

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. schedule	re: POTUS trip manifest (19 pages)	11/18/2000	b(7)(E)
002. fax	Trip of the President and First Lady to Ho Chi Minh City re: hotel manifest (4 pages)	11/17/2000	b(7)(E)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lissa Muscatine
OA/Box Number: 21401

FOLDER TITLE:

Vietnam Info 11/00

2015-0275-S

rc1926

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
TALKING POINTS AT WOMEN'S FORUM
HANOI, VIETNAM
NOVEMBER 18, 2000

Cassia -
Pgs
for forum -
see
announcement
on last
page.

- Acknowledgments
- I am delighted to be in this great place of Vietnamese history with so many women leaders who are continuing to shape it every day. **I know that each of you represents countless other women around the country who are taking their rightful places in government, business, health, law, education, the family, and every sector of society. And I am grateful to you here for bringing the voices of all the women of Vietnam to this forum.**
- I am also grateful to the men who are here or listening to this discussion. Because the struggle for women's progress benefits both men and women, boys and girls -- and it must be waged by us all.
- And finally, I am grateful to the people of Vietnam for the warm welcome you have given my husband, my daughter, my mother, and me. As you know, I'm changing jobs soon. Our time in the White House is coming to a close. This will no doubt be one of the very last overseas visits we make while living at the White House. I wanted very much to join my husband on this historic and important visit to help strengthen the friendship between our countries, and see firsthand the role that women are playing in building a stronger, more prosperous Vietnam.

- From the minute I got off the plane, I saw women working in the fields and running successful businesses. I talked to women supporting their own families, and, in this very room, women who are leading their country
- This is, of course, nothing new. Throughout history, women have always played a pivotal role in this country – a role that is even more important today in this time of great economic change.
- I was so thrilled to learn about the large number of Vietnamese women who came to the 4th UN World Conference on Women in Beijing and the NGO Forum in Hairou. You joined women from 188 other countries in telling the world that economic progress depends on the progress of women. Civil society depends on the progress of women. Women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights.
- I know you are working hard here in Vietnam to make good on the promises of the women's conference. As I have been privileged to travel around the world, especially through my government's Vital Voices initiative, I have sat down with other women leaders just like you who are doing the same thing all over Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union, as they work to ensure the full participation of women in their own countries.

- In conversation after conversation, in small villages and large cities alike, I am struck not by our differences, but by our remarkable similarities as women. In many ways, we all want the same things. We want our rights and dignity to be respected. We want to live free from violence and discrimination. We want our children, both our girls and boys, to have the chance to reach their full potential. We want health care, education, credit, jobs, and the other tools necessary to lift up our own lives, our families, and our countries.
- In a village yesterday, I met women who, with very small loans, and a lot of hard work, are buying homes, sending children to school, and supporting families often for the first time.
- And just this morning, I went to an excavation site, where Vietnamese and U.S. citizens are trying to find the remains of our American soldiers so they can finally be sent home to their families. It is not secret that women from both of our countries suffered greatly during the war, sacrificing their own lives, burying their husbands, brothers, and children. It is no secret that, in the past, women in our countries were united mostly by their shared pain. But today we are united by a shared future.
- There is a lot we can learn from each other; a lot we can do together. Many in Vietnam have told me, for example, about your work to improve child health, especially your high childhood immunization rates.

- But, they have also told me how hard you are working to meet other challenges. I hope we will talk about many of them today – from trafficking to economic participation for women to HIV/AIDS. But, the fact remains that the greatest threat to the health and lives of children in Vietnam today are not infectious diseases, but preventable injuries.
- **I know that my government has been working with your government and UNICEF to create a new safety awareness initiative to prevent kids from drowning or falling, being poisoned, burned, or electrocuted, or falling victim to traffic accidents, which, alone, kill 500 children per month here.**
- **I am very pleased to announce to you that the U.S. Fund for UNICEF has pledged at least 10 million dollars towards this effort, so that we can work together to help save thousands of Vietnamese children from deadly and disabling injuries each year.**
- I very much look forward to exploring other ways that our countries can cooperate for the good of all citizens, especially women and children. And I look forward to hearing about your own stories; about the obstacles you and other women have overcome to succeed; and the challenges you think still remain for women in Vietnam, and around the world.



Visit of the President and The
First Lady
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
November 18-19, 2000

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☒ Urgent☐ For Review☐ Please Comment☐ Please Reply☐ Please Recycle

• Comments:

SIS -
See you Sat night
Shan

Ho Chi Minh City, November 16, 2000

**QUESTIONS OF HCM CITY WOMEN'S NEWSPAPER TO INTERVIEW
HER EXCELLENCY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON.**

Dear Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton,

The Ho Chi Minh City Women's Newspaper would like to present our most sincere greetings and welcome to you on your first visit to Vietnam together with President Clinton.

Women's Newspaper is an agency under the Women Union Association of Ho Chi Minh City, the representative voice of the female in Ho Chi Minh City. On the occasion of your and President Clinton's visit to Vietnam, the Women's Newspaper would like you to answer some questions as an interview. We understand that your precious time in Vietnam is limited and your schedule in Ho Chi Minh City is also very tight. However, would you please, if possible and in your most convenient way (by mail, by facsimile or e-mail, etc), spend some time for answering our questions. We do hope that our female readers in Ho Chi Minh City will have a chance to read and "talk" to you through our interview in the Women's Newspaper, the favorite newspaper of our female readers.

Please accept our sincere thanks, our respect and admiration to you. May we wish you good health and happiness to you and your family.

Yours sincerely,

Here are the questions for you:

1. You are the First Lady of the United States to be elected as a Senator. Would you please tell us the meaning of this victory to you, personally, and to the American Women, in general.
2. In your new position as a Senator, will there be any changes in your future life and will it affect your role in the family as a wife and a mother?
3. What is the most important thing for a woman, in your own opinion,? and Why?. What should a woman do to make her life to be better and happier?
4. Are you interested in being beautiful and in fashion? What is a beautiful woman?
5. What is your feeling about Vietnam in this first visit?

Our address is as follows:

Women's Newspaper
188 Ly Chinh Thang, District 3, Ho Chi Minh City

Fax: (84-8) 8421 723
E-mail: phunutp@hcm.vnn.vn

Đỗ Ngọc
Reporter *Đỗ Ngọc*

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INTRODUCTION OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

There is no greater champion of women around the world than the woman I have the privilege of introducing today. None of us will ever forget the power of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's words at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, when she reminded the world that "women's rights are human rights – and human rights are women's rights."

Since the Beijing conference, Mrs. Clinton has continued to travel the globe speaking out about the progress women are making – and the challenges they continue to face. She has used her voice on behalf of microcredit programs like "Tao Yeu Mai," which she visited outside of Hanoi a few days ago, as well as health care, education, human rights and the expanded role of women in the social, legal and political lives of their countries.

One of her greatest accomplishments is the creation of Vital Voices, a network of women from Central Asia, Latin America, Africa and Central Europe who are educating themselves and others about the political process so that they can exercise their voices and their power in the political arena.

Just last week Mrs. Clinton made history in the political arena herself by becoming the first First Lady in the United States to be elected to public office. For those of us who look to her for ideas, inspiration and the courage to pursue our dreams, it is gratifying to know that she will now have the opportunity to raise her voice on behalf of women as a United States senator.

Mrs. Clinton truly is a vital voice for all of us and for women around the world. And we are delighted that during her visit to our country she has had the opportunity to meet many women who are "vital voices" in Vietnam. We welcome Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States.



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Consular Section

4 Le Duan Blvd., District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

Tel: (848) 822 9433 | Fax: (848) 824 5572

Done
mel**FAX TRANSMISSION**November 17,
2000

Page 1

To: WH Staff Office in Hanoi/First Lady's Office in DC

Our Ref. No.

Attention: ¹⁴²³ Lissa Muscatine/¹⁴²⁰ Laura Schiller in Hanoi and Jamie Vavonese

Total pages: 14

Fax No.: 04-771-7060 and 001-202-456-5340

Approved by:

From: Mary R. Avery *MRA*

Cc:

☒ Urgent☐ For Review☐ Please Comment☐ Please reply**RE: Bios for 4 VIPs at FLOTUS Speech, Input for Speech from Women's Union and Consulate General**

Lissa, Laura, and Jamie:

Roshann asked me to fax you the attached material for preparations for the First Lady's speech in HCMC on Sunday. Attached you will find: bios on the four VIPs who will sit on stage with the First Lady at the Speech, suggestions/talking points for speech preparation from the Women's Union and from the Consulate General, a copy of a Vietnam Women's Union HCMC brochure, and an excerpt from an interesting magazine article that includes many Vietnamese sayings regarding women's place in Vietnamese culture and society.

I apologize in advance for the variety of styles in the hodgepodge of material. I hope that some of it proves useful.

Thanks,

Mary *MRA*

Biographies of VIPs at the First Lady's Speech Event

Mrs. Pham Phuong Thao

Born in 1952. Her parents were both student activists. Before 1970 Mrs. Thao was a high-school student and participating in patriotic students' movements. After 1975 she took part in Youth Union work. She is the former Secretary of the HCMC Youth Union, and a National Assembly Delegate. She is currently the Vice-chairwoman of HCMC People's Committee. She graduated from the HCMC University of Education and is married to Mr. Chau Minh Ty who is now Chief Inspector for HCMC. The couple have two children; a son is a student at the University of Architecture and a daughter is a secondary school student.

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Lap Quoc

Born in 1951. Before 1975 she was a student activist and was imprisoned for many years by the South Vietnamese Regime. She has a B.A degree in Politics and held the position of Director of the HCMC Women's Cultural House for many years. Currently she is the chairwoman of the Vietnam Women's Union of HCMC as well as a National Assembly Delegate. Her husband is Mr. Tran Duy Ninh, a retired leader of propaganda and education sector; they have three children. Mrs. Quoc's eldest son and daughter are university graduates. Her youngest son is a 1st-year student of the Informatics Faculty, University of Natural Sciences. Her daughter was married recently.

Dr. Phan Kim Phuong was born in 1958 in Saigon. Dr. Phuong was raised in a family in which both parents were engaged in patriotic activities prior to 1975. Before 1975, she was a pupil in Saigon. After 1975, she was a student of Saigon Medical University and graduated in 1982. After graduation, she worked for awhile and then was selected to study thorax surgery in France, achieving outstanding results upon graduation. She is currently deputy director of the Heart Institute of HCMC as well as key surgeon of the Institute. She has done more than 3,600 heart surgeries and was made a Labor Hero by the state this year for her work. She has one son who is a high school student. Her husband is Dr. Nguyen Minh Chieu, director of the Heart Institute of HCMC.

Mrs. Mai Hong Quy, Phd in law, was born in 1962 in Hanoi. Her mother was also a lawyer. Before 1975, Mrs. Quy was a pupil. After 1975, she studied for a BA in law in the Soviet Union. After graduation, she returned and taught law at the Law Faculty of the University of Social Sciences and Humanities. She is currently a member of the HCMC Bar Association as well as Deputy Rector of the HCMC University of Law.

Her husband is Mr. Hoang Le Minh, Phd in Mathematics, who teaches at the University of Natural Sciences and previously won first prize at an international math competition when he was a high school student. They have two children who are studying at high school and secondary school.

SUGGESTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN MRS. CLINTON'S SPEECH
FROM WOMEN'S UNION OF HCMC

Acknowledgement of typical qualities of Vietnamese women

- Throughout the history of Vietnam, the Vietnamese women have been well-known for their qualities of excellence both in public and family lives. (Giỏi việc nước, đảm việc nhà.)
- The typical virtues crystallized in the following golden words: "Heroism, indomitability, righteousness and kindheartedness, diligence" are what the Vietnamese history and culture have used to describe Vietnamese women. (anh hùng, bất khuất, trung hậu, đảm đang)

Acknowledgement of today's achievements

- The Vietnamese women play an important role in of the national drives of hunger eradication and poverty reduction, of illiteracy eradication, and of charity work.
- Vietnam, especially Ho Chi Minh City, is recognized by the international donor community as one of the countries of success in hunger eradication and poverty reduction and in low illiteracy rates.
- The women in Ho Chi Minh City always take the lead in charitable activities, assistance to underprivileged children, disabled and needy people, and carriers of such fatal diseases as HIV/AIDS and cancer.
- They also unflaggingly and consistently fight against social evils including trafficking in drugs, children, and women.

Suggested Points for FLOTUS Speech

HO CHI MINH CITY - Specific Information

Women Entrepreneurs and Women in the Workforce

According to statistics from the Women's Union, currently there are more than 2000 enterprises managed by women in the city, making up about 30-40% of the total. There are also 11 Women Entrepreneurs clubs in urban districts of the city under the auspices of the HCMC Union of Associations of Industry and Commerce. The clubs give women entrepreneurs a venue where they can sit down and share experiences, obstacles, etc. encountered in running their own businesses. Women represent 52% of the workforce in Vietnam as a whole - slightly higher than the percentage of women in the total population (50.8%). Despite the figures of women business owners, nearly two-thirds of women in the workforce are without steady employment or are jobless and nearly 90% of women in the workforce lack technical expertise that would help them obtain better-paying and more stable employment.

HIV/AIDS, Trafficking, and Drug Addiction

The incidence of HIV/AIDS is increasing in Ho Chi Minh City, and is an issue of particular concern to women. Vietnam can congratulate itself that transmission of HIV has not occurred as rapidly as some experts predicted several years ago. Indeed, an impressive amount of work has been done in grassroots awareness campaigns and in taking preventative and educational measures. Still, the problem is worsening with more new infections recorded last month (1,600) in Vietnam than in any single month since the first case was detected here in 1990.

In this city there is a nexus between HIV/AIDS, intravenous drug use, and commercial sex work. More and more heroin users who previously smoked the drug have begun injecting it intravenously. Transmission of HIV/AIDS in Vietnam continues to occur mostly (65%) through the sharing of contaminated needles.

More and more female heroin users turn to commercial sex work to earn money to buy the drug. At the same time, more and more commercial sex workers are becoming heroin addicts. This nexus between HIV/AIDS, heroin use, and prostitution, has the potential to cause a health catastrophe that is already starting to unfold in some areas of the country. Ho Chi Minh City is one of the areas most affected.

It is an unfortunate fact that many streets in HCMC are lined with women in the commercial sex trade. When night falls, young women will again be on the streets within walking distance of the Municipal Theatre.

There are no clear-cut explanations as to why someone begins to use heroin or why someone turns to commercial sex work. Neither are there any easy answers to the

problems. One suggested solution is to empower women more. The Women's Union, international non-governmental organizations, and other organizations have made impressive progress in educating women, making them aware of their rights, and encouraging them to say "no" to those who would addict them to heroin or lure them into commercial sex work.

The girls who ride their motorcycles on Nguyen Du Street or work as hostesses in the karaoke bars do so because they feel they have no other choice. We need to create other choices for them. That is why employment creation and micro-credit loans for small businesses are so important. That is why continued economic reform that will create more jobs is so important.

Local Holiday

Tomorrow, November 20, is Teacher's Day in Vietnam. Each year, Vietnam honors its teachers on this special day of recognition for their service to the country and their influence on the nation's children. Education is highly revered in this culture in which parents will work two jobs and scrimp to get by in order to keep their children in school. The teaching profession is greatly admired and teachers often have a life-long influence on their students. On Teacher's Day, classes are dismissed but special programs and parties are held at most schools as a way for the students to honor their teachers. Parents often present gifts to their child's teachers on this day.

Famous Historical Female Historical Figure in the South

The southern part of Vietnam was settled by the Vietnamese relatively recently; about three hundred years ago. In 1998, the city of Saigon celebrated the 300th anniversary of its founding. The first 150 years were mainly a time of exploration and settlement. The turning point was 1858 when the French took control of several southern provinces. The following colonial period saw some movements against the French which finally broke out into open revolution in 1945 and culminated in the French defeat and withdrawal in 1954.

Vo Thi Sau, a young girl from Baria-Vung Tau, a coastal province near present-day Ho Chi Minh City, became a heroine of the 1945-1954 revolution. Killing a French soldier while trying to escape with her fellow activists, she was sentenced to death by a French criminal court. Vo Thi Sau was exiled to Con Dao, an island over 90 miles from Vung Tau and infamous for its prison system. Her execution at the age of 16 attracted much attention. After her death, legends and songs spread about her courage and youth. She is considered to be almost a saint and her tomb in Con Dao is a place of pilgrimage.

General Background

Women have played significant and integral roles throughout Vietnamese history, both in war and in peace, both in business and in government, both in family life and in society.

Nearly 2000 years ago, Trung Trac and Trung Nhi led an insurrection against foreign domination. When their movement failed, they drowned themselves rather than

submitting to the enemy. Still celebrated as heroines by the Vietnamese, the two Trung sisters (Hai Ba Trung) exemplify the relative high status of women in Vietnamese society.

In the year 248, Trieu Au (Lady Trieu) also led a rebellion against foreign domination, and earned a place in the hearts and history of the Vietnamese people.

The important role of women in later wars has been well-documented.

In times of peace, Vietnamese women share the responsibility of cultivating rice in the countryside. Indeed, many people have observed that women often work harder than men in tending the paddies. In the cities and towns, it is not unusual for women to own factories and retail and other businesses. And both rural and urban women typically manage the family's financial affairs as they would manage a business.

The Vice President of Vietnam and the Deputy Chairperson of the National Assembly are women, several women serve as heads of provincial people's committees, and over one-quarter of the delegates elected to the 10th National Assembly are women. With me today is the Vice-Chairwoman of the Ho Chi Minh City people's Committee as well as many women heads of government and Party organizations. There is no question that women play significant and integral roles in governing this country.

Although a woman within the family is expected to be dutiful and respectful toward her husband and his parents, and to care for her children, women in Vietnam are by no means the weaker sex. Despite a cultural emphasis on obedience to father and husband, women in Vietnam, as any outside observer can see, even during a short visit, are strong-willed, resourceful, and dynamic.

Vietnamese society throughout its history has been shaped in large part by the women who make up half its members. And women will determine in large part the type of society Vietnam will have in the future. Vietnamese women will in large measure determine society's values, its economic structure, its political direction, its future place in the region and in the world.

In this theater are gathered some of the women who are shaping Vietnamese Society today. In particular, the Vietnam Women's Union of Ho Chi Minh City plays an integral role in society through its various programs such as

- creating employment for women to increase income, eradicating hunger, and decreasing poverty
- strengthening the management of and increasing the number and the amount of financial loans provided to women, especially those involved in small- and medium-sized enterprises
- promoting women's and children's health and women's and children's rights
- building and strengthening women's organizations and associations

- examining laws and policies relating to women, children, and families, particularly with regard to female labor.
- Promoting solidarity with regional and world women's organizations

VIETNAM WOMEN UNION HO CHI MINH CITY

A) Organization system

- * Representative festival held every five years.
- * Executive Committee of HCM women's Union.
- * Executive Committee of HCM women's Union at district, commune levels.
- * Executive Committee of HCM women's Union at ward, village levels.

B) Number of members:

- * 338.091 members in the residential area
- * 13786 Association branches and Women Teams
- * 247.943 female employees.

C) Units directly dependent on:

Women Newspapers, women's Cultural House, Patron Center for single mothers, Law Consulting office, women care office.

D) Organizations:

- * Women's Charity Group
- * Traditional mother Association
- * Savings - credit women group
- * Happy family club
- * Businesswomen club
- * Female photographers club "Hai Au"
- * Female poet Club
- * Female veteran club
- * Social charity club
- * Female youth club
- * "Dong Dang" - Propagandist group.



Headquarter: 32 Tran Quoc Thao St,
Dist 3, Ho Chi Minh City;
Tel: 8299953 • Fax: 8295532

Some features of VN Women's Union background

- * Founded on 20th October, 1930.
- * First congress of VN Women's Union was organized in 1950 when VN was fighting against French Colonists.
- * In 1960, Liberation Women Union was founded in the South of VN to gather female patriots against American Imperialist.
- * In 1975, when VN was reunited, Women Unions in the North and the South joined each other under the name Vietnam Women's Union.
- * Population of VN is around 75 million. 51% out of it is female. Vietnamese women make up 53,20% labour force in agriculture; 70,80% in commerce, and service industry; 67,10% in the field of education and training; 46,40% in Telecommunication; 63,70% in health care and social security; 54,30% in financing and banking; 37,70% in science; 14,40% in transportation; 34,30% in cultural and artistic activities; 28,70% in administrative management.
- * As the member of International Democratic Women League.
- * VN Women's Union has officially been recognized as one of the members of South - East Asian Women Unions since July, 1996.



Scene of the sixth congress of HCM Women dated October, 1996.



VIETNAM WOMEN UNION
HOCHIMINH CITY

Self - Introduction



Leaders of Vietnam Women's Union of HCM City receive the third grade Independent medal dated October, 1995.

1996 - 2000

PROGRAM No. 1

Qualification, knowledge & capability improvement.

- 10 Target - education of development strategy for the progress of women toward the year 2000.

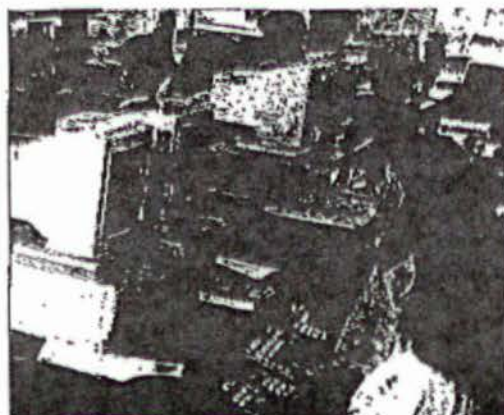
- 1) Creating employment for women to increase income, eradicating hunger and decreasing poverty.
- 2) Equality for women in education. Erasing illiteracy. Enhancing women's knowledge in every field to satisfy needs of the country's social-economic development.
- 3) Improving health care condition for women and children.
- 4) Enhancing women's role and position in state managing, consulting and key decision-making.
- 5) Protecting women's human rights, facilitating women to participate in social activities.
- 6) Reinforcing family's role.
- 7) Developing women's role in the environment and natural resource management to contribute to stable development and improving of living conditions.
- 8) Promoting communication and propaganda task to enhance awareness of equal rights between men and women.
- 9) Contributing to maintaining the peace process.
- 10) Upgrading effectiveness of executive organizations for the progress of Vietnamese women.

PROGRAM No. 2

Supporting women in creating employment to increase income and to contribute to City's economic development.

4 Targets:

- * Continuing to speed up the movement "Women's mutual assistance for household economic improvement".
- * Strengthening the management and increasing assistance of financial aid for women by giving loan, enlarging the number of given loan women.
- * Supporting small and medium enterprises to take part in City's economic development program.
- * Effectively organizing activities of technology - transferring, vocational training for women to meet the labour market's needs.



PROGRAM No. 3

Taking care of Women and Children's health and rights

- * Supporting in facilitating women to do their family functions well and go on enhancing awareness of a wife and mother's responsibilities.
- * Continuing to push up the mobilization of family planning, malnourished children prevention, limitation of drop-out children to contribute to restricting social evils.
- * Pushing up women's awareness of home and environment hygiene.
- * Struggling against any violent actions and violation of women and children's human dignity.
- * Participating in charity, home front and render thanks activities.

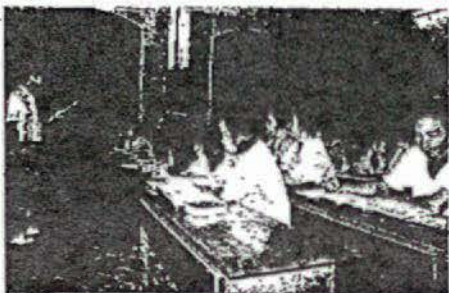


A typical sample of 1996 happy family

PROGRAM No. 4

Building and strengthening Union Organizations, enlarging women solidarity front.

- Continuing to diversify grouping forms, attracting a great number of women's strata to Union Organizations suitable to age, hobby and profession. Developing a great number of members, establishing key forces in Association's activities in the residential area.



Female youth on the auditorium.

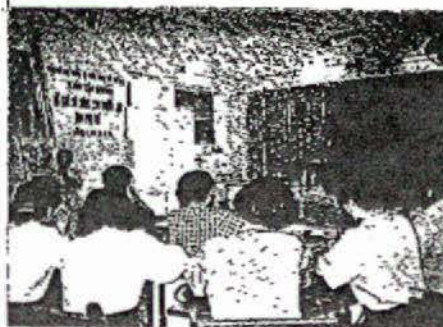


Buddhist and Catholic nuns receiving prize of lecture competition on the thesis: "Image of Vietnamese women in poetry and proverb" dated December, 1996.

PROGRAM No. 5

Studying - Monitoring women's rights

- Effectively organizing the monitoring network on law, policies concerning women and children. Studying issues related to female Labour, female staff, family and women in difficult conditions.



Training course on sex and improvement of women's rights dated August & September, 1996.

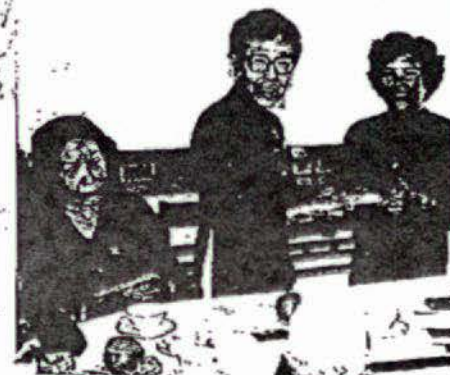


Law consulting office at 32 Tran Quoc Thao, St., Dist. 3.

PROGRAM No. 6

International relationship task

- * Promoting solidarity with regional and world women organizations, co-ordinating together to follow strategy of nation-wide women toward the year-2000: women-equality, prosperity and progress.
- * Taking advantage of the participation in supporting Social charity's activities from foreign women living and working in HCM city.
- * Taking advantage of sources of capital for the programs of improving women's knowledge, giving loan and vocational training for poor women, environment hygiene, and limiting drop-out children.



Mrs. Ito, a Japanese woman with special love for VN, has several times visited and offered scholarship to city's poor children. (Total USD 12,000 and VND 500 million).

SRJ09

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE FIRST LADY'S PRESS OFFICE

PHONE: (202) 456-2960
FAX: (202) 456-7805

TO: Lissa Muscatine 69431
FAX: _____ PHONE: _____
DATE: 11/15/00 TIME: _____
PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 10

FROM: Gayleen

COMMENTS:

CHRONOLOGY OF THE FIRST LADY'S INVOLVEMENT IN PROMOTING MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

- 1986** Mrs. Clinton and then-Governor Clinton met with Mohammed Yunus, the founder of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, in Arkansas to discuss the relevance of the model of the Grameen Bank to rural Arkansas communities.
- 1988** Mrs. Clinton was involved in the creation of, and served on the Board of, the Southern Development Bank Corporation and its non-profit affiliate, the Good Faith Fund -- one of the first rural microenterprise funds in the United States. Modeled after the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, the Good Faith Fund provides small loans, training and technical assistance to low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs in rural communities in Arkansas. Several U.S. foundations, through program-related investments, have partnered with the Good Faith Fund.
- March, 1995** Mrs. Clinton visited the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India and the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh to highlight these important microcredit programs enabling poor women to become self-sufficient.
- May 14, 1995** Mrs. Clinton's op-ed in the Washington Post, "Investing in Sisterhood," underscores how microcredit helps women overcome poverty.
- July 26, 1995** Mrs. Clinton visited Mi Casa, a program in Denver, Colorado promoting microenterprise development, that has received support from the Small Business Administration. She also spoke to the Women's Foundation of Colorado Conference on microenterprise as a tool of opportunity.
- August 28, 1995** President Clinton directed the Secretary of the Treasury to develop an awards program to honor excellence in microenterprise development, and to coordinate all microenterprise programs within the U.S. government. This was announced as part of the U.S. commitments to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women.
- September 5, 1995** Mrs. Clinton spoke in Beijing, China, at the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) panel discussion on "Women's Economic Empowerment." Other panelists included Ela Bhatt of India's SEWA, and Mohammed Yunus of the Grameen Bank.
- October 12, 1995** Mrs. Clinton visited a FINCA bank, "Mothers United," in Nicaragua (which was subsequently re-named "Mothers United *with Hillary*"), and an Accion microenterprise project, "PenaSol," in Santiago, Chile. Both projects serve very poor women and have been successful in providing economic opportunity.

June 26, 1995	Mrs. Clinton was the keynote speaker at the RESULTS Dinner in Washington, DC honoring Dr. Yunus.
November 8, 1995	Mrs. Clinton spoke at the "Beyond Beijing" World Bank Conference, where she highlighted microcredit and economic opportunity. The World Bank has committed itself to microenterprise lending, which is of great importance to women's economic development.
March 19, 1996	Mrs. Clinton spoke about the importance of microenterprise in development to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.
May 2, 1996	Mrs. Clinton and Secretary Rubin announced the details of the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development via video to the Association for Enterprise Opportunity Conference in Rhode Island.
September 16, 1996	Mrs. Clinton spoke at the USAID "Lessons Without Borders" Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, where she described how lessons learned through international assistance can be applied to solve problems at home.
December 3, 1996	Mrs. Clinton visited BancoSol in La Paz, Bolivia -- Bolivia's largest commercial bank and the world's only commercial bank dedicated solely to micro lending. (The BancoSol borrowing group that Mrs. Clinton met with re-named itself the "Hillary" group in honor of her.)
January 30, 1997	The President, joined by First Lady and Secretary Rubin, presented the Inaugural Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development at the White House.
February 3, 1997	Mrs. Clinton keynoted at the International Micro Credit Summit in Washington, D.C.
February 3, 1997	Mrs. Clinton visited a Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA) borrowing group in Washington, DC.
March 21, 1997	Mrs. Clinton met with borrowers from the Zambuko Trust Microfinance Program, a microenterprise institution supporting 4,000 Zimbabwean businesses -- 75% of them owned by women.
March 29, 1997	Mrs. Clinton visited a FINCA microenterprise borrowing group outside Kampala, Uganda.

May 1997	Mrs. Clinton visited with indigenous and peasant women involved in various microenterprises in Mexico, who displayed their products and discussed their work. Mrs. Clinton also participated in a roundtable in Costa Rica with microcredit entrepreneurs and Mrs. Figueres, the First Lady of Costa Rica. Eight microentrepreneurs from throughout Costa Rica spoke with the First Lady and displayed their merchandise. Mrs. Clinton spoke to the Regional Consultative Forum on Microenterprise Development in San Jose, Costa Rica. The Forum brought together 70 entrepreneurs from Central America to exchange ideas, share best practices, and ask for support from the region's political leadership. Mrs. Clinton participated in the Caribbean Regional Microenterprise Forum in Bridgetown, Barbados. The event was sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Caribbean Development Bank. Mrs. Clinton announced \$500,000 in assistance for microenterprise assistance to the four Windward Islands of St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada, and Dominica.
February 2, 1998	Mrs. Clinton made remarks at the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where she discussed the need for corporate responsibility and her support for microcredit as a development tool.
March 1998	Mrs. Clinton and the President traveled to a FINCA program in Uganda with Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda. Mr. Museveni noted that he had not even heard of the program in his own country until Mrs. Clinton drew his attention to it.
October 1998	Mrs. Clinton attended the Central and Eastern Europe Regional Forum on Women in the 21 st Century in Sofia, Bulgaria, where she encouraged the cultivation of women as business leaders.
December 1998	Mrs. Clinton announced USAID grant recipients at the Women's Empowerment Center in Beach Camp, Gaza.
March 1999	Mrs. Clinton toured the Enda Inter-Arabe Urban Development Center in Tunisia.
November 1999	Mrs. Clinton and Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan presented the first annual Jordan Microenterprise Awards in Amman, Jordan.

THE FIRST LADY WORKING TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Expanding Access to Credit for Economic Growth. On October 17, the President signed H.R. 1143, the "Microenterprise for Self-Reliance and International Anti-Corruption Act of 2000." The primary purpose of this legislation is to authorize continued and expanded efforts to provide assistance to the world's poorest entrepreneurs -- many of whom are women. Microenterprise programs help self-employed entrepreneurs obtain loans for small business enterprises to begin the process of growing out of poverty. Experience has shown that these small loans are repaid and, in the process, these small-scale enterprises generate income and jobs for poor families.

HRC's Role: For the last 15 years Mrs. Clinton has been devoted to the development of microenterprise programs as an effective tool to fight poverty. She was on the front lines in Arkansas developing and supporting some of the first microenterprise programs in the United States. At the UN Fourth World Conference for Women in Beijing, it was one of our country's key commitments. She spoke at Beijing +5 on the topic and keynoted the microenterprise summit. As First Lady, Mrs. Clinton has traveled around the world promoting the good work of microcredit programs and encouraging greater funding through USAID. Her staff has worked closely with the nonprofit microenterprise community represented by the Microenterprise Coalition to develop and execute legislative proposals and strategies for this bill.

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON WORKING TO BRING THE TOOLS OF PROSPERITY TO ALL

Hillary Rodham Clinton has long believed that equipping people with the tools of opportunity, will enable them to gain a stake in the mainstream economy and develop the means to strengthen their families and build up their communities. One important way to unlock the potential of impoverished communities is by making available small loans – with microloans or microcredit – thereby extending access to capital and training to non-traditional, underserved borrowers, especially women, who lack the collateral for traditional small business loans. That is why for over 15 years, Mrs. Clinton has worked to develop community lending institutions and the innovative policies to support them in the U.S. and abroad. Microcredit is such a powerful concept because it is a pragmatic approach to poverty alleviation that gives its beneficiaries the tools to improve their lives by building their own microenterprises; or as Mrs. Clinton had said, a helping hand, as opposed to a handout.

Mrs. Clinton first heard about microcredit over 15 years ago when she and then Governor Clinton were looking for ways to create economic opportunity in the poorest sections of what was then one of the poorer states in the U.S. Mrs. Clinton had heard about the groundbreaking work of both the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and the Shore Bank in Chicago, and reached out to representatives of both to learn about the impressive impacts small loans could make on communities. As she learned about microcredit, she envisioned it as a way of developing the economy from the “inside-out” rather than looking to the outside to make investments in poor regions.

In 1986, Mohammed Yunus, an economist who received his Ph.D. in the United States and later founded the Grameen Bank, met with the Clintons to offer advice on how such loan funds operate. By 1988, Mrs. Clinton helped create, and served on the board of, the Southern Development Corporation and its non-profit affiliate, the Arkansas Enterprise Group (AEG). AEG developed the Good Faith Fund – one of the first rural microenterprise funds in the United States. Modeled after the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, the Good Faith Fund provides small loans, training and technical assistance to low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs in rural communities in Arkansas. Several U.S. foundations have partnered with the Good Faith Fund. Mrs. Clinton was one of the first and only policy makers in the United States who recognized the powerful impact microcredit – a concept that was working in third world countries – could have on improving domestic economic development and alleviating poverty in this country.

Mrs. Clinton's successful implementation of a microenterprise fund in Arkansas inspired one of the key platforms of the 1992 Clinton campaign – to establish a nationwide network of small community development banks. In 1994, the President proposed and signed into law the Community Development Financial Institutions fund (CDFI fund), which, through grants, loans, and equity investments, is helping to create a network of community development institutions in distressed areas across the United States

Microcredit became a major element of the Administration's community empowerment and development agenda, and served as a catalyst for the Administration's subsequent domestic and international microcredit initiatives including the Administration's New Markets Initiative. In addition to her work behind the scenes to promote the microcredit agenda within the White House, Mrs. Clinton also visited a number of microcredit programs throughout the country and made several public announcements of the Administration's microcredit agenda, including the unveiling of the Administration's microcredit legislation on Capitol Hill.

As a lead Administration proponent for domestic microcredit programs, Mrs. Clinton additionally sought to promote the concept of microcredit throughout the world. In her travels to impoverished communities in South and Central America, Africa, Southeast Asia, and newly independent states in Eastern Europe, Russia and central Asia, Mrs. Clinton met with small lending groups and their beneficiaries, as well as government officials to promote the efficacy of microloans, announce grants to many of these programs, and to encourage the governments of these countries to develop an infrastructure that would support these programs.

INTERNATIONAL MICROCREDIT

Mrs. Clinton has long recognized and promoted microcredit as an effective means towards empowering women. This is especially true in developing nations where women have not traditionally enjoyed the same rights as men, or worse, have been doubly oppressed by a political system that does not support them, and an economy that does not enable them to support themselves. Microcredit gives women around-the-world tools they need to be self sufficient, self respecting and able to build futures for themselves and their families. Throughout her travels, Mrs. Clinton made an effort to meet with women who had benefited from microcredit programs in their countries and to then bring their stories and concerns to the international stage as well as to government officials. Whether in small, undeveloped villages in developing nations, or at renown venues including the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland and the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, Mrs. Clinton always impressed upon her listeners that the economic well-being of women in developing nations was an essential priority to ensuring the social and economic health of emerging democracies.

Mrs. Clinton repeatedly met with women microentrepreneurs and loan agents worldwide, heard their stories, and then shared those stories with others. Some highlights include the following:

- In March 1995, Mrs. Clinton visited the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India and the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh to highlight these important microcredit programs enabling poor women to become self-sufficient. In India she met women who had gained a stake in their economies, as well as political force in their communities, because microcredit programs had given them the economic means to band together and have an impact. In Bangladesh, she only had time in her schedule to visit one site, a Hindu women's bank, however, Muslim women also

wanted to have the opportunity to meet with her. Rather than remain divided because of their historic cultural animosity, the Muslim women joined the Hindu women for the session, and each woman there learned that despite their cultural differences, they shared much in common in their quest to improve the lives of their families and communities.

- In September 1995, Mrs. Clinton spoke in Beijing, China, at the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) panel discussion on "Women's Economic Empowerment."
- In October 1995, Mrs. Clinton visited a FINCA bank, "Mothers United," in Nicaragua (which was subsequently re-named "Mothers United with Hillary"), and an Accion microenterprise project, "PenaSol," in Santiago, Chile. Both projects serve very poor women and have been successful in providing economic opportunity. The women she met in Nicaragua told her that they had seen pictures of her microcredit events in India, and asked her for tips they could learn from the Indian women. In Chile, she met a seamstress who told her that the small loan she received enabled her to buy a sewing machine, and that she felt like a caged bird set free.
- In December 1996, Mrs. Clinton visited BancoSol in La Paz, Bolivia -- Bolivia's largest commercial bank and the world's only commercial bank dedicated solely to micro lending. (The BancoSol borrowing group that Mrs. Clinton met with re-named itself the "Hillary" group in honor of her.)
- In March 1997, Mrs. Clinton met with borrowers from the Zambuko Trust Microfinance Program, a microenterprise institution supporting 4,000 Zimbabwean businesses -- 75% of them owned by women. There she announced a USAID grant to the Zambuko Trust. Also in March 1997, Mrs. Clinton visited a FINCA microenterprise borrowing group outside Kampala, Uganda.
- In May 1997, Mrs. Clinton visited with indigenous and peasant women involved in various microenterprises in Mexico, who displayed their products and discussed their work. Mrs. Clinton also participated in a roundtable in Costa Rica with microcredit entrepreneurs and Mrs. Figueres, the First Lady of Costa Rica. Eight microentrepreneurs from throughout Costa Rica spoke with the First Lady and displayed their merchandise. Mrs. Clinton spoke to the Regional Consultative Forum on Microenterprise Development in San Jose, Costa Rica. The Forum brought together 70 entrepreneurs from Central America to exchange ideas, share best practices, and ask for support from the region's political leadership. Mrs. Clinton participated in the Caribbean Regional Microenterprise Forum in Bridgetown, Barbados. The event was sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Caribbean Development Bank. Mrs. Clinton announced \$500,000 in assistance for microenterprise assistance to the four Windward Islands of St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada, and Dominica.
- February 2, 1998 Mrs. Clinton made remarks at the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where she discussed the need for corporate responsibility and her support for microcredit as a development tool.
- In March 1998, Mrs. Clinton and the President traveled to a FINCA program in Uganda with Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda. Mr. Museveni noted that he had not even heard of the program in his own country until Mrs. Clinton drew his attention to it.

- In October 1998, Mrs. Clinton attended the Central and Eastern Europe Regional Forum on Women in the 21st Century in Sofia, Bulgaria, where she encouraged the cultivation of women as business leaders.
- In December 1998, Mrs. Clinton announced USAID grant recipients at the Women's Empowerment Center in Beach Camp, Gaza. In March 1999, Mrs. Clinton toured the Enda Inter-Arabe Urban Development Center in Tunisia. In November 1999, Mrs. Clinton and Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan presented the first annual Jordan Microenterprise Awards in Amman, Jordan.

DOMESTIC MICROCREDIT

At the fourth United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, where Mrs. Clinton delivered a groundbreaking address on the rights of women worldwide and held a summit on microcredit, the First Lady highlighted the international and domestic community development commitments the United States was undertaking. Mrs. Clinton announced that through the CDFI Fund, the Administration would establish a new Presidential awards program to honor outstanding microlending organizations. These awards provide challenging benchmarks for microenterprise programs throughout the nation, they raise public awareness of the importance of such programs, and enable many in the private financial marketplace to see markets in places they never looked for them.

Mrs. Clinton also promoted microcredit as a means of lifting people out of the welfare system and giving them an opportunity to contribute to the economy. In her remarks at the first Presidential Awards Ceremony, Mrs. Clinton talked about the importance of microcredit: "These micro-lending networks and the small businesses they create can be important tools in our efforts to move Americans off welfare and to give working but poor Americans more of a chance to realize their own potential. The loans represent not only an infusion of cash into a business but also an infusion of confidence in a recipient's ability to succeed. Whether it is a beauty salon in Albuquerque or a child care center in San Diego or a small restaurant right here in the District of Columbia, small neighborhood businesses created with micro-loans can bring much-needed jobs, goods, services, and opportunities to low-income areas." [1/30/97]

The Administration has demonstrated a solid record of creating new initiatives and expanding existing initiatives to promote community and economic development by working with the private sector, states, and localities to help revitalize America's communities by bringing capital, jobs, and opportunity to distressed areas and cleaning up the urban environment. Mrs. Clinton and her staff have been particularly involved in the development of the domestic microcredit agenda which includes: developing and announcing the microenterprise awards; introducing the PRIME Act, under which the CDFI Fund will provide microenterprise technical assistance through competitive grants to microenterprise development organizations that focus on low-income entrepreneurs; a doubling of support for technical assistance in SBA's Microloan Program and a doubling of support for SBA lending to leverage new microlending; and new funding for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) and for SBA's One-Stop Capital Shops.

The First Lady and her staff were deeply involved in the development of the Administration's domestic microcredit policies and Mrs. Clinton made several public announcements of the Administration's proposal in this area. In May 1996, Mrs. Clinton and Secretary Rubin announced the details of the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development via video to the Association for Enterprise Opportunity Conference in Rhode Island. In January 1997, Mrs. Clinton, Secretary Rubin and USAID Administrator Brian Atwood held a press conference on the microenterprise awards, which was followed by a ceremony in which the President, First Lady and Secretary Rubin presided over the Inaugural Presidential Awards for Excellence in Microenterprise Development at the White House. In July 1997, Mrs. Clinton made remarks at the launching of a new Microenterprise Development Initiative on Capitol Hill and in June 1998 Mrs. Clinton joined Senators Kennedy and Domenici on Capitol Hill to announce the PRIME Act of 1998. The "Program for Investment in Micro-Entrepreneurs Act" provides grants to organizations that aid microentrepreneurs. In February 1999, Mrs. Clinton and the President presented the 1998 Microenterprise Awards at the White House.

Mrs. Clinton visited a variety of microcredit lending institutions throughout the United States. In July 1995, Mrs. Clinton visited Mi Casa, a program in Denver, Colorado, promoting microenterprise development, which has received support from the Small Business Administration. She also spoke to the Women's Foundation of Colorado Conference on microenterprise as a tool of opportunity. In December 1996, the First Lady addressed the Community First Bank in Washington, D.C. where she applauded the efforts of HUD, HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, and the Bank for all their efforts for community empowerment. In February 1997, Mrs. Clinton visited a Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA) borrowing group in Washington, D.C.

Roshana 700126

TRIP OF THE FIRST LADY
TO HANOI, VIETNAM
NOVEMBER 16-19, 2000

APPROVED POOL FOR VISIT TO YEN TANG VILLAGE

<u>NEWS ORG.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1)CNN CAMERA CREW	Major Garrett
4)AP PHOTO	David Guttenfelder
5)NY TIMES	Mark Landler
6)WASHINGTON POST	Clay Chandler
7)AP PRINT	Tini Tran
8)REUTERS PRINT	Robert Burdstrom
9)REUTERS PHOTO	Kevin Lamarque
10)REUTERS TV	Harry Burtson
11)LIAISON NEWS	Paula Brownstein
12)OFFICIAL	Sandy Northrop
13)OFFICIAL	Technician TBD

TALKING POINTS/ISRAEL -- NOVEMBER 13, 2000

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will travel to Israel to represent the President at the funeral of Leah Rabin and to express the President's and her sympathies to the Rabin family and to express the condolences of the American people.

Background

HRC will pay courtesy call on the President, Prime Minister and Speaker of the Knesset. She will also pay respects to the Rabin family.

She spoke several time in the last few weeks to Mrs. Rabin while she was in the hospital. The Rabin family invited her last year to deliver the Rabin lecture at the Rabin center. She and POTUS went to Yitzhak Rabin's funeral.

After meetings: Support of people of US to the people of Israel and in support of the security of Israel. She stressed that Israel is not alone

ATTIRE CONSIDERATIONS HRC and POTUS EVENTS

Business Attire (Suit or Dress) appropriate for the following events:

Welcoming Ceremony
POTUS Speech
Meet and Greet Embassy
HRC Forum
Demining Event
Reception at Ambassador's Residence
Repatriation Ceremony
HRC Speech
(other POTUS HCMC events depending on her own comfort)

Evening Attire appropriate for the following events (men will be in business suits):

State Dinner
Cultural Performance

Business Pant Suit appropriate for the following events:

Village Visit
JTF Excavation Site
Tour of Temple of Literature and other family events
(other POTUS HCMC events depending on her own comfort)

SHOES:

Please note: the village visit will require comfortable, low walking shoes due to uneven and perhaps muddy terrain. The JTF excavation site may also require similar shoes. Pavement in Hanoi city center is uneven and often filled with holes. Any walking to shopping or at cultural events will require comfortable pumps-- one-inch heel or less recommended.

WEATHER:

As of 8 November 2000, the weather remains sunny and warm during the day (approximately 80 degrees) and mid sixties at night. *IF IT BEGINS TO RAIN*, and it might at this time of year, it may feel very cool due to humidity. Light sweaters, suit jackets, trench coat, and light scarves should be enough to keep out the cool weather if it arrives during the visit.

COLORS:

Avoid white and black, the colors of death. Red is the favorite color. Do not wear black while visiting a Vietnamese home. Shorts are not appropriate for women.



Erika A. Batcheller
11/13/2000 11:01:57 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Lissa Muscatine/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: notes from today's Vietnam call

Here are rough notes from the call....let me know if you need interpretation.

Thx
EB

THURSDAY

arrive approx. midnight. closed press.

FRIDAY

1) ARRIVAL CEREMONY with POTUS, no speaking role for HRC

2) VILLAGE VISIT

Depart immediately for village; no congressional members scheduled to attend, but could change. Press will have to be limited to 8-12 U.S. press and 8-12 Vietnamese (we need to determine U.S. pool ahead of time). We'll have consecutive translation at all points.

Visit will have 3 main parts:

(a) House visit #1

Press will be pre-positioned for two photos-- first, HRC and woman on front porch looking at tofu machine; second, HRC and woman in thatched hut looking at piglets. Visit will last approx. 10 minutes. The woman who owns the house is part of the local microcredit group. Following this stop, press will be moved ahead to village hall area. HRC proceeds to house visit #2.

(b) House visit #2

This family raises pigs. HRC will stop briefly and then walk from here to the village hall. The walk is approximately 2 city blocks. Press will be pre-positioned ahead to get photo of

the walk. Hundreds of villagers and children will line the road and offer gifts. HRC will walk with someone from the women's union (microcredit group). HRC proceeds to village hall for weekly women's union meeting.

(c) Microcredit meeting

Sound from the meeting will be piped into the courtyard. Meeting will last approx. 15 minutes. Women will recite pledge, sing a song and report on their projects. HRC will follow with brief informal remarks. Women will be seated on benches in a round. This will be another photo op.

Following the meeting HRC moves to courtyard to shake hands. Press will have another opportunity to take photo. Motorcade will pick up HRC here and take her back to the hotel.

3) DOWNTIME

Many OTR possibilities. She may choose to attend POTUS speech.

4) STATE DINNER

HRC joins POTUS at state dinner. After dinner (1-1/2 hrs), they go to cultural performance. The 2 presidents will sit in one box, with HRC, CVC in next box over.

RON - HOTEL

SATURDAY

1) JTF EXCAVATION EVENT

With POTUS. Meet and greet, tour excavation site with 2 stops for photos. Proceed to stage for brief speaking program (no role for HRC).

2) DOWNTIME - 2 HRS. Many OTR possibilities

3) WOMEN'S FORUM/ROUNDTABLE (T)

This event is still tentative. HRC will tour museum, press will be pre-positioned for photo. Short meet and greet w/ participants. Program will consist of brief remarks by HRC, then discussion. HRC's remarks will be open press; prior to discussion all press will be escorted out except for two print poolers -- one U.S. and one Vietnamese.

Participants will sit at U-shaped table, with HRC at the head. Her remarks will last 5-7 minutes. Audience will likely be 100-125 people.

(d) DEPARTURE CEREMONY with POTUS at palace

(e) DE-MINING EVENT with POTUS (no speaking role for HRC)

(f) AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE -- mix and mingle

(g) REPATRIATION CEREMONY at airport with POTUS. (no speaking role for HRC)

November 9, 2000 7:00PM

***** DRAFT *****

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PANELISTS FOR FIRST LADY'S FORUM

NOTE: We have made changes to the topic areas to more accurately reflect terminology in use in Vietnam. Panelists have not been contacted directly as yet due to sensitivity on getting out in front of the GOVN, and per HRC staff instruction. Information has been gathered from further discussions with Embassy contacts.

ESCORT FOR HILLARY CLINTON DURING VISIT

Ambassador Dinh Thi Minh Huyen -- From MOFA, Former Ambassador to Canada. Speaks English and French well. (NOTE: it has been suggested by several that she could/ should take part in the panel).

??WELCOMING REMARKS??

Ha Thi Khiet -- Chairperson, Vietnam Women's Union and Chairperson of the National Committee for Advancement of Women in Vietnam. Quite influential; speaks no English. Our initial idea was to include Mrs. Khiet in this honorary way because we do not feel she is appropriate for this panel discussion. Plan was to keep her remarks to five minutes. (NOTE: it has been suggested that Mrs. Peterson instead just recognize Mrs. Khiet who would be in the front row of the audience). However, based on MOFA meeting today with MOFA, GOVN will push for her involvement.

MODERATOR

Mrs. Vi Peterson -- Mrs. Peterson will introduce the panelists and Mrs. Clinton. She will moderate the discussion as well as field any questions from the audience.

VI PERSONS - INTRODUCE / MODERATE - ?

TOPICS and PANELISTS

WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR

Nguyen Thi Thanh Hoa – Head of Family Welfare Department, Women's Union. Can speak on the challenges facing women and families in the rural economy. Can address issues that cut across all categories including women in the workforce, childcare, maternal health, HIV/AIDS. This participant would provide a grassroots/ family angle to the discussion.

Do Thi Tan --Former Micro-credit Project Director (TYM project), Women's Union. She would provide continuity with the village visit from the previous day and be able to speak to issues facing poor, rural women who are, via such programs as TYM, trying to improve their lives through micro-entrepreneurial activities.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS

Ms. Nguyen Thi Mai Thanh – President of REE refrigerator company in HCMC. REE is one of the first companies listed on the Stock Exchange—and the only woman-run company on the Exchange. Several people have told us that this woman is a must for the panel and it would make the GOVN comfortable. Still, we can run that by them again next week when advance team comes. (Age – early 40's)

Ms. Pham Chi Lan – Vice President, VN Chamber of Commerce and Industry (can cover big business, FDI and all commercial issues) (dynamic, speaks English well). This is the other woman we have been told is a must for the panel. She is highly respected in all quarters, including the Embassy and is an intelligent, engaging woman.

WOMEN AND PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING IN VIETNAMESE SOCIETY

Dr. Vuong Thi Hanh – Director of Center for Empowerment Promotion and Education of Women (CEPEW) – promotion and empowerment for women. Older – over 60 years of age. Formerly a very political type; slightly conservative, current tensions with Women's Union for forming her own NGO. This tension makes her interesting as it is in itself representative of one of the hurdles facing women who do want to go off and address issues independently of the government. Ford Foundation funded her PhD.

Mme. Truong My Hoa – Vice President, National Assembly. Ms. Hoa could perform double duty in the "law making" topic below. Former President of NCFAW and Vietnam Women's Union (perhaps the most powerful woman in VN besides Vice President). Can also speak on legal, social and gender issues. Recommend that she speak on recent law on marriage and the family, legal status of women in society.

LAW-MAKING AND ITS IMPACT ON WOMEN

Mme. Truong My Hoa – see above.

Mai Hong Quy – Vice Rector, College of Law, Vietnam National University, HCMC Recommended by Yale University. Considered by some donor contacts here to be too academic but this needs to be investigated further once we are able to contact the panelists. HCMC residents may prove difficult logistically due to short notice. Also, please note their expenses will need to be covered. She has come recommended by Scott Weinhold in Consulate in HCMC who says:

"I've met with Dr. Quy many times. She has very good English, and she is sharp and confident. About 10 days ago she was a participant at a small lunch with Under Secretary of State Evelyn Lieberman, and I believe Lieberman was impressed. As far as I know she is not connected to the FB teaching center. I'm not sure what her law specialty is (my talks with her have focused on her duties as Vice-Rector of the Law School), but I'm sure she could speak to all of the law issues you mention below. She and U/S Lieberman discussed some of those same issues."

Ngo Binh Thanh – Vice President, Vietnam Lawyers Association; Member, National Assembly. Very articulate and progressive. Fluent in English; very outspoken. Recently completed a study for the World Bank on gender analysis and the legal framework in Vietnam. When others are silent, she can be counted on to speak her mind. She needs to be kept on point. She has come on and off this list three times. Some divergence of opinion on whether she can stay on track. Moderator would need to keep this in mind.

WOMEN AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

Nguyen Ai Can – UNDP program officer in charge of labor reform and private sector development programs where she has worked for 15 months. Ai Can, a Vietnamese national, is trained as a lawyer with a Russian law degree and a LLM from Harvard. Prior to going to Harvard, she worked on the policy division of the Ministry of Finance on policy development and legal reform. Ai Can's husband is currently in the U.S. where

he has taught at several U.S. universities for the last few years. She is 6 and a half months pregnant. She can speak to a wide variety of subjects as well as to the personal challenges of being a rising female professional in Vietnam.

Nguyen Thi Hang – Minister of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA). Again, may be too senior and unwilling to speak frankly. Mrs. Peterson recommends highly.

WOMEN AND HIV/AIDS

Vu Manh Loi - Institute of Sociology, Family Services Department (Govt organization). Able to deliver a focused, well-targeted presentation on HIV/ AIDS. Can also contribute on domestic violence, a very serious issue here in Vietnam. Male. Received PhD from Washington State University. Recommended highly but two trusted international donor reps.

Dr. Nguyen Thi Hoai Duc – Centre for Reproductive and Family Health. Age – 60's, not 85. "Unafraid" Believed on this end to be less effective than Mr. Loi.

Professor Chung A -- Director of the National AIDS Standing Bureau (male). Gary West (CDC expert here in Hanoi) says this gentleman is key to the success of the USG AIDS program in Vietnam, and is remarkably open considering the environment here. He could easily talk about the accomplishments to date. The USG has already spent \$1 million in training and research. Would need to speak in Vietnamese.

TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Nguyen Thi Van – Ministry of Labor (MOLISA), Department of Social Evils (which deals with trafficking; NOT from Natl. Assembly). Young, mid-level working officer trafficking. Attended ARIAT conference in Manila.

Doan Thi Binh Minh – Vietnam Women's Union. Attended ARIAT conference in Manila. Young, mid-level officer.

Dr. Le Thi Quy – Senior Researcher, Centre for Family and Women Studies.

OTHER

JOURNALISM

INTRODUCTION OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

There is no greater champion of women around the world than the woman I have the privilege of introducing today. None of us will ever forget the power of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's words at the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, when she reminded the world that "women's rights are human rights – and human rights are women's rights."

Since the Beijing conference, Mrs. Clinton has continued to travel the globe speaking out about the progress women are making – and the challenges they continue to face. She has used her voice on behalf of microcredit programs like "Tao Yeu Mai," which she visited outside of Hanoi a few days ago, as well as health care, education, human rights and the expanded role of women in the social, legal and political lives of their countries.

One of her greatest accomplishments is the creation of Vital Voices, a network of women from Central Asia, Latin America, Africa and Central Europe who are educating themselves and others about the political process so that they can exercise their voices and their power in the political arena.

Just last week Mrs. Clinton made history in the political arena herself by becoming the first First Lady in the United States to be elected to public office. For those of us who look to her for ideas, inspiration and the courage to pursue our dreams, it is gratifying to know that she will now have the opportunity to raise her voice on behalf of women as a United States senator.

Mrs. Clinton truly is a vital voice for all of us and for all women. And we are delighted that during her visit to our country she has had the opportunity to meet many women who are "vital voices" in Vietnam. We welcome Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States.

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JM

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When I think of Leah Rabin I remember a

wonderful woman, a dear friend, an ambas-

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"candle goeth not out by night." Leah was a

person of extraordinary breadth of interest

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She carried on that dream in the last five

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separate them: not distance, not years, not death.

When I think of the time that I spent with her, it is not the official occasions or the historic moments that stand out, but the more quiet and personal ones: the jokes that passed among us; the hard time that she gave me because I wouldn't let the prime minister smoke in the White House; or the way she would reach over and primp her husband, this great warrior and peacemaker, before he went out in public, straightening his tie, fixing his hair and wiping his face. But like Leah in the Bible, Leah was not only the wife of a towering figure, she was a mother of Israel. It was on this ground she means on the ground of israel, or the specific place they were? if the latter think we should tinker jma that she and Yitzhak married during the War of Independence. It was on this ground that they built a family they were so proud of, and it was here that they worked with so many to build a country. It was on this ground that they built lives that spanned periods of war and peace, hope and fear. Their lives were and are Israel's history. Now their legacy must be Israel's future.

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----- End of column -----

It is a great testament to this woman that even when she faced tremendous personal tragedies, she was still the one that many turned to for strength. All of us would have understood if she had turned away, if she had said "enough." But she never did. No assassin's bullet could take away her uncommon courage, no disease could stop her from working tirelessly in Israel and around the world to keep her husband's flame alive.

The late poet Yehuda Amichai wrote a poem that in many ways could have been written by or about her, especially as it relates to her hopes for her newest grandchild born on Monday. The poem ends and I quote: "I don't want to fulfill my parents' prophecy that life is war. I want peace with all my body and all my soul. Rest me in peace." To Leah, my dear friend, we pray today that you rest in peace, and may all of us in your name, go toward peace.

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We are fortunate to have Mrs. Clinton with us today. And we are thrilled that she will have an opportunity to see for herself the "vital voices" that women are in our own country as well as around the world.

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS AT LEAH RABIN'S FUNERAL
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL
NOVEMBER 15, 2000

On behalf of my husband, who wanted so much to be here in person, I want to pay tribute to Leah Rabin, our dear friend, ambassador of peace and woman of valor whose “candle goeth not out by night.”

The last time I spoke to Leah was just a few days before she passed away. And, she didn't want to talk about her health. She wanted to talk about the things that she thought mattered most in life. And what mattered most to her were her children, Dalia and Yuval [You-Val], her grandchildren, and all the children of Israel. What mattered was literature and art. I think almost every trip she took to Washington included a visit to a museum. And she was the one person who would notice if a painting in the White House moved from one room to another.

But, above all, what mattered most to Leah, especially in the last five years of her life, was fulfilling her husband's dream of a secure Israel, at peace with her neighbors.

The book of Ruth teaches us what it means to give ourselves completely to another. “Wherever you go I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God; Wherever you die, I will die, and there be buried.”

Wherever Yitzhak went, Leah went. Nothing could separate them. Not distance. Not years. Not even death. When I think about all the wonderful times the four of us spent together, what stands out most in my mind are not the historic moments, but the quiet ones. The jokes that passed between us, especially when I wouldn't let the Prime Minister smoke in the White House. Or the way that Leah would primp this great warrior and peacemaker – straightening his tie, fixing his hair, wiping his face.

But like Leah in the Bible, Leah Rabin was not only the wife of a towering figure, she was a mother of Israel. It was on this ground that she and Yitzhak married during the war of Independence. It was on this ground that they built a family, even as they worked to build a country. And it was on this ground that they built lives that spanned periods of war and peace, hope and fear. Their lives were Israel's history. Now, their legacy must be Israel's future.

Just two years ago, Leah brought my husband and me to this very spot to pay our respects to her beloved. She spoke of her own deep loss, and her people's loss. Now, these two partners in love and peace will lie side by side again.

And it was right here that my husband bent down and placed a stone from the grounds of Wye River on the Prime Minister's gravestone. He promised his friend that he would never give up on peace and security for Israel. Today, I have brought with me a beautiful dove pin that Leah gave me at the White House – and the same promise from the American people, that we will always stand by Israel, especially in difficult times like these.

It is a great testament to Leah that even when she faced tremendous personal tragedies, she was still the one so many turned to for strength. All of us would have understood if she had turned away. But she never did. No assassin's bullet could take away her uncommon courage. No disease could stop her from working tirelessly, in Israel and around the world, to keep her husband's legacy alive.

The late poet, Yehuda Amichai [Ya-hoo-dah Ah-me-CHAI], wrote a poem that, in many ways, could have been written by Leah herself, especially as it relates to her hopes for her newest granddaughter born on Monday. The poem ends: "I don't want to fulfill my parents' prophecy that life is war. I want peace with all my body and all my soul. Rest me in peace."

So Leah, my dear friend, as we pray today that you “rest in peace,” may all of us, in your name, “go towards peace.”

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From: Steve Shabad

Lisa. Here's final version.

Regards, Steve

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beautiful elegy. many thanks for doing it for us. mark»

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»hc»Excerpts from a eulogy»hc» for Leah Rabin, 'a mother of Israel.' BY HILLARY CLINTON

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