senate deliberations and said they were eager for her to run.

"I will nominate her for sure," artisan Mona Abdel-Mageed told reporters as she readied a strand of ceramic beads to give the first lady.

At the health center, Mrs. Clinton took the rare step of answering questions from reporters about her Senate plans.

"I've talked to a lot of people in the last month and I will continue that when I return home, but right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt," the first lady said.

Her comments on her political future were her first since she acknowledged in a written statement in February that she was considering a run for a New York Senate seat in 2000. She has consulted busily with political advisers in weighing a race.

But President Clinton said in a news conference Friday "I literally don't have a clue" whether she would run.

That didn't stop some Egyptians from forming an opinion. Wahiba El-Sayed, standing in her shop as she awaited a visit from Mrs. Clinton, called her "a very strong woman" and said she should run for the Senate seat.

"If she wants to do something she can do it," El-Sayed said.

The first lady visited shops to highlight a U.S.-supported "microcredit" lending program that has helped small business operators, many of them women, to get started.

"I've seen programs like this all over the world. They're very successful and people take it seriously," Mrs. Clinton said as she toured the shops. "I'm so proud of the women borrowers."

She told reporters she was focusing on issues like "improving the lives of children, and giving more opportunities to people, particularly women, and improving relations around the world among democracies, and making it clear that we have a lot to learn and give one another in the world."

Abdel-Mageed and other shopkeepers declined to discuss their views of the Clintons' relationship in the wake of the president's sexual affair with Monica Lewinsky.

But veteran columnist Anis Mansour, in a commentary printed Monday in the English-language Egyptian Gazette, declared that "their relationship is completely over."

"The divorce proceedings will go very smoothly because the judge will not have to summon witnesses. Almost all the globe's population are witnesses on Clinton's infidelity," he wrote.

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First lady says she's considering Senate run

7:50 a.m. ET (12:51 GMT) March 22, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Acknowledging she is seriously considering running for the Senate, Hillary Rodham Clinton said today she is certain she wants to continue having a public role on the issues she cares about.

But, she said, "The form that will take I really can't predict at this time."

For the first time since a campaign to draft Mrs. Clinton for the Senate was begun earlier this year, the first lady directly addressed the question.

At Cairo's El Basatine Clinic, Mrs. Clinton held an extraordinary news conference to take questions on the Senate speculation in an effort to keep American politics from dominating her 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia.

Mrs. Clinton said she has spent the last month speaking with friends, advisers and political consultants on her chances in a bid for the seat of retiring Democratic Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York.

"I will continue that when I return home," she said.

But she told the clinic audience of physicians and nurses that "right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt."

She said keeping that focus "is in the best interest, long-term, of the people of both countries."

Mrs. Clinton only rarely takes questions from reporters in an organized on-the-record setting, although she has answered questions during occasional briefings on specific issues, such as child care and historic preservation.

Today she was asked by American reporters traveling with her that if she does not run for the Senate, what else might she consider after her husband leaves the White House.

"I don't know the answer to that but I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on," she said.

"And any way that I can continue to do that, I intend to. But what form that will take I really can't predict at this time," she said.

On Sunday, Mrs. Clinton's campaign for historic preservation swept across 5,800 miles to the heart of old Islamic Cairo, where she and her wide-eyed daughter, Chelsea, visited treasures the United States is helping to restore.

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to

strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries, deepen our dialogue and see firsthand how Egyptians are moving toward the future while preserving their extraordinary culture and heritage," Mrs. Clinton said in a statement distributed as she and Chelsea, 19, disembarked from their 13-hour flight from Washington.

Struggling against the wind to tame a gauzy beige scarf over her hair, Mrs. Clinton indulged Egyptian news photographers clamoring for a pose at the hilltop Citadel and then entered the Mosque of Muhammad Ali in her stocking feet, as is required by Islamic tradition.

The Ottoman mosque, with alabaster walls and cylindrical minaret was built and named for the founder of modern Egypt. It is one of dozens of restoration projects under way by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

AID, whose cause Mrs. Clinton is here to champion, has at least \$15 million invested in Egyptian antiquities' preservation, with an additional \$771 million dedicated to helping Cairo eliminate sewage flooding into homes, mosques and other historical sites.

At the Mosque of Salah Talai, Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea were given — to use "as paperweights or coasters," their tour guide offered — samples of the intricately carved balsam pieces of a 1290 minbar, Egypt's second-oldest surviving pulpit, from which a Muslim imam preaches at Friday prayers.

"You know all about conservation. I'm preaching to the converted," Gaballa Ali Gaballa, head of Egypt's antiquities council, told Mrs. Clinton.

The Clinton women, who were traveling during Chelsea's spring break from Stanford University while President Clinton remained in Washington, had a full day of appointments today.

They were calling on President Hosni Mubarak, saluting small businesswomen at the Khan al Khalili marketplace, discussing education at a youth center in Cairo's Telal Zeinhom neighborhood, touring the Ben-Ezra Synagogue and visiting the Coptic quarter of the minority Christian community.

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Mrs. Clinton Sees Public Role, Undecided On Senate

REUTERS ▸ 8:36 a.m. ET (1337 GMT) March 22, 1999

CAIRO — As speculation about her possible bid for the U.S. Senate reached the bazaars of Egypt, U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Monday left everyone no wiser about her plans.

Answering questions on the issue for the first time, she told reporters: "I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I've spent more than 25 years working on.

"But the form that will take I really can't predict at this time," Mrs. Clinton said after a speech at a surgery center in Cairo.

She was visiting the center on the second day of a 12-day tour through North Africa to promote social issues and closer relations with the Islamic world.

With an audience of health workers and government officials still in their seats, the first lady took the rare step of entertaining a handful of questions from reporters, almost all of which were about her Senate plans.

"I've talked to a lot of people in the last month and I will continue that when I return home, but right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the United States and Egypt," the first lady said.

Her comments on her political future were her first since she acknowledged in a written statement in February that she was considering a run for a New York Senate seat in 2000. She has energetically consulted political advisers on the advisability of such a move.

But President Clinton told a news conference Friday: "I literally don't have a clue," whether she will run.

Intense public speculation on her plans had even made its way to Cairo.

On a narrow alleyway in the Khan El-Khalili tourist bazaar area of Cairo, shopkeeper Mona Abdel-Mageed and others waiting for a visit by the first lady were all for Mrs. Clinton making a run. "I will nominate her for sure," she said.

The first lady visited Abdel-Mageed's shop and that of others nearby to highlight a U.S. supported "microcredit" lending program that helped small business operators like Mageed get started.

Mrs. Clinton, in her remarks Monday, identified major issues of concern to her as "improving the lives of children, and giving more opportunities to people, particularly women, and improving relations around the world among democracies, and making it clear that we have a lot to learn and give one another in the world."

Abdel-Mageed and her neighboring shopkeepers declined to speak about

their views of the Clintons' relationship in the wake of the president's sexual liaison with Monica Lewinsky.

But veteran columnist Anis Mansour of Egypt's state-owned Al-Ahram newspaper weighed in with a thundering commentary reprinted Monday in the English-language Egyptian Gazette.

"Their relationship is completely over," he wrote. "The divorce proceedings will go very smoothly because the judge will not have to summon witnesses. Almost all the globe's population are witnesses on Clinton's infidelity."

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Mrs Clinton In Egypt Says Undecided On Senate Run

REUTERS 6.58 a.m. ET (1158 GMT) March 22, 1999

CAIRO — U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said Monday she intended to continue speaking out on public issues, but had not yet decided how she would do that.

She was answering reporters' questions for the first time on her thoughts on running for a U.S. Senate seat.

"I don't know the answer to that, but I do know that I want to continue speaking out on behalf of the issues that I have spent more than 25 years working on," she said after making a speech at a Cairo health center.

Mrs Clinton defined issues of interest to her as improving the lives of children, expanding opportunities for people — especially women — and improving relations around the world among democracies.

She said she did not expect to make progress toward a decision on her political aspirations during her current 12-day goodwill tour of North Africa.

"I've talked to a lot of people in the last month and I will continue that when I return home, but right now I want to focus on the issues that are really at the base of this very important partnership and friendship between the U.S. and Egypt," she said.

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Hillary Clinton Urges Religious Tolerance

REUTERS 9:44 a.m. ET (1444 GMT) March 23, 1999

CAIRO — U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton drew on two days of touring Christian, Muslim and Jewish holy sites in Egypt to call Tuesday for religious tolerance.

"These three great monotheistic religions have so much to give one another and people everywhere," she said at the American University in Cairo.

Students, professors and other invited guests stood and applauded Mrs. Clinton at the start and end of her 45-minute speech, billed as one of her major policy addresses during her 12-day trip to North Africa which began Sunday.

Mrs. Clinton called for religious tolerance and a democratic society, stressing the importance of solid education and health care opportunities for all, especially women and girls.

She did not mention her own political aspirations, nor say whether she will run for the United States Congress.

At a meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Monday, Mrs. Clinton expressed concern about attacks on Coptic Christians. She and daughter Chelsea visited the 5th century Coptic Church of St Sergius and toured Ben Ezra Synagogue.

During her speech, she described visiting the church and nearby synagogue against the backdrop of the city's many mosques, some of which she toured Sunday.

"It gave me a vivid sense of the diversity that exists in this great country," she said. "Now that (diversity) can either be a source of division or a blessing. That is certainly how I view it in my own country."

Mrs. Clinton said even in the United States it had been necessary to fight intolerance shown in burnings of churches and racial discrimination. "Democracy is never perfected," she said.

Mrs. Clinton later left Cairo for Luxor for a three-day visit to the Valleys of the Kings and Queens and the Hatshepsut Temple, site of the November 1997 massacre of 58 foreign tourists by Egypt's biggest Islamic militant group.

Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman said her speech was aimed at Egypt and the Arab region in general, citing Egypt's tradition of religious tolerance and alluding to more recent concerns, such as violence by Islamic militants against minority Coptic Christians and foreigners.

Mrs. Clinton emphasized how a country's ethnic or religious diversity can either work for or against it, citing examples of how neighbors turned against neighbors in Bosnia.

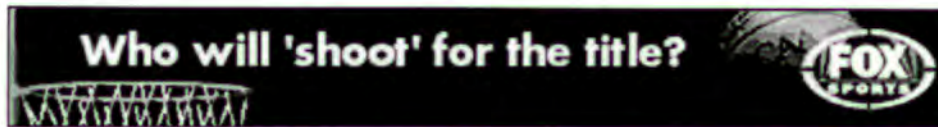
She said ensuring freedom of religion and other basic rights and recognizing the "diversity of humanity" was a "daily struggle" in a democracy.

World leaders were more challenged than ever to prevent dissemination of prejudice because of new methods of communication, including the Internet, she added.

Mrs. Clinton said the White House now marked Islam's holy fasting month of Ramadan, just as the first family recognized Christmas and Hanukkah with trees and a menorah.

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Mrs. Clinton treads carefully with talk of religious tolerance

8.49 a.m. ET (1350 GMT) March 23, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — In a country where Islam is the state religion, Hillary Rodham Clinton has tiptoed a thin diplomatic line, staging a symbolic push for religious tolerance in the hushed, hallowed chambers of Egypt's oldest Jewish, Christian and Muslim landmarks.

She marveled at the air shaft of a 700-year-old pulpit used to keep the Muslim imam cool as he preaches. She stepped into the cellar of the Ben Ezra synagogue, whose foundations were laid in the 11th century on the site where tradition holds baby Moses was discovered among bulrushes.

And she peered into the mildewy crypt of St. Sargius Church, where Mary and Joseph were to have sheltered the child Jesus as they fled King Herod's tyranny.

Today, she put careful words to the pictures of religious diversity with an address — the first public speech of her 12-day North Africa tour — at the American University in Cairo.

"We have to reject the calls to violence and prejudice and discrimination," Mrs. Clinton said, noting that the United States has its own problems with church burnings and hate crimes.

"In every religion, there are those who would drape themselves in the mantle of belief and faith only to distort its most sacred teachings — preaching intolerance and resorting to violence against believers of other faiths."

She exhorted leaders and citizens to "work even harder to prevent religious discrimination."

Mrs. Clinton also celebrated the Israeli-Egyptian peace accord reached in 1978, but did not address the complicated issues that have hampered the peace process since.

"We will never and must never give up on the dream of peace that was really ignited by the Camp David accord," she said.

Tom Farkas, coordinator of the university's English language program, was underwhelmed by Mrs. Clinton's low-key approach, which he called predictable. "She's quite well known here for her comment on Palestine so I was hoping for a little more, something definitive."

He referred to an offhand remark Mrs. Clinton made about her support for a Palestinian state during a question-and-answer session with a group of young people from the Middle East attending a peace camp last year in Europe.

"It's not Mrs. Clinton's role" to criticize and lecture on the need for religious tolerance, said her spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, describing the first lady's strategy as a gentle one. "Praise what they've done, encourage what they need to do."

In a meeting Monday with President Hosni Mubarak, which was scheduled as a 15-minute courtesy call but stretched to an hour, Mrs. Clinton voiced some concern about the treatment of his country's 6 million to 10 million Coptic Christians.

"She raised it. He was aware of it. He talked about efforts being made to investigate," said Melanne Verveer, Mrs. Clinton's chief of staff.

The Washington-based Center for Religious Freedom, in a report due to be released next month, concluded that Egypt's minority Copts generally are able to practice their faith but are "threatened in varying degrees by terrorism from extreme Islamic groups, by the abusive practices of local police and security forces, and by discriminatory and restrictive Egyptian government policies."

The center reported abductions and forced conversions to Islam of Coptic girls; special government permits required to build or repair churches that do not apply to mosques; and slow response from local police to anti-Christian violence.

At the St. Sargius Church, with its unmarked, basement-level entrance off an alley in the Old Coptic Quarter, Bishop Yohanna cast the best light on the situation for his American visitors.

"We feel that we are brothers and friends," he said. "We are one unit and one country. We love them and they love us."

The troublemakers, he added, are "just a few religious fanatics."

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March 22, 1999 US-Hillary-Egypt lead 13:15 GMT

SECTION: International news

LENGTH: 1140 words

HEADLINE: US pledges 34.4 million dollars for health care in Egypt

DATELINE: (ADDS quotes, details. Pictures)

BODY:

CAIRO, March 22 (AFP) - US First Lady Hillary Clinton on Monday pledged 34.4 million dollars for health care in Egypt after inaugurating a US-funded low-cost out-patient clinic here for the poor.

"First Lady Hillary Clinton announced 20 million dollars for family planning activities and 14.4 million dollars" to promote the health of mothers and babies in Upper Egypt, a US embassy spokeswoman in Cairo told AFP.

Earlier Monday, she met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his wife Suzanne, a staunch supporter of family planning and a reading-for-all programme in Egypt.

Clinton then toured the Khan al-Khalili bazar in Islamic Cairo to acquaint herself with four small businesses funded by the United States, including three owned by women, and a youth center also benefitting from US funds.

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has financed construction of el-Basatin clinic, the Telal Zeinhom youth center and the small businesses.

Basatin and Telal Zeinhom are impoverished areas of northern Cairo near the capital's Christian and Moslem cemeteries.

Basatin clinic will provide "integrated maternity and child care, family planning and reproductive health services" as well as immunization for children, prenatal, delivery and post-natal assistance for mothers, a US embassy statement said.

The "new horizons" Telal Zeinhom youth project was founded by the Evangelical Coptic Church in Cairo, with USAID funds, to provide literacy and leadership skills to girls and young women.

"The message is the same all over the world that women should have equal opportunity to be well educated and help solve problems in the family and community," Clinton told young women at the center.

"If women are not educated society cannot develop," she said, adding that the United States was still grappling with the problem of illiteracy.

Agence France Presse, March 22, 1999

Since 1986, USAID has provided 31 million dollars for family planning activities and 45 million for maternal and child health services in Egypt.

It has also allocated 44 million dollars for a Small and Micro Enterprise Development Project (SMED) that has contributed to creating 100,000 jobs since 1989 as well as setting up seven self-sustaining business associations.

The funds have helped cut infant mortality rates by 45 percent from 1983 to 1995 and a child survival programme has prevented the deaths of 80,000 children, a US embassy statement said.

On the family planning front, the use of contraceptives doubled from their 1980 rate to an estimated 54 percent of couples in 1997 while the total fertility rate fell from 5.2 children in 1980 to 3.3 per woman in 1997.

According to official Egyptian statistics announced in February one Egyptian is born every 25.1 seconds and the rate could double the country's population of 62.68 million in 30 years.

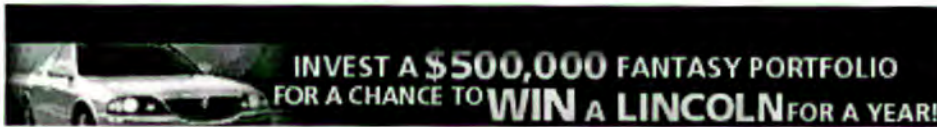
Egypt's birth control efforts have been hampered by a widespread belief that contraception is against Islam.

Clinton, accompanied by her daughter Chelsea, arrived Sunday afternoon in Cairo on her first visit to Egypt ahead of stops in Tunisia and Morocco to campaign for women's rights, health care for children and promote Arab-US ties. She ends the tour April 1.

They have toured Cairo and will travel Tuesday to the southern resort of Luxor to visit pharaonic sites.

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LOAD-DATE: March 22, 1999



Mrs. Clinton Tours Monuments, Mosques And Mummies

REUTERS ▀ 1:25 a.m. ET (627 GMT) March 22, 1999

CAIRO — U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton toured mosques and monuments and had a close encounter with a mummy Sunday to open her 12-day North Africa trip billed as a bridge-building visit to the Islamic world.

"We are delighted to start our visit here in Egypt, and here in the heart of old Cairo," said Mrs. Clinton as she visited Islamic antiquities with her daughter Chelsea, who is on break from her studies at Stanford University in California.

Asked by a reporter how it felt to be abroad, Mrs. Clinton said: "It feels wonderful." Aides have said Mrs. Clinton would take a break during her trip from consideration of a run for a U.S. Senate seat in 2000, the object of intense speculation in America.

Starting a 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, Mrs. Clinton was aiming on her first day to highlight Islamic contributions to culture as a way to help dispel suspicions between East and West.

She was to visit the Coptic Christian area of Cairo Monday to call attention to Egypt's tradition of religious diversity, ahead of a speech the following day urging religious tolerance.

As Mrs. Clinton arrived at the Citadel, which has towered over Islamic Cairo since 1176, she apologized for running late because her plane was delayed by engine trouble in Washington and by poor weather in Ireland, from where her plane was forced to divert to England to refuel.

The two Clinton women donned headscarves as a mark of respect and visited the Mohammed Ali mosque, a many-domed, alabaster-walled splendor which was built at the Citadel by Mohammed Ali, the 19th century founder of modern Egypt. They were guided by the head of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Gaballah Ali Gaballah.

Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea emerged from the mosque to gaze over the minarets and other buildings of the city through a dusty haze that dulled a heavy late-afternoon sun.

At the al-Sahlih Tala'i mosque, built in 1160, she dedicated a painstakingly restored, 700-year-old "minbar," or high pulpit of intricately tooled wood. She also strolled under the 11th century Bab Zuweila gate, once used as an execution site. U.S. assistance is helping to restore such sites of historical importance.

Mrs. Clinton got an after-hours tour of the world-renowned Egyptian Museum. There, she saw the solid-gold coffin and headdress of King Tutankhaman, and walked through the museum's mummy collection. One of ancient Egypt's greatest pharaohs, Ramses II, lay at rest in a wooden coffin, his leathery toes and fingers poking through a linen burial wrapping, and his

arms crossed peacefully over his chest.

Clinton spokeswoman Marsha Berry said Sunday's visits also underscored the importance of preserving cultural treasures, one of Mrs. Clinton's favorite causes.

Mrs. Clinton is also expected to use her North African tour to promote the rights of women and children, call for religious tolerance and encourage democratic advances.

Monday, she is to meet Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and visit the New Horizons program for young women, which deals with issues such as reproductive health and female genital mutilation. Although such ritual mutilation is officially discouraged, it is widespread in Egypt.

Mrs. Clinton also will discuss "microcredit" lending to small businesses in a Cairo marketplace.

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First lady, daughter begin tour at preservation site

1:17 a.m. ET (6:18 GMT) March 22, 1999

By Sandra Sobieraj, Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — First, the Stars and Stripes. Now, the Mosque of Salah Talai.

Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign for historic preservation swept across 5,800 miles Sunday to the heart of Old Islamic Cairo, where she and her wide-eyed daughter, Chelsea, visited treasures the United States is helping to restore.

The American first lady, beginning a 12-day tour of North Africa, added a foreign flavor to the drive she began last year at home with the restoration of the original Star-Spangled Banner: to rally public and private funds for the preservation of historic landmarks and artifacts.

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries, deepen our dialogue and see firsthand how Egyptians are moving toward the future while preserving their extraordinary culture and heritage," Mrs. Clinton said in a statement distributed as she and Chelsea, 19, disembarked from their 13-hour flight from Washington.

Struggling against the wind to tame a gauzy beige scarf over her hair, Mrs. Clinton indulged Egyptian news photographers clamoring for a pose at the hilltop Citadel and then entered the Mosque of Muhammad Ali in her stocking feet, as is required by Islamic tradition.

The Ottoman mosque, with alabaster walls and cylindrical minaret was built and named for the founder of modern Egypt. It is one of dozens of restoration projects under way by the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

USAID, whose cause Mrs. Clinton is here to champion, has at least \$15 million invested in Egyptian antiquities' preservation, with an additional \$771 million dedicated to helping Cairo eliminate sewage flooding into homes, mosques and other historical sites.

At the Mosque of Salah Talai, Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea were given — to use "as paperweights or coasters," their tour guide offered — samples of the intricately carved balsam pieces of a 1290 minbar, Egypt's second-oldest surviving pulpit, from which a Muslim imam preaches at Friday prayers.

"You know all about conservation. I'm preaching to the converted," Gaballa Ali Gaballa, head of Egypt's antiquities council, told Mrs. Clinton.

Across a narrow street and through the Bab Zuweila Gate, another restoration project and the spot where defeated sultans in the 1500s were nailed to the doors, the American visitors poked through the stone and wood cubbyhole where cupsful of water were once distributed through bronze grilles to passers-by.

Mrs. Clinton suggested to Dr. Gaballa that the antiquities council sell "books and other souvenirs for tourists" to raise additional restoration funds.

The Clinton women, who were traveling during Chelsea's spring break from Stanford University while President Clinton remained in Washington, had a full day of appointments today.

They were calling on President Hosni Mubarak, saluting small businesswomen at the Khan al Khalili marketplace, discussing education at a youth center in Cairo's Telal Zeinhom neighborhood, touring the Ben-Ezra Synagogue and visiting the Coptic quarter of the minority Christian community.

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First lady, daughter in Egypt at start of North African tour

5:24 p.m. ET (2224 GMT) March 21, 1999

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — America's first lady and her daughter arrived Sunday in Egypt on the first leg of a three-nation North African tour.

Hillary Rodham Clinton is scheduled to make several speeches, including an address about women's rights in Tunisia. She and her daughter Chelsea and will ride camels into the desert in Morocco.

Their first sightseeing tour in Cairo took them to the alabaster Mohammed Ali Mosque within the walls of Islamic Cairo's citadel.

On Monday, Mrs. Clinton and Chelsea will see Old Testament scrolls at Ben-Ezra Synagogue in Old Cairo and visit the nearby Coptic Museum and other sites of Egypt's minority Christian community.

During her four-day stay in Egypt, Mrs. Clinton will meet with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his wife Suzanne, tour the Khan Khalili bazaar in Cairo and give speeches at a youth center and at the American University in Cairo.

On Tuesday, the pair will fly to the southern city of Luxor, home to many of the country's pharaonic temples and tombs.

Before she left the United States, the first lady said she intended her 12-day trip to Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia — whose populations together make up almost half of all Arabs — to dispel distrust that has strained relations since the 1991 Gulf War.

"For too long, our close ties with the Arab world have been compromised by negative stereotyping on both sides," she said. "It is my hope that this trip will help strengthen the bonds of friendship among our nations."

This trip, her 19th overseas without President Clinton, was to have included stops in Israel and Jordan.

But diplomatic sensitivities because of the upcoming Israeli elections and mourning over the death last month over Jordan's King Hussein forced postponement of both visits until later this year.

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Hillary And Chelsea Clinton Tour Old Cairo

REUTERS 2.42 p.m. ET (1943 GMT) March 21, 1999

CAIRO, Egypt — U.S. first lady Hillary Clinton toured old Cairo with her daughter Chelsea Sunday on the first leg of a North African tour that has been billed as a bridge-building visit to the Islamic world.

"We are delighted to start our visit here in Egypt, and here in the heart of old Cairo," said Mrs. Clinton as she visited Islamic antiquities, including the Mohammed Ali Mosque at the Citadel, where she and Chelsea wore headscarves as a mark of respect.

The first lady stopped at the 11th century Bab Zuweila gate, during a trip highlighting the cultural contributions of Islam and aimed at dispelling any suspicions between East and West.

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries," Mrs. Clinton said in an official statement issued immediately after her arrival.

She added that the visit was aimed at deepening dialogue and seeing "first-hand how Egyptians are moving toward the future while preserving their extraordinary culture and heritage."

"During my visit, I will have the opportunity to see Cairo and Luxor and experience both the diversity of your religious tradition and the breadth of the civilizations past and present."

The head of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities Gaballah Ali Gaballah showed Mrs. Clinton inside al-Salih Tala'i Mosque, built in 1160, where she handed out certificates to craftsmen who helped restore the mosque's 700-year-old minbar, a pulpit from which an imam speaks.

Starting a 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, she said in the statement she was pleased to be in Cairo on the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, or Camp David accords of 1979, which "laid the foundation for regional peace and prosperity."

The five-day visit to Egypt comes at a time when Mrs. Clinton is facing intense speculation about both her marriage and her own political ambitions.

Expected to use the tour to promote the rights of women and children, call for religious tolerance and encourage democratic advances, Mrs. Clinton is said to be deliberating on whether to run for a U.S. Senate seat from New York in 2000.

"I will be meeting a wide variety of citizens who are working to improve the lives of their people by creating jobs through micro enterprises, empowering young girls with education and training, providing women with health care and family planning, protecting the environment and building an independent civil society," Mrs. Clinton said in her statement.

Acknowledging that her arrival coincided with an important date in the Egyptian calendar, she wished a happy Mother's Day to the women of Egypt and of the Arab world.

Friday, President Clinton told reporters he and Hillary were "working hard" on strengthening their relationship amid the fallout from the president's affair with Monica Lewinsky and his impeachment trial.

Before Mrs. Clinton arrived at the Citadel, which has towered over Islamic Cairo since 1176, she apologized for running late because her plane was delayed by engine trouble in Washington and by poor weather in Ireland, from where her plane was forced to divert to England to refuel.

Protected throughout her visit by the U.S. secret services, Hillary Clinton was scheduled later Sunday to visit the Egyptian Museum, home to many of Egypt's most famous antiquities, including the mask of Tutankhamen.

Chelsea, who is on a break from her studies at Stanford University, often accompanies her mother on visits.

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Hillary Clinton In Egypt On Bridge-Building Tour

REUTERS 8:33 a.m. ET (1333 GMT) March 21, 1999

CAIRO, Egypt — U.S. first lady Hillary Clinton arrived in Cairo with her daughter Chelsea Sunday on the first leg of a tour that has been billed as a bridge-building mission between the United States and the Islamic world.

The first lady was expected to tour the city's old Islamic quarter later in the day, stopping at the 11th century Bab Zuweila gate, during a trip highlighting the cultural contributions of Islam and aimed at improving U.S. relations with Muslim countries.

"I am here on behalf of my husband and of the American people to strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership between our two countries, deepen our dialogue and to see first-hand how Egyptians are moving toward the future while preserving their extraordinary culture and heritage," Mrs. Clinton said in an official statement.

"During my visit I will have the opportunity to see Cairo and Luxor and experience both the diversity of your religious tradition and the breadth of the civilizations past and present."

Speaking at the start of a 12-day tour of Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, she said she was pleased to be in Cairo on the 20th anniversary of a historic peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

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Hillary Clinton To Egypt On Friendship Mission

REUTERS ▸ 12:14 a.m. ET (517 GMT) March 21, 1999

WASHINGTON — First lady Hillary Clinton left for Cairo (on) Saturday for a 12-day visit aimed at improving the often mistrustful relations between the Islamic world and the United States.

The first lady will also get a break from daily speculation at home over her political future on the trip that will take her to Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco.

The plane carrying Mrs Clinton experienced a minor problem as it taxied down the runway at Andrews Air Force Base. The Boeing 707 returned to the terminal where it was checked by Air Force mechanics and cleared for takeoff.

"They couldn't find anything wrong with it ... it seemed to be an air flow problem over an engine compressor," said Marsha Berry, the first lady's spokeswoman.

Shortly after arriving in Cairo Sunday morning, Mrs Clinton will tour the city's old Islamic quarter and stop at the 11th century Bab Zuweila gate, a visit highlighting the cultural contributions of Islam and underscoring her aim to dispel suspicions between Islam and the West.

Mrs. Clinton hopes to "reinforce the message that the president has been sending to the Islamic world, of respect for Islam and our belief that there is no clash of civilizations between Islam and the West," said a senior State Department official said.

"Her ability to convey that in a very personal way is going to be very important on this trip," the official said.

Mrs. Clinton has worked closely with Islamic groups in the United States and instituted a White House commemoration of Ramadan at the end of the holy month.

Her endorsement in May of the idea of a Palestinian state drew a quick reiteration from U.S. officials of U.S. policy that the issue could be decided only in final peace talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Despite the official clarification, she was enthusiastically received on a visit to the Palestinian-controlled Gaza Strip in December.

During her North Africa trip, Mrs. Clinton also is expected to promote the rights of women and children, call for religious tolerance and encourage democratic advances, aides said.

She will be too busy to pay much attention to her highly publicized deliberations on whether to run for a U.S. Senate seat from New York in 2000, her spokeswoman, Marsha Berry, said. The first lady is expected at some point to entertain questions on the issue from reporters during her tour but she will make no announcement on her plans, Berry said.

Friday, President Clinton told a news conference he did not "have a clue" on

whether she would run. And he said he and Mrs. Clinton were "working hard" on strengthening their relationship amid the fallout from the president's sexual affair with Monica Lewinsky and his impeachment trial.

While in Egypt, Mrs. Clinton also will visit Coptic Christian areas of Cairo (on) Monday, and (on) Tuesday she will give one of the major speeches of her trip. The address at American University is expected to highlight Egypt's historical tradition of religious tolerance, aides said.

Mrs. Clinton also will travel to Luxor, Egypt, to tour the ancient Valley of Kings and Queens. She will visit the Temple of Hatshepsut, site of the 1997 massacre of 58 foreign tourists by an Islamic militant group.

She will be protected by the U.S. Secret Service throughout her trip.

Mrs. Clinton travels to Tunisia Thursday and to Morocco Saturday, March 27. She returns to Washington on April 1.

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First lady's plane has takeoff troubles

8:42 p.m. ET (143 GMT) March 20, 1999

WASHINGTON (AP) — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea's 12-day trip to North Africa got off to a rocky start Saturday, including an engine fire.

The planned departure from Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland was delayed an hour because the Air Force Boeing 707 jetliner carrying the president's wife and daughter, staff aides and journalists was found to be overweight with cargo and luggage.

Then as the plane raced down the runway for takeoff, flames shot out the rear of the outboard engine of the left wing. The jetliner skidded to a stop and taxied back to the terminal, where a dozen Air Force personnel scrambled to repair what a crew member described a minor engine compressor problem.

The plane took off about two hours after its originally scheduled departure time.

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March 20, 1999; Saturday 11:28 Eastern Time

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HEADLINE: First Lady To Tour North Africa

BYLINE: SANDRA SOBIERAJ

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Hillary and Chelsea Clinton set off this weekend on an 'Arabian Nights' spring-break tour of camel rides across Saharan dunes and visits to the wonders of North Africa both ancient and modern.

In advance of her Saturday departure, the first lady said she intended her 12-day travels through Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia, whose populations total almost half of all the Arabs, to dispel distrust that has strained relations with some Arab states since the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

'For too long, our close ties with the Arab world have been compromised by negative stereotyping on both sides. It is my hope that this trip will help strengthen the bonds of friendship among our nations,' Mrs. Clinton said.

Aides said she would make no announcement on her political future or the Senate candidacy in New York some Democrats are pressing her to pursue.

Mrs. Clinton planned to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, Tunisia's remarkable record of educating women and girls and Morocco's experiment with political pluralism and religious tolerance.

To many Americans, Arabs are 'all bandits, bombers and billionaires,' said Wallace Sanders, development director for the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations. He said he is counting on Mrs. Clinton to 'disseminate the truth.'

This trip, her 19th overseas journey without President Clinton, was to have included stops in Israel and Jordan, partly to balance Arab interests with attention to the special U.S.-Israeli. But diplomatic sensitivities to the upcoming Israeli elections and mourning over Jordan's King Hussein forced postponement of both visits until later this year, Mrs. Clinton said.

Aides and administration officials were careful to underscore that Mrs. Clinton's meetings with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Morocco's King Hassan II and Prime Minister Abderrahmane Youssoufi were courtesy calls, 'not to negotiate Middle East peace.'

Officials from the White House National Security Council, State Department, three U.S. embassies and three foreign governments were marshaled in service to the mother-daughter tradition of making Chelsea's spring break from school

AP Online, March 20, 1999

(she is a sophomore at Stanford University) an exotic adventure combined with U.S. foreign policy.

As tents befitting an Ottoman sultan went up half a world away for the first lady's overnight stay deep in the Moroccan desert, her staff in Washington worked with the State Department on daily schedules tying Mrs. Clinton's sightseeing to themes of her official appearances:

An address on peace and religious tolerance will follow two days of touring the alabaster mosque of Muhammad Ali within the walls of Islamic Cairo's citadel; viewing Old Testament scrolls in Ben-Ezra Synagogue, Egypt's oldest; and visiting the nearby Coptic Museum and other sites of Egypt's minority Christian community.

A women's rights speech at Tunisia's parliament building, where women hold 7 percent of the seats, is tucked among stops at the half-ruined El Djem coliseum, where women in the Roman era watched the gladiators from segregated seating, and at a modern family-planning clinic.

In 1995, the Clintons' mother-daughter crusade to boost the status of women and children swept through southeast Asia. When Chelsea, now 19, was on spring break the next year, they dropped in on U.S. troops in Germany, Bosnia, Italy, Turkey and Greece. In 1997, the pair dazzled sub-Saharan Africans with a six-nation swing laying ground for the president's own trip to the continent last year.

The first lady's twin themes are human rights and the vitality of U.S. foreign aid despite its political unpopularity in Congress. As Brian Atwood, director of the U.S. Agency for International Development, told Mrs. Clinton last week: "More than anyone, you have helped us tell our story."

During her husband's six years in the White House, Mrs. Clinton has visited 75 nations, venturing to corners as far-flung as Katmandu, Nepal, and Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

"In Mrs. Clinton, women all over the world have a friend and role model," said Edith Grace Ssempala, Uganda's ambassador to the United States. "This first lady has eloquently spoken to the needs of every human being."

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