

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: First Lady's Office

Series/Staff Member: First Lady's Press Office

Subseries: Lisa Caputo

OA/ID Number: 10231

FolderID:

Folder Title:

U.N. 4th World Conference on Women (Sept. 4-5 '95) [Folder 1]: [2]

Stack:

S

Row:

58

Section:

7

Shelf:

6

Position:

3

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. bio	re: Yue-Sai Kan; [Personally Identifiable Information] [Partial] (1 page)	07/14/1995	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lisa Caputo
OA/Box Number: 10231

FOLDER TITLE:

U.N. 4th World Conference on Women (Sept. 4-5 '95) [Folder 1]: [2]

2012-0094-F

jp3681

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

BC-CHINA-USA-CLINTON 1STLD

White House receives letter from Harry Wu's wife
(recasts, adding request by human rights group)

JACKSON HOLE, Wyo. (Reuter) - Supporters of a U.S. human rights activist jailed in China boosted pressure on the White House Wednesday not to send first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to Beijing next month.

Mrs. Clinton has expressed interest in attending a United Nations Conference on women in Beijing Sept. 4-15, but a final decision was put off after Chinese-born American Harry Wu was arrested last month by Chinese authorities and charged with espionage.

A White House spokeswoman, in Wyoming with vacationing President Clinton and his wife, confirmed a letter has been received from Ching Lee Wu, Harry Wu's wife.

Spokeswoman Ginny Terzano declined to characterize the letter but said it was "very personal in nature talking about her husband and she did reiterate ... many of the comments and points that she made" in a recent meeting with Clinton's national security adviser, Anthony Lake. She had told Lake Mrs. Clinton should not make the trip.

Terzano said the White House planned a formal response to the letter. "We appreciate her comments," she said.

In New York, a leading human rights group Wednesday also sent a letter to Mrs. Clinton urging her to boycott the conference as long as Wu was being held.

But the letter by Human Rights Watch also said the United States should send a strong delegation to the meeting, saying it would be a mistake to entirely boycott the meeting or be under-represented there.

"The Chinese government is clearly attempting to use this conference to boost its international image and to deflect attention from its worsening human rights record," the letter made public by the organization said. "As long as Mr. Wu is in detention, we believe it would be highly inappropriate and counterproductive for you to go to Beijing."

The letter advised Mrs. Clinton that if she did attend the conference, she should be outspoken about human rights.

"We urge you not to shy away from explicit criticism of the Chinese government's behavior in the interest of improving U.S.-Sino relations, or to mute any such criticism out of deference to Beijing as the host government," it said.

Madeleine Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, will lead the delegation.

But many women's groups want Mrs. Clinton to go and carry the torch for women's issues, highlighting inequities of pay, education, health care and political participation around the world.

The Washington Post reported Wednesday that Secretary of State Warren Christopher and deputy national security adviser Sandy Berger met with Mrs. Clinton late Monday to outline the pros and cons of her attending the meeting.

As a result, the Post quoted one official as saying, "We decided to lay low until next week to see if they (the Chinese) make any moves on Harry Wu or in the human rights area."

REUTER

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 08/16/95 at 20:56EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/17/95 at 08:30EDT ****

(EDs: 3grafinsert8thgraf xxx her comments-pickup9thgraf; Harry Wu State Department comments)

Jailed activist's wife writes Hillary

JACKSON HOLE, Wyo., Aug. 16 (UPI) Hillary Rodham Clinton will likely respond to a letter from the wife of a human rights activist detained in China that asks the first lady to boycott an international conference in Beijing, the White House said Wednesday.

But the first lady has not decided whether to attend next month's 4th U.N. World Women's Conference, White House deputy press secretary Ginny Terzano said.

Terzano faced a new round of questions on whether Mrs. Clinton will attend after Ching Lee Wu wrote the first lady a letter asking her to boycott the event in protest of China's detention of her husband, Harry.

"No decisions have been made, and we have nothing more to add at this point," Terzano told reporters traveling with the Clintons during their 17-day Wyoming vacation.

Mrs. Wu, who has visited several European cities to call attention to her husband's plight, complained Tuesday in Geneva she had not received a reply to the letter sent Aug. 10.

"I wrote a private letter to Mrs. Clinton to tell her about my feelings. She didn't answer," Wu told a news conference at the European headquarters of the United Nations.

Of the letter, Terzano said: "I believe we will respond.

"It was very personal, and she stated many of the things that she relayed to Mr. Lake when she met with him earlier," Terzano said, referring to Mrs. Wu's recent meeting in Washington with President Clinton's national security adviser, Anthony Lake. "But it was a very personal letter, and the White House has received it and we appreciate her comments."

In Washington, State Department spokesman David Johnson indicated that Secretary of State Warren Christopher had passed his advice on to the first lady about the wisdom of attending the conference but declined to reveal the substance of that message.

He said the media focus on whether or not Mrs. Clinton would journey to China missed the point of the conference.

"We believe this an important conference," Johnson said. "It's a conference about women, not about China."

Harry Wu spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps for criticizing the Communist Party.

After his release, he immigrated to the United States in 1985, but went back to China on several occasions to expose human rights abuses.

A film he made with the British Broadcasting Corp. described the sale of organs from executed prisoners to people seeking transplants.

Wu was arrested June 19 when trying to cross into China from Kazakhstan and was charged July 8 with spying, theft of state secrets and sneaking into the country.

Mrs. Clinton had been expected for some time to attend the Beijing summit, participating with a U.S. delegation headed by Madeleine Albright, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Protests surfaced, however, following Wu's detention.

"I think Mrs. Clinton should not go because her participation will send the wrong information," Wu said Tuesday. "She will be saying she does not care about Harry, an American citizen and human rights activist.

"The women's conference itself is very good. I believe Harry would be saying the same thing," she said.

Mrs. Wu said that apart from information from a U.S. consular official in Beijing who visited Wu twice since his arrest, she had heard nothing of her husband except that his request for a wheelchair had been denied.

###

PM-First Lady-China, 2nd Ld-Writethru, a0608,550

First Lady Puts Off Decision on Women's Conference in China

Eds: INSERTS 3 grafs after 4th pvs, The decision, with White House confirming Mrs. Wu letter; picks up 5th graf pvs, The State

WASHINGTON (AP) Hillary Rodham Clinton has put off a decision on whether to attend an international women's conference in China, waiting for signs of progress in the case of human rights activist Harry Wu.

Mrs. Clinton is very eager to attend the conference, officials say, but will abide by the recommendations of the State Department and National Security Council, which have strong reservations about her participation.

The first lady had been expected to make a decision about the conference before flying to Wyoming Tuesday with President Clinton for a two-week vacation. However, White House press secretary Mike McCurry said no decision would be made this week. "Maybe sometime next week," he said.

The decision is caught up in Beijing's human rights record and the detention of Wu, a Chinese American activist who was arrested June 19 as he entered China.

The White House press office, meanwhile, confirmed that Wu's wife, Ching Lee Wu, wrote a "very personal" letter to the first lady, apparently urging her to cancel the trip.

Ginny Terzano, a deputy White House press secretary who is traveling with President and Mrs. Clinton during their vacation in Jackson Hole, Wyo., said Mrs. Wu used the letter to repeat many of the points she made in a meeting last month with National Security Advisor Anthony Lake.

"We appreciate her comments," Terzano said, declining to describe the contents of the letter further.

The State Department, meanwhile, said the U.S. Delegation would be headed by U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright, whether or not Mrs. Clinton decided to attend.

David Johnson, a spokesman, said "we believe this is an important conference. It's a conference that's not about China, it's about women," he said.

"We believe the reasons for going are compelling," he said.

A senior U.S. official said there were "complexities" that the White House would have to take into consideration. However, the United States will bring a "progressive voice" to the conference and Mrs. Clinton "wants to be heard" on the issues, said, the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Some administration officials have argued that Mrs. Clinton could not attend the conference as long as Wu was imprisoned. House and Senate Republicans have urged a U.S. boycott of the conference or that Mrs. Clinton refuse to attend.

On the other hand, aides say Mrs. Clinton, who has a keen interest in women's issues, wants very much to attend and that her participation would be instrumental in promoting women's causes. The location is secondary to the conference itself, by this line of thinking.

Sponsored by the United Nations, the Fourth World Conference on Women opens on Labor Day in Beijing and its suburbs.

A team of aides returned to Washington last week from an advance trip to China, Mongolia, Cambodia and Thailand where they assessed possible arrangements for Mrs. Clinton and scouted possible side trips.

If she attends, Mrs. Clinton would fly to China from Hawaii, where she will be with the president for ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of V-J Day, Japan's surrender in World War II.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 08/16/95 at 15:19EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/17/95 at 08:33EDT ****

PM-US-China,710

State Dept. Supports Mrs. Clinton's Trip to China for Women's Conference
By BARRY SCHWEID= AP Diplomatic Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) The State Department is supporting first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in her desire to go to China next month to make a strong case for women's rights.

Release of human rights activist Harry Wu, in prison in China since June on spy charges, would make it easier for the White House to announce Mrs. Clinton will go to Beijing to dramatize what is expected to be a strong U.S. position, senior administration officials said Wednesday.

The plan is to make an announcement on Mrs. Clinton's participation in the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women sometime next week, but any indication China was poised to change its mind and free Wu on humanitarian grounds could prompt further delay in seeing the plan through.

The U.S. delegation will be headed by U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright, and it plans to take a progressive stand on problems women confront around the world on health, education and human rights.

The first lady wants to be heard, a senior U.S. official said. Another official said the State Department, on balance, thinks it would be a good idea for Mrs. Clinton to go to Beijing.

The Chinese government, however, is not making it easier for the White House to give Mrs. Clinton a green light. On Wednesday, only hours after a trip to Beijing and Shanghai by Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff was announced, the Chinese began new military exercises some 80 miles north of Taiwan.

"It's not conducive to peace and stability in the area of the Taiwan Strait," David Johnson, a department spokesman, said.

Relations between the two countries are in a slump, driven there partly by President Clinton's decision in June to grant a visa to Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui for an alumni event at his alma mater, Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y.

The communist government of China bristles at any hint of recognition or even deference to Taiwan's separate democracy. And while the Clinton administration insisted the situation was unique and the decision to admit Lee was based on U.S. free-speech principles, its refusal to rule out future visas to Taiwan's leaders kept Beijing boiling.

Tarnoff's Aug. 24-27 trip is an attempt to ease differences with China. Secretary of State Warren Christopher also has agreed to meet with Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in New York Sept. 25 during the U.N. General Assembly.

Meanwhile, the State Department's criticism of the Chinese military exercises was muted, and spokesman Johnson tried to play down any suggestion Mrs. Clinton's attendance at the Sept. 4-15 women's conference would be a concession to Beijing.

"We believe that this is an important conference," Johnson said. "It's a conference that's not about China. It's a conference that's about women."

Christopher talked the situation over with Mrs. Clinton for an hour on Monday. Mrs. Clinton also talked with Samuel Berger, the president's deputy assistant for national security affairs.

"They went over some of the diplomatic and political problems," the senior U.S. official said. "And it's not only the Harry Wu case, though it makes it more difficult. We told China it would be in their interest to release him."

Prominent in trying to promote human rights in China, Wu, a naturalized U.S. citizen, made several trips to China before he finally was arrested collecting evidence to incriminate the Beijing government for harsh treatment of its own people.

On Wednesday, the White House confirmed that Wu's wife, Ching Lee Wu, had written a "very personal" letter to the first lady, urging her to cancel the trip. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., have opposed participation by the United States in the U.N. conference.

From White House spokesman Mike McCurry, though, came a strong hint Wednesday their advice would be rejected.

While human rights problems once had been cited as an obstacle to Mrs. Clinton's attendance, McCurry said, "I don't necessarily see a direct connection between the two. I don't think they're necessarily related."

**** filed by:APE(--) on 08/17/95 at 01:31EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/17/95 at 08:30EDT ****

Hillary Clinton to Defer Decision On China Trip Until 'Last Minute'

By Ann Devroy
Washington Post Staff Writer

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has a "passionate desire" to attend an international women's conference in China in three weeks, but has put off a decision "until the last minute" on whether to go because of Beijing's detention of a prominent human rights activist, officials said yesterday.

The first lady is eager to attend the conference because of her lifelong involvement in women's issues and the opinion of feminist leaders and others that her attendance would put a much brighter media spotlight on problems of health, education and human rights encountered by women.

But a spokesman said she has agreed to follow the guidance of the president's national security team, which has strong misgivings about the trip absent progress in the case of Chinese American activist Harry Wu.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher and deputy national security adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger both met with Hillary Clinton late Monday to outline "the major diplomatic minuses and possible pluses" of a trip to China, a senior official said.

The result, the official said, was, "We decided to lay low until next week to see if they [the Chinese] make any moves on Harry Wu or in the human rights area."

Prominent in pressing the Chinese on human rights issues, Wu was arrested when he entered China on June 19 and has been held since despite repeated U.S. efforts, public and private, to get him released. Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff will renew that push, and discuss other issues, during a visit to China for talks Aug. 24 to 27, the State Department announced.

The Fourth World Conference on Women, sponsored by the United Nations, opens in Beijing and its suburbs on Labor Day. Last week a team of aides to the first lady made an advance trip to China and to three nearby countries, where side visits are possible, to make what are always complex arrangements when a first lady travels overseas.

Republican leaders in the Senate and House, and some administration officials, had strenuously argued in favor of a U.S. boycott of the conference or, at the very least, withholding attendance by the first lady. They cited the detention of Wu and the signal that U.S. participation would send of lack of concern over Wu and of overall human rights abuses in China.



HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

... wants to go to women's conference



WARREN CHRISTOPHER

... wants China to free activist

A senior administration official said that Hillary Clinton had "made clear her desire" to attend the conference, but a spokesman for the first lady, Neel Lattimore, said she would accept the advice of the State Department and National Security Council in finally deciding. "You have the conference and all the issues involved that are of great concern to her, and you have the situation with Mr. Wu. Ultimately, the decision will be made by the NSC and State Department, but no decision has been made yet," Lattimore said.

Besides the Wu case, some advisers and outside specialists argue that China, with its policy of using mandatory sterilization and abortion and its history of human rights violations, make it the wrong place to hold a conference on women's rights attended by the United States. They also note that the current low period in U.S.-Chinese relations is the wrong time for an American of Hillary Clinton's prominence to attend.

Robert Manning, a former State Department official who specialized in China, said that "a strong case could be made" that China would construe a visit by the first lady as a "sign of U.S. indifference" to human rights and as a sign of overall U.S. weakness. He said neither was a message that the United States should be sending now.

That could occur, he said, despite the counterargument that the U.N. conference has nothing to do with China and that "the dynamics of U.S.-China relations" should not enter into participation in a conference that just happens to be held in China.

One domestic adviser to the White House also suggested that with the first lady trying to play down her policy role, and the administration as a whole trying to emphasize its centrist—not liberal—bona fides, such an association by Hillary Clinton with prominent U.S. feminists might not be politically productive.

The conference and a simultaneous forum on similar issues for nongovernment organizations are expected to draw more than 40,000 attendees. They are to feature some of the most prominent Democratic activists for women's rights including Bella Abzug, a former congresswoman who is heading a coalition of nongovernment groups, and Geraldine A. Ferraro, a former Democratic vice presidential nominee, as members of the U.S. delegation. The delegation is being headed by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine K. Albright.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.) and Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.) have opposed U.S. participation in the conference. A group of Republican House members tried unsuccessfully to deny U.S. funding for the travel and other costs of U.S. delegates going to China.

Some strong Democratic critics of China's human rights record who are also women's rights advocates, such as Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), have argued that advancing the full agenda of women's rights around the world and involving the United States in promoting those advances are too important to cancel participation because of the location of the conference.

If the first lady goes, she is also considering traveling to Cambodia, Thailand and Mongolia as a way of focusing attention on countries that are making progress in women's, children and family issues and are "struggling" toward democracy. Such visits are seen as a way of offsetting a China visit, aides say.

Not Quite the Huairou Hilton ...

Logistics Overwhelm Chinese Town Preparing for Women's Conference

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Foreign Service

HUAIROU, China—What with all the talk about a scarcity of hotel space in this dusty town, just two weeks before tens of thousands of women converge here for an international conference, a recent announcement tried to set a reassuring tone.

"There are seven newly constructed residential apartment estates that are being furnished for the forum," said the press release from the conference's organizers. Some of the major features:

- "... A maximum of five beds sharing one bath and one toilet."
- "Each room has an electric fan."
- "There will be an IDD [international direct-dial telephone] line in every cluster of seven buildings."
- "There will be a domestic telephone line on every other floor."
- "There will be a TV set for every building, at a reception room."

And those are the selling points.

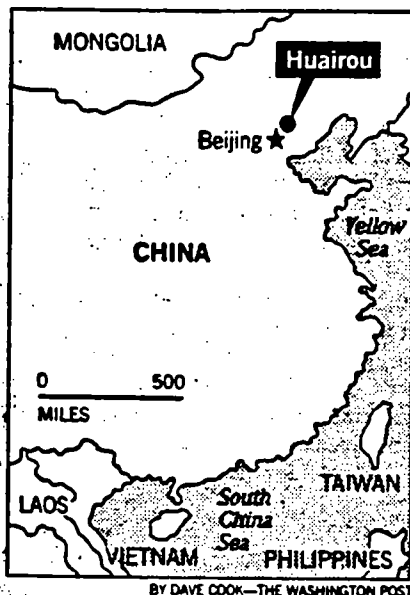
But wait. The release continues that the organizers "would like to appeal to the younger participants to take the upper floors of the six-story residential buildings, because there are no elevators."

With reassurances like that, small wonder that many involved in the planning for the nongovernmental aspect of September's U.N. Conference on Women are still concerned that this forum, which opens Aug. 30, may turn into a logistical nightmare, with participants sleeping on the streets or lost somewhere between the airport and the conference site.

"This is like a big locomotive heading in our direction," said one worried Western diplomat—who, for the record, is a skeptical male.

Indeed, a brief visit this week to this town on the outskirts of Beijing hardly sets the mind at ease. The place is still one vast construction site, with workers furiously trying to throw up new buildings, refurbish existing hotels, erect tents and stages, supply electricity and install (a few) telephone lines—all before the participants start arriving.

And toilets—plenty of them, for the estimated 36,000 registered participants, mostly women, expected to descend on Huairou. Will Chi-



na be able to supply sufficient toilets?

"That's the same question I had yesterday, and I was immediately reminded—portable!" said Sylvia Ordonez, the United Nations' logistics coordinator for the conference. "They are bringing in hundreds of portable toilets." She said the United Nations requested a ratio of 50 toilets for every urinal to roughly approximate the ratio of female delegates to male.

The portable toilets will be moved once the conference is over, but everything else here will be made available to Huairou residents. That includes the beds, sheets and towels being brought in for use in the new apartment buildings; they will be sold to locals at low prices.

Before the commotion of the women's meeting, this town served largely as a training center for various government agencies. A huge banner strung across the highway welcomes visitors to Huairou and adds, "Expect That Everything Will Turn Out as You Wish."

Another new addition to the town is the statue of a woman in a small park. Her arms are outstretched, her hair is flowing, and she is gazing out stoically over the Huairou public library and the KTV disco at the Honglou Hotel.

Just getting here is a bit of a chore, as participants will discover after arriving at Beijing's airport. Huairou is a 90-minute drive from Beijing, more than 35 miles mostly along a highway toll road through

woods and fields, and way past the point where the cars and buses of the capital give way to slow-moving trucks, slower-moving tractors and donkey carts.

There was some speculation among the conspiracy theorists that Huairou's remote location was precisely the reason the Chinese government chose it as the site for the nongovernmental forum. The session is expected to attract groups including feminists, lesbians, prostitutes and Hawaiian nationalists. There is even a "peace train" of women en route here overland from Helsinki. With the possibility that the gathering could turn into a massive political protest rally, China's jittery leadership may have wanted to keep this gathering as far away from the Great Hall of the People as possible—or so the theory goes.

The Chinese government, for the record, said the nongovernmental conference was moved from Beijing because the preferred stadium there was unsafe and suffering from structural damage. But that did not stop the city from opening the stadium to tens of thousands of fans for a soccer match recently.

But moving the nongovernmental forum to Huairou meant essentially creating a new city from scratch.

"It's amazing what they've done in such a short period," said Ordonez, the U.N. logistics coordinator. "I thought in the beginning this was too huge a job. But they were so organized. They have a team for everything—construction, publicity."

Ordonez said the Chinese side has assured the U.N. organizers that everyone who applies will get visas, even participants from the island of Taiwan, which Beijing considers a renegade province of China. She said the main delay now is bureaucratic; specifically, some names come in, for example, as "Edward" on their visa application and simply as "Ed" on their hotel reservation request form. Ordonez said she spends a good part of her day now teaching the Chinese organizers the intricacies of nicknames.

"This is delaying a lot of what we are doing," she said. The nickname cases, she said, "are all being put in a file we call 'problematic.'"

BC-USA-CHINA-HILLARY

Hillary Clinton's China trip in doubt Post

WASHINGTON, Aug 16 (Reuter) - First lady Hillary Clinton wants to attend a United Nations conference on women in Beijing next month, but has put off her decision until the last minute because of Beijing's detention of a U.S. human rights activist, the Washington Post reported on Wednesday, quoting U.S. officials.

The officials said Mrs. Clinton has a ``passionate desire'' to attend the meeting, but deferred to the advice of the president's national security team, which has strong misgivings if there is no progress in the case of Chinese American activist Harry Wu.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher and deputy national security adviser Sandy Berger met with Mrs. Clinton late on Monday to outline the pros and cons of her attending the meeting.

As a result, the official said, ``We decided to lay low until next week to see if they (the Chinese) make any moves on Harry Wu or in the human rights area,'' the Post reported.

The wife of detained Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu has asked Mrs. Clinton to boycott the conference because of Wu's arrest on espionage charges.

But many women's groups want her to go and carry the torch for women's issues, highlighting inequities of pay, education, health care, and political participation around the world.

``Ultimately, the decision will be made by the National Security Council and the State Department, but no decision has been made yet,'' the Post quoted Mrs. Clinton's spokesman, Neel Lattimore as saying.

REUTER

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 08/16/95 at 01:47EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/16/95 at 08:59EDT ****

BC-WOMEN-USA-WU

Wu's wife urges Hillary Clinton to boycott Beijing

By Stephanie Nebehay

GENEVA (Reuter) - The wife of detained Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu said Tuesday she had written to Hillary Clinton asking her to boycott a major U.N. conference on women next month in Beijing.

Ching Lee Wu also said that if the First Lady did take part in the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Chinese government could use her visit to embarrass Washington.

Wu referred to a visit to the United States in June by Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui -- a visit which enraged Beijing. Harry Wu was arrested a week after Lee's trip.

"The Chinese government is embarrassed by the visit of the Republic of China's president. So I think the Chinese government may intentionally try to embarrass her by holding Harry's trial and maybe sentencing him while she is there. That will make her look foolish," she said.

But Mrs. Wu said the United States should send a delegation to the September 4-15 meeting despite her husband's arrest, which has chilled ties between the two countries.

Wu, who was detained at China's border with Kazakhstan June 19, awaits trial on espionage charges which carry a maximum penalty of death.

Mrs. Wu expressed concern for her husband's health and safety, saying that back problems and difficulty walking had led him to ask for a wheelchair in prison. She said that, to her knowledge, Chinese authorities had not granted the request.

"As to the U.S. delegation (in Beijing), I think Mrs. Clinton should not go because her participation would send wrong information to the Chinese government," Mrs. Wu told a news briefing in Geneva.

"She would be saying she does not care about Harry, an American citizen and a human rights activist."

"I wrote a letter, a private letter, to Mrs. Clinton actually to tell her about my feeling," she added.

Wu later told Reuters, "As a wife, I think she should understand my feeling ... Her decision will be her reply."

President Clinton, speaking Aug. 10, left open the possibility that his wife would attend the U.N. meeting. The U.S. ambassador to the world body, Madeleine Albright, will head the team, but Mrs. Clinton has made no secret of her wish to attend.

Mrs. Wu, who was to address the U.N. subcommission on human rights in Geneva this week, was wearing a yellow ribbon on her white jacket -- a symbolic appeal for his release.

The letter to Mrs. Clinton was sent Aug. 10, a day after U.S. consular officials made a second visit to Wu, being held at a jail in the central Chinese city of Wuhan.

The 58-year-old activist, who spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps for dissident activities, moved to the United States in 1985. He is a naturalized U.S. citizen.

He has written extensively about China's secretive prison system and alleged human rights abuses inside prisons. In recent years he has publicized allegations that China sells body organs from executed prisoners for transplants. Beijing denies the allegation.

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 08/15/95 at 11:17EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/16/95 at 09:02EDT ****

AM-Switzerland-China-Dissident,0360

Harry Wu's Wife To Hillary Clinton: Boycott Women's Gathering

By ELIZABETH OLSON= Associated Press Writer=

GENEVA (AP) The wife of a Chinese-American activist jailed in China on spying charges called on Hillary Rodham Clinton again Tuesday to boycott the U.N. women's conference in Beijing.

Ching Lee Wu is married to Harry Wu, who was arrested June 19 while entering China and charged with disclosing state secrets.

Mrs. Wu told reporters in Geneva that Mrs. Clinton should turn down an invitation to the international women's gathering, which begins Sept. 4.

The first lady's participation ``would send the wrong information to the Chinese government that she does not care about Harry as an American citizen and a human rights activist,'' Mrs. Wu said.

While she did not say what her letter to Mrs. Clinton contained, Mrs. Wu said she wrote a ``personal letter to tell her about my feelings.'' She said Mrs. Clinton had not yet responded.

Mrs. Wu was in Geneva to appeal to the 26-nation U.N. human rights subcommittee to intervene with China on her husband's behalf.

Her letter was written the day after she received a message from her husband via American officials who visited him. It said he had asked for and been denied a wheelchair to ease back pain.

In July, Mrs. Wu asked Mrs. Clinton to stay away from the conference, but the White House said no decision had been made on her participation. Mrs. Clinton is honorary chairwoman of the U.S. delegation.

Wu, 58, was born in China and spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps, or laogai, before moving to the United States in 1985. He then became a U.S. citizen.

Since 1991, he had returned secretly to uncover abuses in prisons and labor camps. He faces a possible death sentence if convicted.

Mrs. Wu said her husband risked his life because he felt compelled to ``expose the horror of the laogai system to the world.''

``By punishing Harry,'' she said, ``the Chinese are sending an ugly but clear message to others: Reveal the truth about us and we will threaten your very life.''

**** filed by:APE(--) on 08/15/95 at 13:44EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/16/95 at 09:02EDT ****

BC-WOMEN-USA-WU

Wu's wife urges Hillary Clinton to boycott Beijing

By Stephanie Nebehay

GENEVA (Reuter) - The wife of detained Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu said Tuesday she had written to Hillary Clinton asking her to boycott a major U.N. conference on women next month in Beijing.

Ching Lee Wu also said that if the First Lady did take part in the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Chinese government could use her visit to embarrass Washington.

Wu referred to a visit to the United States in June by Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui -- a visit which enraged Beijing. Harry Wu was arrested a week after Lee's trip.

"The Chinese government is embarrassed by the visit of the Republic of China's president. So I think the Chinese government may intentionally try to embarrass her by holding Harry's trial and maybe sentencing him while she is there. That will make her look foolish," she said.

But Mrs. Wu said the United States should send a delegation to the September 4-15 meeting despite her husband's arrest, which has chilled ties between the two countries.

Wu, who was detained at China's border with Kazakhstan June 19, awaits trial on espionage charges which carry a maximum penalty of death.

Mrs. Wu expressed concern for her husband's health and safety, saying that back problems and difficulty walking had led him to ask for a wheelchair in prison. She said that, to her knowledge, Chinese authorities had not granted the request.

"As to the U.S. delegation (in Beijing), I think Mrs. Clinton should not go because her participation would send wrong information to the Chinese government," Mrs. Wu told a news briefing in Geneva.

"She would be saying she does not care about Harry, an American citizen and a human rights activist."

"I wrote a letter, a private letter, to Mrs. Clinton actually to tell her about my feeling," she added.

Wu later told Reuters, "As a wife, I think she should understand my feeling ... Her decision will be her reply."

President Clinton, speaking Aug. 10, left open the possibility that his wife would attend the U.N. meeting. The U.S. ambassador to the world body, Madeleine Albright, will head the team, but Mrs. Clinton has made no secret of her wish to attend.

Mrs. Wu, who was to address the U.N. subcommission on human rights in Geneva this week, was wearing a yellow ribbon on her white jacket -- a symbolic appeal for his release.

The letter to Mrs. Clinton was sent Aug. 10, a day after U.S. consular officials made a second visit to Wu, being held at a jail in the central Chinese city of Wuhan.

The 58-year-old activist, who spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps for dissident activities, moved to the United States in 1985. He is a naturalized U.S. citizen.

He has written extensively about China's secretive prison system and alleged human rights abuses inside prisons. In recent years he has publicized allegations that China sells body organs from executed prisoners for transplants. Beijing denies the allegation.

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 08/15/95 at 11:17EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/15/95 at 11:48EDT ****

Q: Has Mrs. Clinton received a letter from Mrs. Wu?

A: Yes, Mrs. Clinton received a private letter. She will respond privately to Mrs. Wu at some point.

Mr. President, Send Your Wife to China

Policy: The U.S. can best champion the goals of the U.N. Conference on Women by having her lead the delegation.

By RUTH ROSEN

Hillary Rodham Clinton waits while her husband and his foreign policy experts debate whether she should attend the fourth U.N. Conference on Women in September in China. What a sobering image for the women of the world to contemplate.

While he waffles, President Clinton should consider why America's First Lady should attend this important gathering:

- Hillary Rodham Clinton is the honorary chairwoman of the U.S. delegation, to be led by U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright. But it would take the First Lady's presence to draw the world's attention to the growing impoverishment of the world's women and the effort to redefine women's rights as human rights.

- The current strains between the United States and China are irrelevant. This is a multilateral, international conference that will bring together 40,000 women from all regions of the world. The United States can best champion the conference's goals by sending its First Lady to the meetings. The imprisonment of human rights activist Harry Wu requires urgent attention by the State Department, but not an embargo of an international conference that will publicize the importance of human rights.

- Hillary Clinton should not be required to boycott China when the President has decided to allow U.S. trade with the world's most populous nation.

- Bill Clinton needs a majority of U.S. women's votes in order to win reelection in

1996. So far, his Administration has trivialized the U.N. conference, treating it as a cute gathering of "the girls." Yet, women across the nation, particularly many poor and minority women, have spent the past decade preparing for it. How will a campaigning Clinton explain that he wouldn't allow his wife, a long-time activist on behalf of women's and children's rights, to attend a conference concerned with improving the economic and physical well-being of the world's women?

- The best reason for Hillary Clinton to attend is that the Chinese government has made every effort to sabotage this conference. Just by her presence, she will ensure the visibility of the non-government organizations and the issues they will raise.

While the President dithers, the Chinese government is working overtime to subvert the conference's success. Having lost its bid for the Olympic Games after the Tian An Men Square massacre, China hoped to recapture some international stature by hosting what it imagined to be a harmless ladies' tea party.

Now that tens of thousands of feminists and human-rights activists are about to pour into China, Beijing is busily engaged in damage control.

To silence the most radical activists at the conference, China has moved the NGO forum to a resort town 35 miles outside of Beijing that can accommodate only one-quarter of the anticipated participants and is ill-equipped for electronic communication with the rest of the world.

In response to complaints, the Chinese government sent an "advisory" suggesting that some women might prefer sightseeing to attending the conference. To discredit Western participants, officials are spreading rumors that most are prostitutes or lesbians. To stifle human-rights activists,

China has denied visas to entire delegations, including groups that support Tibetan independence and gay rights. To limit publicity, China has restricted foreign journalists' visas. Of the Chinese press, only the official New China News Agency will be allowed to cover the conference.

In the face of such resistance, how can the Administration not send our First Lady to China? The President's aides are reportedly fearful that she will become embroiled in some embarrassing diplomatic nightmare. Excuse me, but there are few individuals in the Administration more adept or articulate than Hillary Rodham Clinton. And what could be more embarrassing than an American delegation whose chairwoman has been kept at home by her husband, the President?

Save the moral indignation. The United States can best promote democratic change there and elsewhere by improving our own nation's commitment to human rights. Send Hillary to China, Mr. President. The women of the world are watching.

Ruth Rosen, a professor of history at UC Davis, writes regularly on politics and culture.

hA Times 8/11/95

Join the Women in Beijing

Early next month as many as 50,000 people from around the world will go to Beijing to attend the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women and a parallel gathering of grass-roots women's organizations. The two meetings will discuss subjects like women's access to health care and education, their role in economic development and politics and problems such as family violence and abuse of human rights.

These issues matter deeply to Americans, and many have been special concerns of the Clinton Administration. The United States should be a conspicuous participant at the Beijing conference, with the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, leading the official delegation.

China's leaders, fearing free discussion of their own repressive policies, have done everything they can to damage the conference's credibility and divert attention from its women's rights agenda. Betraying its host-country responsibilities, China has arbitrarily excluded participants from Taiwan and Tibet, restricted press coverage and exiled the grass-roots meeting to a remote site more than 30 miles from the main conference. It has also placed obstacles like complex special visa requirements in the path of third-world women of limited means who have been saving up for months to attend the meeting.

A number of these issues remain under negotiation, but few now expect China to live up to its pledges of a conference open to all legitimate participants. This week Beijing began using the conference as a pretext for a new roundup of dissenting intellectuals and activists.

It is tempting to consider boycotting the confer-

ence to protest China's behavior, its forced abortion and sterilization policies and its detention of an American citizen and human rights activist, Harry Wu.

But United States participation in the world women's conference is not a favor to China. It is a show of respect and support for the efforts of women in this country and around the world. On almost all the issues scheduled for discussion, Washington figures to be a powerful ally of those favoring women's political, economic and human rights. If the official American delegation stayed home, the cause of women's freedom would be weakened, not strengthened.

The same reasoning argues for sending the most high-powered delegation possible. Mrs. Clinton is an especially articulate advocate on these issues. Her presence would enhance the visibility and authority of the American delegation. It could also help thwart Chinese attempts to restrict press coverage and exclude unwelcome voices.

Obviously, the White House cannot agree to any conditions on her attendance that would undermine larger United States policies toward China. She should not, for example, hold meetings with top Chinese leaders while Harry Wu remains in jail. But Washington's differences with Beijing should not be taken out on the women from around the world who have invested their hopes in this important international conference. Nor should they be a reason for abandoning China's more than 500 million women.

It would only hand a quiet victory to China's repressors for the strongest advocates of women's liberty to stay away from Beijing. The United States should be there in force and in full voice.

Grateful

A fortysomething New Yorker got on a bus last month. A teen-ager got on afterward, sat next to him and noticed the Grateful Dead logo on his sandals.

"Great concert last night," said the kid. "I wanted to go again tonight, but I have an algebra test."

"Yeah, me too," said his fellow rider, "but I've got two kids."

The miracle of Jerry Garcia, really, is that he managed to live so long and that in the process his music stitched together three generations. The other rock geniuses of his time, the ones wedded as he was to excess — Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Jim Morrison — exist now only as icons, wistfully wor-

on, the Summer of Love continued, despite the occasional bad trip when fans got hurt or violence broke out. Describing the music, rock critics talked of its eclectic mix, of Mr. Garcia's fluid, unpretentious guitar work, of his direct, playful lyrics.

What is often missed is the spiritual quality of Mr. Garcia's work. The Dead's soaring vocal harmonies, especially in the early 1970's, evoked old-time hymn-singing, and the songs' subject matter — love, death, forgiveness, renewal — was universal and contemplative. "Attics of My Life" may be one of the most haunting rock anthems ever recorded, a song about the spiritual quest, and about grace.

The right call on China

But first lady should not join Beijing visitors

THE WHITE HOUSE decision to send a full delegation to the international women's rights conference in China next month was the right one.

U.N. Ambassador Madeleine Albright makes a good case when noting it makes no sense "in the name of human rights, to boycott a conference that has, as a primary purpose, the promotion of human rights."

But an ordinary level of participation in the conference is as far as Washington should go. Unless China does a considerable about-face, the White House should scrap any plans to send Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Having the U.S. first lady travel to Beijing would grant the Chinese government the extraordinary level of international recognition it covets even as it takes step after step to cement its image as a repressive threat both internally and externally.

There are China's continued detention of U.S. activist Harry Wu and other dissidents, threatening missile tests conducted in the

seas near Taiwan, and China's belligerence over the U.S. visit of the Taiwanese president. There's also its suspected military technology sales to outlaw regimes and its military buildup occurring while it focuses on territorial disputes with its neighbors.

All of this points to a China not much interested in human rights or peaceful coexistence. The symbolism of having the first lady visit under such circumstances would send entirely the wrong signal about acceptance of China's outrageous behavior.

Still, as a growing power both economically and militarily, China is too big to ignore. So, too, is the issue of women's rights. The U.S. should be at the conference to exert leadership forcefully — or as forcefully as it can, given Congress' regressive stance on issues of reproductive freedom.

Sending traditional diplomats but keeping the first lady at home walks a fine line, but an important one.

U.S. Embassy Aide Visits American Jailed in China

Human Rights Activist Held Since June Reported Healthy, in 'Reasonably Good Spirits'

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Foreign Service

BEIJING, Aug. 9—A U.S. Embassy official was allowed today to visit Harry Wu, the jailed Chinese American human rights activist whose detention has become a new focal point of tension in Washington's relations with China, and afterward an embassy spokesman said Wu seemed healthy and in good spirits.

It was the first time in a month that embassy officials were given permission to see Wu, and only the second time since he was detained on June 19 as he tried to enter China's westernmost Xinjiang Province from neighboring Kazakhstan. Under consular agreements between the United States and China, the embassy must be allowed a face-to-face meeting each month, but the United States repeatedly has requested more frequent access to Wu because of mounting concerns about his health.

Those concerns intensified last month when China released a videotape titled "Just See the Lies of Wu Hongda"—Wu's Chinese name. It showed him looking worn and telling his interrogators about disagreements he had with the BBC over the editing of his film for a documentary on the export of prison labor products and the sale, for transplant, of kidneys taken from recently executed prisoners.

The official New China News Agency said Wu's statements on the videotape amounted to a "confession" that the film had been fabricated. The BBC said Wu was coerced into making the state-

ments, further fueling fears about his condition in captivity.

After a half-hour meeting today, Daniel Piccuta, first secretary and consul at the U.S. Embassy, reported that Wu, 58, "appeared healthy and in reasonably good spirits," according to an embassy spokesman. The spokesman said more details would come Thursday after Piccuta returns from Wuhan, where the meeting took place.

But Wu's colleague and friend in Washington, Jeff Fiedler of the AFL-CIO, who is a board member of Wu's Laogai (Reform Through Labor) Foundation, said Wu complained today about continued back pain, caused by a cracked or slipped disk, that occasionally leads to numbness in his legs.

Fiedler, who said he was briefed today about the meeting, said Wu had just started taking medicine he had received from his wife to ease the back pain. Fiedler said that in the past the problem of numbness has been so severe that he put Wu in a wheelchair at Dulles airport in May 1994 when he found it too difficult to walk.

"He seemed healthier than he appeared on the videotape," Fiedler said. He said his main concern now was whether Wu will have access to doctors who can properly diagnose and treat his condition.

Fiedler also said this short session "wasn't as tense as last time."

"Things were certainly less tense than during the first meeting," he said in a telephone interview. "It may well be that the interrogations have either stopped for the moment or have slowed down in their intensity." Under the ground rules

for such consular visits, prisoners are not allowed to discuss their case or the charges against them, he said.

Wu has been charged with entering China illegally and with the more serious crime of espionage, which carries the death penalty. His case came as U.S.-China relations were already in a downward spiral, following a private visit to the United States by Lee Teng-hui, president of Taiwan, which China considers a breakaway republic. China retaliated by recalling its ambassador in Washington, canceling several other high-level contacts and plunging U.S.-China relations to their lowest state since the June 1989 massacre of democracy demonstrators at Tiananmen Square.

A meeting last week in Brunei between Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen did little to improve the atmosphere.

Wu's arrest has complicated the diplomatic efforts and initiatives to get the U.S.-Chinese relationship back on track, since his continued detention makes it politically difficult for President Clinton to meet with Chinese President Jiang Zemin or for Hillary Rodham Clinton to attend the U.N. Conference on Women to be held in China in September.

Both steps have been proposed as gestures that might assuage China's leadership, which is still irate over Lee's U.S. visit and what China contends is American backtracking on its long-stated "one China" policy that officially recognizes only Beijing.

A Chinese 'Ms.' Magazine Gives Women A Peek Outside

By Sheila Tefft
Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

BEIJING
SHANG SHAOHUA dares not call herself a feminist. But her publication, World Women's Vision, is as close as China comes to its own version of Ms. magazine.

Ms. Shang, a veteran Chinese journalist and an admirer of that American feminist journal, launched her magazine two years ago by capitalizing on the United Nations-sponsored Fourth World Conference on Women due to be held in Beijing beginning Aug. 30 through mid-September.

In a country with a staid, state-controlled media, a government intolerant of controversy, and a culture that holds women in low regard, the magazine must walk a fine line between offending officials and stirring serious debate. By highlighting problems abroad, it hopes to raise issues of concern to women in China.

Interspersed among glowing reports on the UN women's conference and the parallel Non-Governmental Organizations' (NGO) Forum of private women's groups are a variety of features. They cover a range of topics from beauty and manners; translated profiles of prominent Western women; and serious articles on rape, violence against women, prostitution, discrimination; and other topics too delicate to touch in China.

In any one issue, stories on the scandal-ridden British royal family and the world's 10 most famous women can run alongside others on American teenage mothers, prostitution in Southeast Asia, and a 1993 conference on abuse of Asian women.

Discreetly and ironically, the magazine is packaged in covers graced by glamorous Western fashion models more often seen in Vogue rather than in serious women's magazines. Shang says it is just a marketing ploy to boost circulation and attract male readers. She "will change it once the magazine becomes popular, because then people will pay attention to the content, not the cover."

"Right now, we don't label this magazine feminist. We are just trying to speak out about what we are thinking," says the editor, a savvy, intense woman whose magazine is widely read among Beijing women intellectuals and students. "[Some] of the articles are feminist. But other articles and stories just show people in other countries overcoming hardship. They are not openly written as feminist. It is up to people to see it."

Controversies unreported

What World Women's Vision and other Chinese women's magazines have been unable to report on, however, is the international controversy surrounding official Chinese preparations for the women's conference, which has made the summit the most contentious to date.

Earlier this year, China moved the site of the NGO Forum from a central Beijing stadium to the distant suburb of Huairou. The action was seen by many as a move to isolate the more than 30,000 women activists, representatives of women's organizations, and journalists expected to attend.

Amid the unease and political maneuvering surrounding the leadership succession to paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, Beijing fretted over the prospect of thousands of women activists moving freely about the security-conscious Chinese capital and meeting with residents and students.

With the forum less than a month away, the government has yet to finish the makeshift conference site, grant many of the 34,000 visas requested by participants, and finalize procedures for the conference, including those governing the press.

The government is building a wall around the NGO conference center to tighten security and control entry. And in an apparent disinformation effort to justify the stringent precautions, the Chinese press has recently warned city residents about prostitutes and lesbians expected to attend the conference.

Last week, the Chinese organizing committee insisted that planning was going like clockwork but admitted that the Huairou facilities, including conference halls, meeting rooms, and tents set up for seminars, will only hold 10,000 partici-

pants, less than one-third of those expected. The rest will be sent on sightseeing tours or to watch cultural entertainment.

Although thousands of hotel confirmations have been sent out by express mail, many women worry whether they can obtain their visas in time. Since the forum was shifted to Huairou,

hotel confirmations are required for a Chinese embassy or consulate to issue a visa.

"I first applied to attend the NGO Forum as long ago as February. I had to submit a fresh application when the venue changed," says an Indian professor who hopes to attend. "I still have not heard anything, and worry I won't be able to come to Beijing."

In addition to bureaucratic barriers, participants are also encountering political roadblocks. Although Beijing had pledged not to exclude any private groups from the forum, last week China and Iran persuaded the UN to bar 11 activist groups from the conference. China also announced that a Taiwanese delegation

would not be allowed to attend.

Despite congressional calls for a boycott over Chinese rights abuses, Madeleine Albright, the American ambassador to the UN, will lead the official US delegation. But with Sino-US relations strained, the White House has yet to announce if Hillary Rodham Clinton, the delegation's honorary chairwoman, will attend.

Although chaotic preparations have overshadowed the women's summit, Chinese and Western observers say women's issues have received more serious attention here because of the meeting. This week, China announced a plan to elevate more women to high government posts; improve education, health care, and special programs for minority women; and find jobs for laid-off women workers. During the last decade, more than 40 Chinese

So, with the backing of Shang's employer, Women of China magazine; more than \$90,000 in loans; and a small but dedicated staff, World Women's Vision was launched. Less than two years later, the journal has a 100,000 circulation, is self-sustaining, and has struck a chord among urban intellectual women and students.

Translated articles - such as a recent one by the late American feminist Audre Lorde - often draw an outpouring of letters from readers, Shang says.

The coverage of World Women's Vision "is not being done anywhere else in China. It stands out from the others," says Ms. Polumbaum, the Iowa researcher. "I admire her for being so careful and diplomatic in how she goes about doing things."

"Feminism has different meanings.... In China, if you try to protect women's rights, that's feminism," Shang says.

"I don't like to stand in opposition to men and try to fight them. We should try to be equal to men and enjoy the same rights."

women's publications have sprung up and, escaping the close scrutiny reserved for political journals, found more room to experiment and innovate.

"The fact that these meetings are being held in Beijing has given women more confidence in acting and women journalists a basis to take women's issues more seriously," says Judy Polumbaum, a journalism professor at the University of Iowa and a Chinese media expert.

Fulfilling a need

With World Women's Vision, Shang has filled a gap in Chinese publishing and appealed to the craving of educated women for international news. During a 1992 visit to remote Heilongjiang Province, the journalist met foreigners and was struck by how quickly China was opening up.

"By the next century, it will be a more open world.... I decided to start a magazine that would open up Chinese women's outlook to the world," says Shang, who says her daughter has been influenced by the magazine and calls herself a feminist.

"There is a lot in Western women's minds that can be accepted by women here."

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Thursday, August 10, 1995

Washington goes to Beijing

Here is today's kowtow to the paper dragon: The Clinton administration has made haste to soothe China's hissy fit over a visit to this country by Taiwan's president. He was admitted to this country in order to deliver a speech at Cornell, his alma mater. Beijing waxed furious at such an outrageous courtesy, and is playing its ire for all it can get — which from this obsequious administration is an awful lot:

• Bill Clinton is talking of a personal overture to Jiang Zemin, the president of the People's Republic. (Which, of course, is neither a republic nor representative of China's people.) The president is said to be planning a letter in which he'll invite the Chinese leader to chat while visiting the United States this fall.

• Warren Christopher, who is rumored to be the U.S. secretary of state, has explained that allowing Taiwan's president to visit his alma mater was an exceptional act of hospitality, courage and civility — a gesture that should in no way be confused with the general drift of this administration's policy toward China. I believe him. As the secretary put it in a speech at the National Press Club, "The private visit by Lee Teng-hui was a special situation and a courtesy, consistent with American values and opinion." Yes, it was wholly an exception to the administration's official policy, which is to quake and quail every time Beijing says it's unhappy with the United States.

Not that Mr. Christopher didn't do his best to avoid even this minimal decency. He told Elaine Sciolino of the New York Times that he had tried to warn China's foreign minister in April that it was going to be impossible to keep Taiwan's president out of this country because of congressional opinion. (There go those American values acting up again.) "I tried my best," said Mr. Christopher, "to signal to him that the congressional mood was a very serious problem. I told him I pressed on the Taiwan situation several times, and I failed to persuade anyone that I had talked to."

China's foreign minister, Qian Qichen, is quoted as saying he didn't get any such message, that on the contrary he had been assured that Taiwan's president would not be given a visa. The foreign minister must have missed the usual, subtle Clinton clauses in Mr. Christopher's signal. Inscrutable, these Americans.

• The president now has floated the idea of a state visit by the head

of China, an honor Beijing long has sought but may no longer be interested in — since it has become apparent that this president will meet with just about anybody. It must have been particularly galling to Beijing when this country opened its doors to the leader of its rival; Taiwan's example serves as a constant reminder of how the Chinese people might thrive if only they were free.

• In the meantime, Mr. Christopher made it clear, the United States will not impose economic sanctions against China merely because it has been selling its missile technology to a regime equally devoted to democracy and world peace: Iran.

Beijing is not likely to be pacified by Washington's offer of business-as-usual, since it was never likely that this administration would do anything that might actually imperil trade with the Chinese mainland. This administration is not about to let anything as important as business be endangered by considerations of principle, or even by the arrest of a U.S. citizen in China. Harry Wu is his name, and for years he has insisted on exposing the slave labor on which so much of China's economy depends. Naturally he would be arrested when he tried to sneak into that country to do another expose. And naturally his government wouldn't risk disrupting trade to help him. (Who says this administration is anti-business?)

Like any tottering dictatorship, China is awash in paranoia. According to the current party line, the United States is plotting to overthrow the Communist regime on the mainland economically, politically and militarily, and the coun-

try's elites echo this blather like well-trained robots. Madness. Dangerous madness.

With the caginess of the crazed, China's commissars are said to have revved up plans for an invasion of Taiwan for the first time in years, recognizing that the United States now has a president who may do nothing effectual to stop it. To quote Chi Haotian, Beijing's minister of defense, China could use force to "settle the Taiwan issue," and objects strongly to "foreign forces' attempts to interfere in China's internal affairs." With their maximum leader, Deng Xiaoping, about to prove as mortal as Stalin, it all sounds like the Soviet Union a few years before it imploded.

Would you believe that, after their various affronts to freedom, to decency and to international law, it is China's rulers who are acting offended, while it is Washington that is scurrying to offer concessions? Of course you would. Anyone would who understands (a) how a little appeasement only whets the appetite of tyrants for more; and (b) the invertebrate tendencies of this administration when it comes to facing down dictators.

The Bush administration was bad enough when it came to appeasing China's bullies. It was clear in 1989 that the unpleasantness in Beijing's Tiananmen Square was going to be overlooked by the U.S. government. But at least the Bush administration still offered political asylum to Chinese fleeing the mainland's war on the family. The officially enforced policy on the mainland is one-family, one-child. Those who have more — unless they get explicit permission from the authorities — are treated

as enemies of the people. That means fines, public humiliation, demotion and maybe a demolished house. Mothers of one child have IUDs inserted. If they become pregnant again, they face sterilization. Women who become pregnant without an official permit can expect a compulsory abortion courtesy of the state — often a late-term abortion because many women will try to hide a pregnancy, and may not be caught till late.

The Clinton administration reversed the earlier policy of allowing those fleeing such oppression to apply for political asylum in the United States. Chinese seeking refuge from the mainland's harsh limits on families can expect no welcome in this country. They are to be turned back, just as if they were boat people now trying to escape Fidel Castro's Cuba or, in the first years of this administration, Raoul Cedras' Haiti.

Would you also believe that, in the midst of all this, the first lady is still planning to lend her presence to a U.N. conference in Beijing? The subject of the conference: women's rights.

While she's discussing rights in that country, perhaps Hillary Rodham Clinton can ask to see Harry Wu in prison. And if she's not allowed to, no doubt Washington will take that in stride, too. Because, in the year 1995 and the 220th of the republic, this is what the land of the free and the home of the brave has been reduced to.

Paul Greenberg is editorial page editor of the Arkansas Democrat Gazette in Little Rock and a nationally syndicated columnist.

Clinton bungling on China

White House covers up rights, arms control violations

GENEVA — Until recently, the Clinton administration's ineptitude in foreign policy has been mostly an embarrassment, but not the kind likely to create long-term problems for the United States.

However, the administration's continued mishandling of the escalating conflict with China may yet prove a major disaster.

Since May, when the administration — rightly — granted a visa to Taiwan president Lee Teng-hui, the Chinese have been turning up the heat.

First they withdrew their ambassador from Washington and refused to accept the new U.S. envoy to Beijing, former senator Jim Sasser, a Democrat from Tennessee.

Then on June 19, they arrested Harry Wu, a former Chinese political prisoner and leading human rights activist who is now a U.S. citizen. Wu was detained by Chinese authorities when he tried to enter China on a valid visa and with a proper American passport.

In July, the Chinese government charged Wu with espionage and other offenses that carry the death penalty and then released a disgraceful video purporting to show Wu confessing to his crimes. Wu's real "crime" was exposing the Chinese system of forced labor and torture of political prisoners.

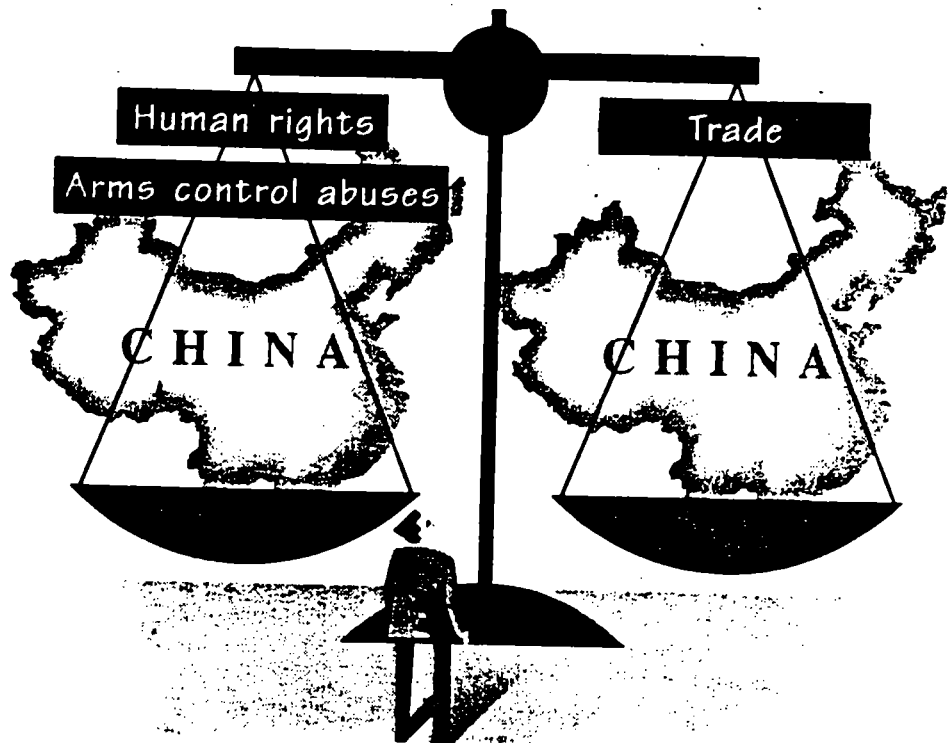
On three prior trips to China, Wu secretly filmed inside political prisons, embarrassing both the Chinese and American businesses that were importing Chinese prison-made goods into the United States.

Wu is intimately familiar with China's political prisons, having served 19 years in them for criticizing the communist regime when he was a college student.

Finally, last week China detained for four days and then expelled two visiting American military officers, again alleging espionage.

All along, China has been busy flexing its military muscle by firing surface-to-air missiles off the southern coast of China, near Taiwan, not to mention earlier conducting underground nuclear tests and selling ballistic missiles to Pakistan.

How has Clinton responded? He has re-



COUNTERPOINTS
By Linda Chavez

newed the most-favored-nation trade provision for China, the world's fastest growing economy and major source for U.S. imports. And he sent a fawning Secretary of State Warren Christopher to meet with his Chinese counterpart in Brunei.

Christopher was prepared to agree to a Sino-American summit in October, which the Chinese want. But he changed his mind in midair on the way to Brunei after aides warned him that as long as China holds an American prisoner, the move would be highly unpopular with Congress and might trigger another bipartisan foreign policy rebuke.

The administration's worry didn't stop the White House from doctoring reports it sent to Congress last week about arms control treaty violations by China and other nations.

Instead of reporting that China had indeed sold M-11 missiles to Pakistan, which would trigger severe economic sanctions under U.S. law, the White House fudged the report's wording to make it appear that only missile-related materials were sold, a less serious offense.

Unfortunately for the White House, both the original and its edited versions went to the Hill, exposing the subterfuge.

The administration's kowtowing has had no effect on the Chinese. In fact, they have become more obstreperous than ever.

By Sam Ward, USA TODAY

At the U.N. Human Rights Subcommittee now meeting in Geneva, the Chinese government has launched vitriolic attacks on both Harry Wu and the United States.

Chinese belligerence at this time, no doubt, is provoked by internal Chinese politics. Hard-line factions in the Chinese military are vying for increased power in the government in anticipation of senior leader Deng Xiaoping's imminent death. But the worst possible U.S. response is to show weakness and accommodation in the face of provocation.

You would think President Clinton would have learned that lesson from the experience of his last Democratic predecessor, Jimmy Carter.

Carter's weakness emboldened revolutionaries and dictators from Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran and Central America's Marxist-oriented Sandinista regime in Nicaragua to the Soviet Union's invasion of and fighting in Afghanistan.

Clinton will win neither respect nor responsible behavior from the dictators in Beijing by ignoring or covering up their violations of human rights and arms control.

COUNTERPOINTS' four columnists provide views from diverse perspectives on today's issues. Thursday: Susan Estrich on blacks and how they view the U.S. criminal justice system. Mondays: Tony Snow. Tuesdays: Michael Gartner. Wednesdays: Linda Chavez.

Harry Wu appears in good health

BEIJING, Aug. 9 (UPI) Detained American human rights activist Harry Wu appeared Wednesday to be ``in good health and relatively good spirits'' during his second meeting in 30 days with a U.S. consular official.

Concern over the physical and mental health of the 58-year-old Wu has escalated since China's release of a video July 25 showing a visibly tired Wu under interrogation on espionage charges.

After a 30-minute session with Wu at the jail in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, Dan Piccuta, chief of the American citizens services section in Beijing, said he ``appeared to be in good health and in reasonably good spirits.''

The meeting was heavily monitored by Chinese security officials. Piccuta and Wu talked through microphones and were separated by a glass partition, said U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Sara Stryker.

It came exactly 30 days after the first consular visit July 10. Although U.S. officials have pressed for more frequent sessions, the Chinese have stuck to the U.S.-Sino agreement calling for access to detained citizens at least once every 30 days.

Piccuta was prohibited from discussing Wu's case, the same restriction imposed on U.S. Consul General Arturo Macias during the first encounter.

Piccuta provided no other information about Wu, last seen in the video purporting to show him confessing to falsifying evidence of human rights abuses.

In the video he allegedly acknowledged material he obtained for documentaries about China's export of goods made by forced prison labor and its trade in human organs taken without consent from death row prisoners was untrue.

Piccuta arrived in Wuhan Tuesday but was not told until Wednesday the time of his meeting with Wu.

Diplomats said Piccuta's impressions of Wu's condition and treatment may determine whether Hillary Rodham Clinton attends the U.N. World Conference on Women starting in Beijing Sept. 4. Several U.S. senators contend she should decline the invitation to speak unless Wu is released.

``It will be a White House decision,'' another diplomat said, ``but we're making plans for her arrival just in case.''

An advance team for the first lady spent two days in Beijing Aug. 4 and 5 observing the preparations for China's largest international conference and even went out to the remote Huairou site of the Non-Governmental Forum accompanying the U.N.-affiliated event.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said last week he could not envision ``any circumstances under which President Jiang Zemin'' would be welcome in the United States for a summit meeting with President Bill Clinton if Wu is not freed.

Wu, who spent 19 years in Chinese prison camps, was arrested in Wuhan July 8 on charges of espionage, stealing state secrets and trying to enter the country under an assumed name. He faces a maximum penalty of death.

The U.S. State Department has consistently maintained the case should be resolved on humanitarian grounds with Wu's release.

His arrest came nearly three weeks after he was detained while trying to enter China's northwest Xinjiang province from Kazakhstan.

Wu is still undergoing pre-trial investigation, Stryker said, and cannot consult with an attorney until that phase is over.

**** filed by:UPI(--) on 08/09/95 at 05:03EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/09/95 at 08:32EDT ****

(UPI Spotlight)

U.S. presses for meeting with Harry Wu

By RUTH YOUNGBLOOD=

BEIJING, Aug. 7 (UPI) U.S. diplomats concerned over Harry Wu's health pressed Monday for a meeting with the detained human rights activist 13 days after China released a video showing a visibly tired Wu under interrogation on espionage charges.

Despite a Sino-U.S. consular agreement allowing access at least once every 30 days, U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Sara Stryker said a second session is not automatically granted in China although the interval expires Wednesday.

"We're trying to see him," Stryker said. "We've requested permission" for a meeting Wednesday.

Concern over the health of the 58-year-old U.S. citizen has escalated since China's release of a 13-minute video purporting to show Wu confessing to falsifying evidence of human rights abuses.

He allegedly acknowledged falsifying material he obtained for documentaries about China's export of goods made by forced prison labor and trade in human organs taken without consent from death row prisoners.

"We want to verify his good health," Stryker said. "We've been concerned about it all along."

Diplomats said the outcome of the meeting may determine whether Hillary Rodham Clinton attends the U.N. World Conference on Women starting in Beijing Sept. 4. Several U.S. senators contend she should decline the invitation to speak unless Wu is released.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said last week he could not envision "any circumstances under which President Jiang Zemin" would be welcome in the United States for a summit meeting with President Bill Clinton "if Harry Wu was not released."

U.S. Consul General Arturo Macias was allowed to see Wu for 30 minutes July 10 but was separated by a glass barrier and prohibited from discussing Wu's case.

Wu, who spent 19 years in Chinese prison camps, was arrested in Wuhan July 8 on charges of espionage, stealing state secrets and trying to enter the country under an assumed name. He faces a maximum penalty of death.

His arrest came nearly three weeks after he was detained while trying to enter China's northwest Xinjiang province from Kazakhstan.

He is still undergoing pre-trial investigation, Stryker said, and cannot consult with an attorney until that phase is over.

It has not been determined whether Macias or another consular official will meet with Wu, but Stryker said she expects the same conditions to prevail.

"Whoever meets with Wu cannot act as an attorney," she said. "That is standard procedure."

Another Western diplomat said prospects for an early release appeared bleak after a Chinese delegate to a U.N. human rights agency called Wu a criminal who deserved to be arrested.

Sha Zukang told the U.N. Human Rights Commission meeting in Geneva last week that criticism of China over Wu's arrest were "groundless."

Human rights groups are also worried about Wu's condition. Robin Munro, Hong Kong director of Human Rights Watch-Asia, said, "We have no idea what went on to extract that so-called confession, but he was obviously very tired and in very low spirits."

Noting Wu was injured in a mining accident during his previous incarceration, Munro said, "Usual interrogation procedures include round-the-clock questioning, sleep interference, a light on all the time, and poor ventilation all in the interest of breaking a prisoner down."

Munro said it is likely Beijing will use Wu for leverage in its relations with the United States, seeking concessions in return for his release.

"If an invitation to the White House for Jiang Zemin is what they want, they may release Wu, but that does not address the plight of the thousands of

other incarcerated activists," he said.

**** filed by:UPI(--) on 08/07/95 at 06:26EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/07/95 at 08:30EDT ****

Feminists win word war in conference platform

Vatican agrees to 'universal' rights

By George Archibald
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A1

From page A1

NEW YORK — Feminists yesterday outmaneuvered the Vatican in a dispute over language in the draft platform for the upcoming U.N. women's conference in Beijing.

At closed-door sessions held by the United Nations, U.S. delegates joined Canada and other Western nations in pushing language that

would guarantee abortion and family-planning rights to women in Catholic and Muslim countries.

Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice presidential candidate in 1984 and a key member of the U.S. delegation, led efforts to include the concept of "universal" human rights in the Platform for Action, which delegates said would guarantee sexual and repro-

see VATICAN, page A14

ductive freedom to women everywhere.

The Vatican's delegation, which initially sought to avoid that phrasing, backed down yesterday.

Vatican delegates said the reference to "universal" rights does not conflict with the Catholic Church's adamant opposition to abortion. Mrs. Ferraro, a pro-choice Catholic, expressed satisfaction with the Vatican's changed position.

Leaders of many women's groups that will participate in a forum for nongovernmental organizations during the Sept. 4-15 World Conference on Women were excluded from the U.N. sessions.

Women from around the world are meeting here to discuss disagreements over the platform.

Women's groups that support the traditional family are at odds with feminists who want to replace the concept of the two sexes with a more liberal "gender" concept that allows for homosexuality.

Countries that could not afford to send delegates to these preliminary sessions, which continue through Friday, are represented by their official U.N. delegations.

Democrats in the Senate yesterday blocked a bid by Majority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas to withdraw funding for the women's conference unless China frees U.S. human rights activist Harry Wu. Mr. Dole's amendment was part of a bill by Sen. Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican, to reorganize the U.S. foreign policy establishment. The 55-45 vote to end debate on the bill, and thus allow votes on amendments, fell five senators short of the 60 needed.

Among the feminist leaders circulating in meeting rooms of the U.N. General Assembly building this week is Bella Abzug, a former Democratic congresswoman. Her Women's Environment and Development Organization has been a major influence on the interna-

tional women's agenda.

Mrs. Abzug has served as a paid consultant to Timothy Wirth, undersecretary of state for global affairs, whose office is organizing U.S. participation in the Beijing conference. On July 21, Mr. Wirth told leaders of nongovernmental women's groups that the Clinton administration is "working with the most progressive governments" to create "the most progressive agenda" for women worldwide.

At a news conference yesterday, Irene Santiago of the Philippines, chairwoman of the forum for nongovernmental organizations, said U.N. organizers are allowing only certain feminist groups to influence the final draft of the Beijing document.

Mrs. Santiago is involved with the Center for Asian/Pacific Women in Politics and the Asian Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, which this year circulated a paper criticizing traditional family and motherhood roles for women.

Yesterday Mrs. Santiago outlined plans for her forum, to be attended by 40,000 participants about 33 miles from the Beijing conference.

She said the forum's objectives are to "enable people to network, ... agenda setting [to empower women] ... and lobbying — influencing the government conference, participating in the Platform for Action."

She said Apple Computer has given a sizable grant to enable the forum to conduct a "global town hall" with computerized lobbying by women's groups, particularly in Third World nations, to get governments to support the implementation of the Beijing platform.

Plenary sessions at the forum will include strategy sessions to counter a "rise in conservatism" and "violence against women" and to promote "gender strategies" and "peace and human security," she said.

U.S., in an About-Face, Denies Shift in Trade Policy Toward Japan

By BOB DAVIS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON — A day after a Clinton administration trade official proposed a less confrontational trade policy toward Japan, the top White House economic adviser took it back.

"There's no shift of policy," said Laura Tyson, head of the White House's National Economic Council.

The public spat reflects frustration and division within the administration over Japan. After more than two years of trade pressure, negotiators grumble that they haven't been able to crack what they see as a closed Japanese market. But Japanese officials, who welcomed what they thought was an easing of trade pressure, are bound to be bewildered at the latest turn-about.

On Monday, Commerce Undersecretary Jeffrey E. Garten suggested in Tokyo that the two sides should talk more broadly about trade, and he lambasted what he called a relationship "characterized by one trade confrontation after another." In Washington, top officials were furious, and passed around newspaper accounts of the remarks. The Japanese would interpret the remarks as weakening U.S. resolve, they feared.

Ms. Tyson said that the Commerce Department official's "characterization of the relationship isn't a correct one." The two countries already cooperate on many issues under a Clinton trade initiative known as the framework talks, she said. And Mr. Garten wasn't authorized to sound out the Japanese on a new trade policy, she added.

"I certainly haven't been in any discussions that would lead to [the] conclusion" that the U.S. was pushing a new line, she said. "And I've been calling the meetings."

Mr. Garten is one of the administration's most articulate trade spokesman but has a reputation for freelancing. He may turn out to be prescient, though. The framework agreements, including a recent one involving autos, call for the U.S. and Japan to track imports in a number of politically sensitive industries to see whether there is a "significant" increase. If the numbers don't go up, trade pressure is bound to mount.

U.S. and China Agree to Resume Talks After a Rocky Two Months of Feuding

By ROBERT S. GREENBERGER

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei—China and the U.S. agreed to resume high-level talks, apparently halting an alarming two-month slide in bilateral relations. But to strengthen ties remains a formidable task.

In a 90-minute session in Brunei, where an Asian regional security meeting is under way, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen readily accepted Secretary of State Warren Christopher's proposal that Peter Tarnoff, a top State Department official,

say when Beijing will approve the U.S. choice for its next ambassador to China, former Sen. James Sasser, replacing a career diplomat who completed his tour. And Mr. Qian rebuffed U.S. demands that China free Harry Wu, a naturalized-American human rights activist charged with espionage. He said Mr. Wu must go through a judicial process.

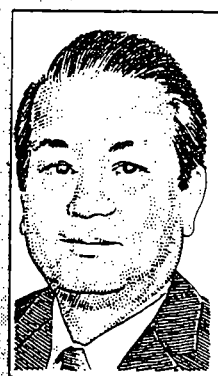
Mr. Christopher wouldn't agree to China's main demand, that the U.S. pledge to never again permit a top Taiwan official to visit the U.S.

As a result, the U.S. appraisal of yester-



Warren Christopher

'THEY COULD HAVE slammed the door, and didn't. On the other hand, they didn't accept any of our formulations,' said a top U.S. official traveling with Mr. Christopher.



Qian Qichen

resume a broad dialogue in Beijing. In June, when China was infuriated by the Clinton administration's decision to allow Taiwan's president to visit the U.S., it rejected U.S. entreaties for such a meeting and broke off other talks.

Mr. Qian also agreed to meet Mr. Christopher next month in New York, where both will be attending a session of the United Nations General Assembly. Among topics to be discussed is whether their leaders hold a summit meeting in the next few months.

Tuesday's success was limited, however. At best, it will bring resumption of talks on such thorny issues as human rights and weapons proliferation, issues that offer many possibilities for further rifts. The two nations share huge economic interests, but China often shows an insensitivity to U.S. concerns, while the administration has often mismanaged the relationship by sending mixed signals.

In the Brunei meeting, Mr. Qian didn't respond to Mr. Christopher's appeal for the return of China's ambassador, who was recalled from Washington to protest the U.S. decision on Taiwan. He also wouldn't

day's meeting was modest. "They could have slammed the door, and didn't. On the other hand, they didn't accept any of our formulations," said a top U.S. official traveling with Mr. Christopher.

Mr. Qian, too, got less than he wanted. While he welcomed assurances that basic U.S. policy toward China hasn't changed and that it doesn't recognize Taiwan as an independent country, he cited a Chinese proverb: "Words must count and deeds must yield results. Words have their value only when they are honored in deeds."

Mr. Qian got more words from President Clinton, a three-page letter for Chinese President Jiang Zemin. The letter reiterates Washington's one-China policy, and stresses the importance of the relationship. It also mentions Mr. Wu in the broader context of human rights.

Now the administration is trying to arrange a summit between Presidents Clinton and Jiang by reconciling its support for Mr. Wu with the strategic and economic importance of China. In comments before the meeting yesterday, Mr. Christopher said, "it would be difficult to have a summit meeting" if Mr. Wu were still being held in China.

U.S., China Agree to Talks On Relations

*Christopher Sees Progress,
But Major Disputes Remain*

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Staff Writer

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei, Aug. 1—Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen agreed today to further high-level talks to seek a solution to the crisis in relations between their two nations, which went sour in May when the United States decided to grant a visa to the president of Taiwan.

A 90-minute meeting between Christopher and Qian failed to resolve any of their countries' major disputes, including the imprisonment in China of a prominent Chinese American human rights activist, Harry Wu. Nevertheless, spokesmen for both sides described the meeting as "useful" and signaled a readiness to reverse the sharp deterioration in U.S.-Chinese relations.

"It was a very positive and very useful meeting," said State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns. "We believe that, because of the agreement to hold future meetings and the positive atmosphere in the room, we can move forward again in the U.S.-Chinese relationship."

U.S. officials said that the Chinese side had dropped its earlier objections to a meeting between Undersecretary of State Peter Tarnoff and Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu to discuss ways of improving the relationship. Christopher and Qian will meet again at the United Nations in September. In addition, Christopher held out the possibility of a summit meeting between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin in the fall, if Wu is released by then.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofeng was significantly less upbeat than Burns in assessing the results of the meeting, limiting himself to saying that it had been "frank and useful."

U.S. officials appeared satisfied that they had achieved as much as they could realistically expect from the meeting, which followed more than two months of increasingly bitter polemics between Beijing and Washington. The crisis erupted after the Clinton administration reversed its long-standing policy of refusing to grant a visa to senior Taiwanese officials and permitted Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to attend a class reunion at Cornell University, his alma mater.

The Chinese reacted furiously to Lee's "private" visit, which they interpreted as a sign that Washington was moving away from its "one China" policy, agreed with Beijing, of treating Taiwan

See CHINA, A28, Col. 1

CHINA, From A27

as an integral part of China. Relations deteriorated still further in June after Chinese authorities arrested Wu as he crossed into China from Kazakhstan. Wu has achieved notoriety in both China and the United States with his campaign to draw attention to abuses in the Chinese prison camp system.

U.S. officials said today that Christopher appealed for Wu's release from prison but did not get a clear response from Qian. Before the meeting, Qian told reporters that Wu's fate was in the hands of the Chinese judicial system.

Qian set the tone for his meeting with Christopher by telling journalists that he was ready for "serious discussions in a friendly and pragmatic attitude." He welcomed recent assurances by Christopher that the United States stuck by its "one China" policy, but he continued to insist on concrete actions by Washington to prove its good faith.

"Words have their value only when they are honored in deeds," the foreign minister said, quoting what he said was an ancient Chinese proverb.

U.S. officials said Christopher told Qian that the decision to allow Lee into the country had been a special case, but he refused to give an assurance that it would never be repeated. "We are not in the business of concessions or apologies," said a Christopher aide.

During the meeting, Christopher gave Qian a three-page letter from Clinton to Jiang, describing the importance that Washington attaches to the U.S.-Chinese relationship. U.S. officials said the letter reiterated the U.S. position that Taiwan is a province of China and called for further meetings at the ministerial level, in addition to expressing concern over Wu's continued imprisonment.

Christopher raised the possibility of a Clinton-Jiang summit in the United States in his verbal presentation but made clear that such a meeting would require a "more constructive environment," an allusion to Wu's detention. If no meeting can be arranged in the United States in October following the U.N. General Assembly session, the two presidents are likely to meet during an Asian economics conference in November in Osaka, Japan.

The meeting between Christopher and Qian came in the margins of the annual conference of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Over the past few days, China has taken steps to improve its standing among the ASEAN countries, which has been lowered as a result of a territorial dispute over ownership of the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

Last March, China alarmed its smaller neighbors by planting its flag and erecting a structure on a Spratly shoal known as Mischief Reef in a part of the South China Sea that is claimed by the Philippines. Four other countries—Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia and Brunei—also have staked overlapping claims to the mostly barren coral reefs, which could be a source of considerable oil deposits.

Although China continues to lay claim to all the Spratly Islands, it moved this week to reassure its neighbors by saying that it is willing to discuss the various claims on a multilateral basis with ASEAN. It also announced that it is willing to settle the dispute on the basis of international law, including the 1982 U.N. Law of the Sea, which Beijing has yet to ratify.

Nancy Pelosi

On to Beijing

As the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women approaches, there is strong support in the congressional leadership for withdrawing the U.S. delegation to the September conference, which is to be held in Beijing. The critics cite China's arrest of human rights advocate Harry Wu and its long history of human rights violations.

While the United States and other democratic nations must find ways to protest China's conduct, canceling U.S. participation in this year's largest and most important human rights gathering would be a mistake.

Many of the most pressing human rights challenges facing the world today—the economic, social, educational, health and political status of women—will be addressed at this critically important gathering of 40,000 people from every corner of the globe. Women and girls internationally face the gravest threats to the most basic human rights: the right to a clean environment, to a living wage, to full participation in political life, to be educated, to health, to freedom from violence.

Violence stalks women in war-torn areas such as Rwanda and Bosnia.

Rape, one of the most horrifying of all human rights abuses, has long been a systematic weapon of war. Survivors of rape not only face severe physical and psychological trauma and unwanted pregnancies, but many have also become infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

But AIDS threatens women in peacetime, too. In the field of AIDS prevention, the need to educate and help women protect themselves and their families from infection has become critically important. The course of the epidemic that has plagued both our country and the developing world has changed. The rate of HIV transmission for women is now higher than for men; by the end of the century, the number of women with HIV will have doubled. Worldwide, all women—including monogamous and married women—are becoming increasingly vulnerable to HIV infection. As women become ill, the families they care for suffer gravely, and the communities they support begin to unravel.

The destruction of family and social life has affected entire regions of Africa, where hundreds of villages have been decimated by AIDS. Asia,

hit later in the '80s by the epidemic, has a widespread commercial sex industry and now faces the epidemic in its full fury. And here in the United States, AIDS is now the number one killer of African American women in the 25-44 age group.

A broad coalition of U.S. and international organizations involved in HIV prevention is planning an extensive series of educational and outreach activities at the Beijing conference. Their purpose is to convince Beijing participants in all fields that the epidemic is a growing threat to the women of the world, and that HIV prevention can and must become an integral part of their efforts for women's rights and well-being. Because many Asian women community leaders and journalists will attend the conference, this coalition will have the opportunity to reach leaders and policymakers where the threat of the epidemic is now greatest. Prominent among these groups are organizations whose work is supported by the U.S. government and whose participation at the conference would be curtailed if this legislation is passed.

Some who testified last week against U.S. participation at the Bei-

jing conference have called it "anti-family." Nothing could be further from the truth. Those who work to improve women's lives are deeply aware that their efforts will fail unless they include the family context in which real women live their real lives. Finding ways to support the family in the face of AIDS has been the primary focus of many HIV prevention projects, particularly in the developing world.

We ask Congress for this: Support us in our efforts to improve the lives of the world's women and their families. We have critically important, life-affirming, family-supporting human rights work to do at the Beijing conference. As the country fights for the release of Harry Wu and for an end to human rights violations by the Chinese government, ensure that the United States takes the most active possible role in guaranteeing full human rights for all the citizens of the world by sending a delegation to the conference. For women, it is even more than a question of rights—it is a matter of life and death.

The writer is a Democratic representative from California.

Talking points regarding pre-advance to China

o **Why have members of the First Lady's Staff travelled to China? Does this mean that the First Lady will attend the Women's Conference in Beijing?**

No decision has been made as to whether First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will be going to Beijing for the UN Women's Conference. However, with the possibility of a trip such as this it is crucial to be prepared. Thus, members of the First Lady's staff, Secret Service, Communications, the State Department, and White House representatives departed on Friday for a survey of all possible sites in which the First Lady might visit.

o **Why are they going to other countries?**

A number of other countries in the region have extended invitations to the First Lady. For protocol reasons and for practical reasons -- the First Lady may visit those countries -- we will be surveying individual cities in those regions.

KF draft, 7/28/95
cleared MW, State

AM-US-China, 2nd Ld-Writethru, a0650,560

Wu Detention Threatens to Scuttle Clinton-Jiang Meeting

Eds: SUBS four grafs for 7th graf pvs, Critics of ..., to UPDATE with Senate debate on Beijing conference

By DAVID BRISCOE= Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) China's continued detention of Chinese American human rights activist Harry Wu is dimming prospects for a meeting between President Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher, in Brunei for meetings of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, said Monday that it is "very difficult for me to envision any circumstances" under which the two presidents could meet if Wu is still in a Chinese prison.

Christopher is meeting with the Chinese foreign minister, Qian Qichen, in Brunei on Tuesday and will give him a letter from Clinton, State Department spokesman David Johnson said.

The spokesman declined to disclose the contents of the letter but said Christopher was carrying no invitation to China's leader to visit Washington.

Johnson also indicated that if Wu is not released, no formal meeting was expected to take place between Clinton and Jiang when both leaders are in New York in October for ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

The status of Wu, who was arrested June 19 when he entered China from Kazakhstan, also could play a decisive role in the decision on whether first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will head the U.S. delegation to an international women's conference in Beijing in September.

The Senate debated legislation Monday that would pressure the State Department to boycott the conference if China continues to detain Wu.

A proposed amendment to a State Department reorganization bill would withhold half of the department's fund for international conferences, \$3.5 million, if money is spent on the Beijing conference while Wu is still in custody.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said the amendment was "very shortsighted" because it "willfully deprives us of our own voice in the international arena."

Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, said it is wrong "to hold a conference in a country who has violated in the worst way the human rights of an American citizen."

Wu, who spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps before being allowed to emigrate to the United States, has returned to China several times to gather evidence of human rights abuses in Chinese prisons.

American consulate officials failed in efforts to meet with Wu again last week, Johnson said. International consular rules require access to be scheduled every 30 days and the last time consular officers had contact with Wu was July 10, he said.

U.S. officials are making it clear than any agreement to release Wu could bring a change in the prospect for high-level contacts.

Prior to Wu's arrest, both Chinese and U.S. officials had indicated openness to the idea of a meeting between the two presidents. The arrest has stirred new concern in Congress for any warming of relations with China.

A presidential meeting had been seen as a way of smoothing over relations strained by the recent visit of Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to the United States.

Another sore point in U.S.-Chinese relations is U.S. investigation of reports that China has sold missile technology to Iran and Pakistan in violation of international agreements barring such sales.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 07/31/95 at 18:21EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/01/95 at 08:56EDT ****

Christopher will face an angry China today

By Lee Michael Katz
USA TODAY

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei — Neither Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui nor jailed Chinese-American activist Harry Wu will attend today's high-level U.S.-China talks.

But each weighs heavily on the agenda as Secretary of State Warren Christopher meets Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen to try to negotiate through tense relations.

This is "the worst time" for U.S.-China relations since they were formally established in 1979, says Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofeng. "The basis is shaken."

Relations soured in June, when President Clinton, despite U.S. policy recognizing Beijing as the "one China," granted permission for rival Taiwan's Lee to visit Cornell University.

China saw the decision as an insult, violating agreements not to recognize Taiwan that were first signed by the Nixon administration in 1972.

In retaliation, Beijing recalled its ambassador to Washington and refused to OK Washington's choice for U.S. ambassador in Beijing.

The government in China also arrested Wu on charges of espionage. Last week, Chinese officials released a videotape they say shows Wu "confessing" to falsifying BBC broadcasts on China's prison camps.

Now, Chinese officials hint that they will repair the relationship only if Washington agrees to bar Lee permanently, something not likely in the current political climate.

"The most important thing is for the U.S. government to correct their mistakes," Shen says, or else "the relationship between the U.S. and China will be severely damaged."

To U.S. diplomats, Wu's imprisonment shows indifference to human rights. This is a particular embarrassment to the Clinton administration, which last year rewarded Beijing by unlinking China's most favored nation trade status from its progress on human rights.

Amid the disputes between the two world capitals, both are also influenced by domestic politics:

► China's leaders jockey to suc-



By David Loh, Reuters

THE DIPLOMATS: Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Secretary of State Warren Christopher meet today to try to repair strained U.S.-China ties.

ceed hard-line, 90-year-old leader Deng Xiaoping and don't want to be seen yielding to arch-enemy Taiwan.

► For U.S. officials, policy is being formed by the Senate, which, in a 97-0 resolution, pressured the White House to admit Lee.

Administration officials are so unnerved by congressional pressure on China that Christopher literally made a policy about-face in midair on Monday.

Speaking to reporters on his plane en route to Asia, Christopher said that even if Wu were still in jail, that would not rule out a U.S.-China summit in October.

Officials on board, fearing Christopher would appear soft on protecting dissidents, urged him to "clarify" his



USA TODAY

WU: Activist's arrest angers Washington

remarks.

As the plane neared the runway, reporters were told to stay in their seats. Christopher quickly came out and made another statement.

Christopher said he now found a summit meeting "very difficult for me to envisage in any circumstances if Harry Wu has not been released."

At today's meeting, he says, Christopher will give Qian a civics lesson about the "power of Congress in our relationship."

Shen counters with a recollection of a recent meeting with Tony Lake, the U.S. national security adviser.

"Even if there are some pressures from the Congress," he says, "I remember (Lake) saying foreign policy was decided by the president."

Christopher Treads Lightly on China Policy

Secretary of State Torn Between Placating Beijing and Satisfying U.S. Public Opinion

By Michael Dobbs
Washington Post Staff Writer

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei, July 31—The challenge facing Secretary of State Warren Christopher when he meets Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen on Tuesday boils down to this: to find a way of soothing the hurt national pride of an emerging economic superpower without being accused of a sellout by the Republican-dominated Congress.

In the two months since relations between Washington and Beijing took a nose dive over the Clinton administration's decision to grant the president of Taiwan a visa for a "private" visit to his American alma mater, the Chinese have made it clear that they expect the Americans to make amends.

The United States has taken the position that it has nothing to apologize for, while at the same time signaling it is anxious to avoid an all-out rift with a country that is likely to hold the key to Asian security in the next century and represents a huge potential market for American products.

In Beijing today, Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang said improved ties with Washington would be

impossible without positive American action to "correct its mistake." He also ruled out an early release of prominent Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu, who was arrested June 19 and has been charged with spying.

The U.S. decision to admit Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui touched a nerve among Chinese leaders, who are particularly sensitive to sovereignty matters, and aroused suspicions in Beijing that Washington was revising its long-standing "one China" policy. Relations deteriorated still further this month, following the arrest by China of Wu, and Beijing's holding of missile tests in the vicinity of Taiwan.

U.S. officials hope that the Christopher-Qian meeting in Brunei, where both men are attending a conference of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, will halt the downward spiral in U.S.-Chinese relations. They acknowledge that the outcome of the meeting is uncertain and the stakes are high. If Beijing fails to respond within the next few weeks to the American peace offering, including a personal letter from President Clinton to Chinese President Jiang Zemin, then U.S.-Chinese relations could be effectively frozen for the rest of the Clinton presidency.

In an attempt to persuade the Chinese to let bygones be bygones, U.S. officials are holding out the prospect of a Clinton-Jiang summit in the United States this fall. On the other hand, the Clinton administration is refusing to give in to Beijing's demand to provide a formal guarantee that there will be no more "private" visits by Taiwanese leaders to the United States.

"We don't intend to grovel," said a senior administration official accompanying Christopher. "We can't go as far as they would like us to go. It's not just a matter of the U.S. unilaterally fixing the situation. Both sides have to make an effort."

However, China has given little sign of making conciliatory gestures. Christopher has the misfortune of meeting Qian on the anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army, usually an occasion for tough talk and saber-rattling. In Beijing today, Defense Minister Chi Haotian refused to renounce the option of using military force against Taiwan. In a warning to the United States, Chi said the military "will not sit idle and let it go unchecked if foreign forces meddle in China's internal affairs to effect an 'independent Taiwan' or if the Taiwan

authorities are bent on splitting China."

One potentially explosive incident appeared to be defused this week when Taiwan's Lee indicated that he would be too busy in Taiwan to attend a September meeting in Alaska to which he was invited.

As he prepares for his two-hour session with Qian, Christopher has been torn between placating the Chinese and satisfying the demands of domestic public opinion in the United States. A revealing incident took place on the plane carrying his party to Brunei, when he spoke with journalists to outline his hopes of finding a "path forward" through the conflicting maze of domestic and Chinese pressures.

The journalists pressed Christopher on whether it would be possible to hold a Clinton-Jiang meeting if Wu remained in prison in China. Anxious to avoid further antagonizing the Chinese by laying out conditions for a summit, the secretary at first refused to rule out such a possibility. He said only that Wu's detention would be one of several "factors" that would be taken into consideration in deciding whether to hold such a meeting, which would take place following an already scheduled visit by Jiang to the United Nations.

An hour later, when aides realized that Christopher's cautious formulation could generate politically damaging headlines about abandoning Wu, the secretary reappeared in the press section of the plane. Clarifying his earlier statement, he told the journalists that it was "difficult to imagine" that Jiang would meet with Clinton at a time when Wu was still incarcerated.

When Christopher meets with Qian Tuesday, he will have the problem of explaining away the Clinton administration's earlier opposition to permitting the Taiwanese leader to visit Cornell University. After meeting with Christopher in May, Qian assured the Chinese Politburo that the United States would not grant Lee a visa, only to look foolish a few days later when Washington did so.

Speaking with journalists on board the plane to Brunei, Christopher said he had attempted to explain to Qian the complexities of the American system of government, and the ability of Congress to override presidential vetoes in some cases. He said he had tried to signal the "very strong congressional attitudes" in favor of permitting the Taiwanese leader in the country, but conceded that he might not have been "articulate enough" in getting the message across.

"I think it is a lot more useful to look forward than to look back," Christopher added.

Correspondent Steven Mufson contributed to this report from Beijing.

Beijing Sees U.S. Moves As Plot to Thwart China

By SETH FAISON

BEIJING, July 31 — Many senior members of China's military and political establishment have come to believe in recent months that the United States is actively conspiring to undermine China politically, economically and militarily, Chinese officials and Western experts say.

In this view, ominous signs are everywhere: The United States is trying to split Taiwan from the mainland, it is blocking China's entry into the World Trade Organization, and it is sending spies like the American human rights advocate Harry Wu to collect evidence in order to fabricate stories about China's penal system.

As Secretary of State Warren Christopher prepares to meet Foreign Minister Qian Qichen of China Tuesday in the sultanate of Brunei, Chinese-American relations are at their worst since the 1989 massacre in Beijing. Although concessions are possible at the meeting, as are polite promises to be nicer to each other in the future, it will be as hard to allay Chinese fears as it will be to make Americans forget about human rights.

The inflexible view that has taken hold in Beijing leaves no easy answers for the Clinton Administration, still struggling to come up with a China policy: Efforts to engage China have arguably achieved little, while threatening diplomatic sanctions would only isolate it more.

With Chinese Communist Party leadership in a precarious state of transition as Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader, nears death, analysts believe that President Jiang Zemin is unlikely to take any bold gestures necessary to achieve a breakthrough. Several military officers, a Chinese official said, complained recently that Mr. Jiang had responded too slowly to the American decision to allow President Lee Tung-hui of Taiwan to visit the United States in June.

To military officers, the Chinese official said, the United States is a wily and deceitful enemy that revealed its true nature when it approved Mr. Lee's visit, after promising it would not do so.

To this way of thinking, the United States has pretended for years to support China's aim of reunifying Taiwan with the mainland, but has now bared its true intention to help keep them apart by aiding Mr. Lee, whom the Chinese now accuse of secretly planning to declare independence for Taiwan.

"On Taiwan, there will be no concessions," a senior Foreign Ministry official said. "This is part of our national territory. It is like the American Civil War, when the U.S. Government took a very strong position against the British decision to sell arms to the South."

If this comparison sounds strained, it may be because the Chinese civil war ended 46 years ago. But the Chinese Defense Minister, Chi Haotian, reiterated today that China could use force to "settle the Taiwan issue," and criticized "foreign forces' attempts to interfere in China's internal affairs."

John W. Lewis, a professor at Stanford University, said he learned in recent meetings with Chinese military leaders in Beijing that they have ordered a comprehensive review of China's long dormant military contingency plans aimed at preventing Taiwan from declaring its independence.

"No one wants to go down this

path," Mr. Lewis said. "But the United States is forcing them to consider for the first time in decades developing contingency plans for a possible crisis that not only involves Taiwan's independence but United States intervention in the relationship between Taiwan and the mainland."

David Shambaugh, professor of Chinese politics at the University of London, said the emerging hard-line view hangs on four points: The United States is trying to divide China territorially, subvert it politically, contain it strategically and frustrate it economically.

"This consensus is now shared across the spectrum," said Mr. Shambaugh, who added that he was surprised by the uniformity of views he found in meetings with officials and scholars in Beijing last week. "The military has the decisive voice."

This view has not been articulated publicly. Yet it was hinted at in a series of unusually vitriolic official

From trade to Taiwan, China feels under assault.

People's Daily commentaries, which are typically issued after an internal consensus has been reached, and which this time accused the United States of colluding with President Lee to work toward a declaration of independence.

"Lee Tung-hui, in an attempt to win the support of the United States for his proposition on the independence of Taiwan, had done his utmost to drive a wedge in Chinese-American relations, and thus made himself a willing card in the hands of the United States," one commentary said. "In the United States there are indeed some people who always follow a policy of opposing and splitting China."

The senior Foreign Ministry official said that "we have received many views" from Chinese officials who see the United States as trying to undermine China.

If it seems obvious to anyone in Washington that the Clinton Administration has no coordinated China policy, Mr. Shambaugh added, China's military sees a clear plan.

"They now see a broad-gauged attack on China," Mr. Shambaugh said. "They're prepared to hunker down and resist the assault, and they frequently compare it with the 1950's, when Mao called the United States its principal enemy."

PM Congress-Harry Wu,650

Senate Seeks Boycott of Women's Conference

Eds: Prenoon EDT lead expected

With PM-US-China Bjt, By JIM ABRAMS= Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) The Senate is putting pressure on the State Department to boycott a U.N. women's conference to be held in Beijing if China continues to detain Chinese-American human rights activist Harry Wu.

A measure proposed by Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., and expected to come to a vote today would withhold half of the State Department's funds for international conferences, \$3.5 million, if money is spent on the Beijing conference while Wu is still being held.

Dole offered his amendment to a bill to abolish three major agencies and carry out other sweeping reforms of the State Department. The Senate also planned to vote on cutting off debate and setting a time for final action on the legislation.

Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, said she supported many of the goals of the Beijing conference but backed the Dole measure because it's wrong ``to hold a conference in a country who has violated in the worst way the human rights of an American citizen. And I think we have to stand up and be counted.''

Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said a delegation should participate in the September conference. But the administration has put off a decision on whether first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will attend.

Christopher said Monday that with the continued detention of Wu, it was ``very difficult for me to envision any circumstances'' where President Clinton would agree to meet Chinese President Jiang Zemin when both leaders are in New York in October for ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., said the Beijing conference was an opportunity to make U.S. positions on human rights clear to the world, and a boycott would be ``very shortsighted'' because it ``willfully deprives us of our own voice in the international arena.''

Wu, 58, who spent 19 years in the Chinese prison system before emigrating to the United States, has been a leader in exposing China's exports of prison-made goods and other abuses in labor camps. He was arrested upon entering China on June 19 and charged with trafficking in state secrets.

The Dole amendment led off debate on the plan, introduced by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., to reshape the State Department by eliminating three agencies, cutting personnel by 10,000 and stressing American interests.

Clinton has declared the bill ``dangerous and shortsighted'' and promised to veto it.

It would abolish the U.S. Information Agency, the Agency for International Development and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, folding their functions in the State Department.

The bill also would eliminate more than 25 senior-level bureaucratic positions while setting up an America Desk in the secretary's office to promote U.S. commercial interests abroad.

It reduces funding for U.N. peacekeeping operations and requires the president to report to Congress 15 days before the United States casts a vote in the U.N. Security Council relating to peacekeeping. And, in another measure aimed at China, it expands the definition of political persecution to include people forced to have an abortion or undergo sterilization under a state population-control program.

The House has already passed similar legislation to revamp the State Department and cut foreign aid. The Senate is covering foreign aid in a separate bill.

The amendment on the women's conference also included language, inserted by Helms and passed Monday by 94-2, to withhold \$10 million in payments to the United Nations if the secretary of state does not report to Congress the names of U.N. diplomats and missions with overdue debts to American businesses and individuals.

The Washington Times reported Monday that U.N. diplomats and missions owe more than \$9 million to U.S. banks, landlords, hotels and other merchants in New York City.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 08/01/95 at 02:48EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 08/01/95 at 08:57EDT ****

First lady promotes conference in China

Hillary Clinton tells Denver audience that boycott of women's meeting makes no sense

by Katie Kewler 7-27-95 P. 4A
Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

Hillary Rodham Clinton hinted during a speech in Denver that he will attend the United Nations conference on women in China in September.

Protesters have urged her to boycott the conference because of China's poor human rights record. While their intentions may be proper, they are "missing the point," Clinton told 3,000 delegates to the national Summit on Women's Economic Security.

"Human rights cannot be separated from women's rights," Clinton said, as the crowd of supporters applauded. "Women's rights to economic opportunities and political participation should be a part of the human rights agenda."

Clinton said the United States must exert strong leadership at the conference, although she did not say specifically that she would attend. A spokesman for Clinton said the State, Department and National Security Council, not Clinton herself, will decide next month whether she'll go.

The first lady made the comments about China during a luncheon at the Colorado Convention Center, where she pressed for women's rights, parity in the workplace, improved health care, a family friendly environment and

an end to age discrimination.

Earlier Wednesday, Clinton visited Mi Casa, a Denver training and counseling center that works to make women economically self-sufficient.

She sat in on a class where young single parents were learning about setting up businesses. She also participated in a roundtable discussion with female entrepreneurs who had established businesses with Mi Casa's help.

Clinton seized both forums to deliver an explicitly political message.

At the luncheon, she discussed affirmative action, saying women and minorities not only need affirmative action, but "affirmative thinking" as well.

Clinton also defended mothers on welfare, maligned in Washington since Republicans gained control of Congress. She said the government and private groups, like the Women's Foundation of Colorado which sponsored Wednesday's summit, must work together to help women rise from poverty.

Clinton even brought up health care, a topic she has avoided since the Clinton administration's health-care plan flopped last year.

"We have to view health care as an investment in people that enables them to achieve economic security," Clinton said.

She did not answer any questions. And she made no remarks about the Whitewater hearings or the death of her friend, White House lawyer Vincent Foster. While she was in Denver, senators

were questioning her chief of staff to learn whether the aide had taken documents from Foster's office the night he died.

Clinton appeared unruffled by the hearing, focusing on potential benefits from the Denver summit.

"If you are able to provide economic security for women," she said, "you are more likely to ensure that families and communities are also economically secure. That is something that we have learned all over the world."

Clinton shares a tale of genies and genius

RMN 7-27-95 P. 52A

Hillary Rodham Clinton may have been the keynote speaker at the summit, but her husband had his say.

DeWay Myers, director of Women's Issues and Outreach for the White House, said she bumped into President Clinton recently and let him know that she was attending the Colorado conference. She asked if he had anything to send along.

Clinton told Myers this: He was invited to go fishing a couple of weeks ago with House speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate majority leader Bob Dole.

They were out in the boat on the Potomac when the president reeled in an urn. They pulled the urn into the boat and unscrewed a cap on it. Out popped a genie.

The genie told the president she'd grant him any wish he wanted. "Make me 25% smarter," the president asked. "Poof, you're 25% smarter," the genie told the president.

Dole, not to be outdone, asked to be 50% smarter. "Poof, you're 50% smarter," the genie told Dole.

Gingrich wanted to be 100% smarter. "Are you sure, Mr. Speaker?" the genie asked. "I'm sure," Gingrich replied.

"Poof," the genie said. "Now you're a woman."

Women take over the men's rooms

At a conference catering to 3,100 women and only a handful of men, signs in front of many men's restrooms at the Colorado Convention Center

SUMMIT, INC.

warned, "This is a women's restroom during this event."

So it's not surprising that a rather desperate man was seen next to a volunteer, who was speaking on a cell phone to another volunteer asking: "Then what men's restrooms are actually for men?"

Seeking forgiveness for her senators

DeWay Considine, wife of conservative former state senator Terry Considine and the president of The Women's Foundation, helped introduce Hillary Rodham Clinton. But stayed away from partisan issues.

She started introductions by telling the story of her young daughter introducing her father to fellow kindergartners as a "state sinner." Most laughed, but Denver council member Dennis Gallagher didn't think it was a mistake. "His voting record supports that."

Women hold up half the vocabulary

Marjorie Margulies Moravsky, director of the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in September in Beijing, said China may not be prepared for the 50,000 women expected.

The Chinese character for peace, she says, is a woman with a little house over her head. The character for happiness is a woman with a child next to her. The character for trouble: three women.

'Dangerous minds' shake up the world

Hillary Rodham Clinton was the main speaker at Wednesday's event, but Coloradoan Sumner Hunt also struck a chord.

heir and largest contributor to the Clinton campaign, introduced the first lady comparing her to an equally controversial predecessor — Eleanor Roosevelt. "It's dangerous being as smart and as competent as Eleanor Roosevelt was — or as Hillary Rodham Clinton," he said.

China unveils video of Wu 'confession'

The Washington Times

FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1995

By Ben Barber
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A1

Christopher gets ready for Asia trip

Two days before Secretary of State Warren Christopher heads for Asia on a fence-mending trip, China yesterday released a videotape that purports to show human rights activist Harry Wu confessing that he falsified news reports on slave labor.

State Department officials were studying the tape and would not predict whether it would lead to an early release of Mr. Wu or to his conviction on charges of espionage.

"We have not established the validity of these tapes," said State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns. "If they are valid, I think everybody understands the conditions under which such tapes are made."

"Harry Wu has been a tireless advocate of human rights... and therefore we would look at such tapes with a great deal of skepticism."

Mr. Burns said Mr. Wu's detention would remain high on the agenda in talks in Brunei next week between Mr. Christopher and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

"It is certainly an issue in U.S.-China relations and will remain an issue until Mr. Wu is returned safely to his home in California,"

Mr. Burns said.

The widening furor over Mr. Wu, who has strong support on Capitol Hill, comes as U.S. relations with the world's most populous nation have plunged to the lowest point in many years.

China is furious over the recent U.S. visit by the president of Taiwan, which China considers a breakaway province; by jet sales to Taiwan; and by U.S. complaints over human rights in China and Tibet.

The United States is rattled by China's nuclear and missile sales to Iran and Pakistan, its aggressive trade policies, and its military moves into the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

see CHINA, page A15

From page A1

The videotapes, which were sold for \$3,000 to the news media, show Mr. Wu being interrogated by police officials. He appears unaware of a television camera placed high on a wall facing him.

The grainy black-and-white footage of "See the Lies of Wu Hongda," a title that uses Mr. Wu's Chinese name, provides one of the first glimpses of the activist since he was detained June 19.

Mr. Wu, 58, sits in an armchair, his head bowed, hands nervously clasping and unfolding. Two police officers sit in front of him, and two others flank him.

The tape shows Mr. Wu admitting there were unspecified errors in his news reports on slave labor and the sale of human organs from executed prisoners in China. In the tape, Mr. Wu says the British Broadcasting Corp. is responsible for the errors.

"In the tape released by the Chinese, Harry Wu is clearly under duress during hostile cross-examination," the BBC said in a statement released yesterday. "The BBC stands by the reports."

The official Xinhua news agency said that when police questioned Mr. Wu, "he confessed to having deliberately falsified the facts on the two videotapes."

"The contents of the two videotapes, falsely accusing China of



Human rights activist Harry Wu is shown being interrogated in a newly released videotape, which was sold for \$3,000 to the news media.

exporting products made by prisoners and transplanting and selling the organs of capital prisoners, were 'wrong' and 'untrue,' admitted American Wu Hongda, who cooked up the tapes together with BBC correspondent Susan [Lloyd] Roberts," Xinhua said.

A U.S. official said: "We have no idea if the tape is authentic. If it was made by the captors, it would be coerced."

He also said such a confession was an example of a "particularly odious method used around the world by communists" — forcing

prisoners to make confessions in public show trials.

Supporters of Mr. Wu, who lives in Milpitas, Calif., denounced the Xinhua report. "They're clearly using their entire propaganda apparatus," said Jeff Fiedler, director of the Laogai Research Foundation.

Mr. Wu is executive director of the foundation, which researches

"I think everybody understands the conditions under which such tapes are made."

— Nicholas Burns
State Department spokesman

the Chinese gulag, known as the Laogai, and is a research fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

"He is under their control. I don't believe he's under his free will to speak," said Barry Chang, founder and chairman of Silicon Valley for Democracy in China, which has been seeking Mr. Wu's release.

• This article is based in part on wire service reports.

China Says Detained American Rights Advocate Admits Falsifying TV Documentaries

By SETH FAISON

BEIJING, July 27 — China said today that Harry Wu, the American citizen being held here on charges of spying, had confessed to deliberately falsifying information in two documentaries he helped prepare last year on China's penal system.

But a videotape sold here today by a Chinese company, showing Mr. Wu being interrogated under intimidating circumstances, failed to fully back up the Chinese Government's allegations.

In the 15-minute tape, the first public glimpse of Mr. Wu since he was apprehended in June, he looks tired and unshaven but healthy. Sitting in an armchair, surrounded closely by four police officers, he appears to speak freely as he answers questions, although at times he also seems exasperated at their repetitive nature.

Mr. Wu, 58, who earned the ire of the Chinese Government by publicizing abuses in its prison system, was apprehended when he tried to enter China from Kazakhstan on June 19. Mr. Wu is well known among Washington politicians and Western human rights groups and his arrest has aggravated Sino-American rela-

tions, which were already under great strain. Instead of turning Mr. Wu away at the border, Chinese authorities detained him and charged him with spying and stealing state secrets.

In an odd combination of old-style Communist methods and modern merchandising, the Chinese offered the videotape of the purported confession to Western news organizations for sale only. Initially, the state-affiliated China Intercontinental Communications Center demanded \$50,000 per copy but after finding no takers they sold the tape to some Western television news agencies for \$3,000 a copy.

The tape is titled "Just See the Lies of Wu Hongda," Mr. Wu's Chinese name. The questions and answers are in Chinese, with English subtitles.

A dispatch today by the New China News Agency accused Mr. Wu of intentionally providing false information for two documentaries he helped prepare for the British Broadcasting Corporation with a British reporter and producer, Sue Lloyd Roberts — one on the export of Chinese prison labor and another on the sale of human organs from the

bodies of prisoners who had been executed.

"When he was questioned by the police, he confessed to having deliberately falsified the facts on the two videotapes," the news agency reported.

However, in the Chinese videotape that was released today, Mr. Wu is seen blaming the BBC for using incorrect information in the documentaries, but not actually admitting any wrongdoing himself, except for lying about his identity when he posed as a buyer of human organs.

Mr. Wu, who once described himself as an expert at handling Chinese interrogations after serving 19 years as a political prisoner here, seems to adopt a tone of admission during the questioning, and concedes on several occasions that the documentaries were incorrect, without acknowledging any crime himself.

When asked directly whether he supplied data for the documentaries, Mr. Wu changes the subject with what sounds like an admission — "the whole situation was wrong," — but actually shifts responsibility to the BBC.

"Who edited the commentary?" the policeman asks.

Beijing provides a videotape, but it does not prove the charges.

"The BBC," Mr. Wu replies.

Does the report have "any foundation," the interrogator asks.

"I've said it's wrong," Mr. Wu says.

At no time during the videotape does Mr. Wu admit to spying or stealing state secrets, the most serious charges against him.

The New China News Agency insisted that many items in the BBC documentaries — from the availability of goods made by prison labor to the ease with which foreigners can buy human organs in Chinese hospitals — were inaccurate.

A spokesman for the BBC in London said the news organization stood by its programs, but was reviewing the charges made by the Chinese and was planning to issue a point-by-point rebuttal.

One point of contention has been videotaped scenes of surgery that appeared in the documentary alleging sale of prisoners' organs. Although the voice-over discussed the purported sale of kidneys, the operation depicted was apparently heart surgery.

Ms. Lloyd-Roberts, who produced the documentary on a free-lance basis for the BBC, said in a recent interview that while hospital officials had claimed they were presenting a kidney operation for filming she had been suspicious, and that the documentary never directly asserts that viewers are seeing a kidney transplant.

After the documentary aired, some staff members at the BBC in London questioned whether viewers had been misled by the scenes, according to a BBC producer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Chinese videotape released today includes an interview with Chen Zuxun, 65, described as the patient whose heart operation was shown in the documentary, and who bares his chest to show the scar.

In recent interviews, both Ms. Lloyd-Roberts and the BBC said that Mr. Wu had had nothing to do with

the decision to air the disputed scenes. "I found him meticulous in his approach to the investigation," Ms. Lloyd-Roberts said.

American television networks including NBC News, ABC News, CBS News and CNN said they had obtained the Chinese videotape of the interrogation from one of two London-based services, Worldwide Television News and Reuters Television, both of which had purchased it in Beijing. A spokesman for CNN in Atlanta said the network had also purchased a copy.

Some wire services and newspapers, including The New York Times, viewed copies that had been obtained by the television agencies.

A United States official said Mr. Wu had been visited only once by a consular official, on July 10. The official is not due for another visit until next month. The United States has not been informed of the progress of the investigation into Mr. Wu's case, the official said.

The New China News Agency also accused Mr. Wu of a host of new charges, including embezzlement, swindling, and "seducing to rape girl students" when he was a university instructor.

China Claims American Confessed

Videotape Shows Wu Interrogated About Allegations

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Foreign Service

A1

BEIJING, July 27—China released a videotape of Harry Wu today that it says shows the Chinese American human rights activist confessing to fabricating allegations about prison labor and the sale of organs of executed prisoners for transplant.

The 13-minute videotape shows excerpts from two BBC programs that Wu helped produce, along with fuzzy black-and-white film of Wu being interrogated by four Chinese security officers. It is titled "Just See the Lies of Wu Hongda," using Wu's Chinese name. His interrogation is shown in Chinese with English subtitles; other parts of the video have voice-over narration.

At one point, the narrator declares that "our interviews with interested parties and judicial departments . . . indicate that the [BBC] tapes were deliberately falsified."

The videotape is the first glimpse of the 58-year-old Wu since his detention June 19 when he tried to cross into China from Kazakhstan. On July 8, he was charged with spying, theft of state secrets and "sneaking" into the country. His arrest dealt another blow to U.S.-China relations, which have deteriorated rapidly in recent months over a number of issues.

The U.S. State Department has said Wu carried a valid passport and visa and has demanded his release. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said in Washington that "everybody understands the conditions under which such tapes are made."

See WU, A30, Col. 1

WU, From A1

"Harry Wu has been a tireless advocate of human rights," Burns said. "He has spoken very clearly under adverse circumstances about human rights problems in China. And therefore we would look at such tapes with a great deal of skepticism."

Jeff Fiedler, a union official who sits on the board of Wu's Laogai Foundation, which promotes Wu's work, said in a telephone interview that the video made no dent in the substance of Wu's allegations. "Harry has identified 1,100 labor camps, and they don't say anything about that. He has named six companies in the United States for importing prison labor products, and none has ever sued him for libel or even threatened to," Fiedler said.

The Chinese-born Wu, who spent 19 years in Chinese labor camps for criticizing the Communist Party and the Soviet invasion of Hungary, emigrated to the United States in 1985 and later became an American citizen. He has traveled back to China several times to expose conditions in what he calls "the Chinese gulag" and he has frequently testified before Congress about Chinese prison labor products and prison conditions. Follow-up investigations by the U.S. Customs Service have led to import bans on certain Chinese goods.

The videotape released today shows him being formally charged on July 8 in Wuhan, standing before police officers with his belongings on a table. Wu, who has grown a beard since his arrest, looks tired in the film, slouches in an armchair and responds to questions in a low and almost indistinct voice.

The tape is identified as being produced by the Chinese International Communication Center. Li Mian, a spokeswoman for the firm, told United Press International that it is directly responsible to the State Council, China's cabinet. The official New

China News Agency carried a summary of the tape.

The videotape omits some of the questions put to Wu, and some of his remarks trail off in half sentences. But he can be heard criticizing aspects of the BBC programs.

The BBC broadcast two programs harshly critical of China. One alleged widespread use of prison labor and exports of products made with prison labor. The second described the sale of organs of executed prisoners to people seeking transplants.

"I've said, I made a phone call to BBC and told them about the two wrong places," Wu said on the video. He then seemed to indicate that the BBC program had incorrectly identified leather jackets and children's garments as being manufactured at a prison labor camp. He also appeared to take issue with grave sites the program said were those of executed prisoners; Wu said they were the graves of ordinary people.

"It's not prison labor. It shouldn't be like that. . . . She is wrong. I don't know what her basis was," Wu said at another point, in reference to Susan Lloyd-Roberts, the producer of the BBC programs. In London, Lloyd-Roberts said, "We stand completely by the story," according to Reuters.

Fiedler said the video focused on editorial disputes between Wu and Lloyd-Roberts and on one error Fiedler says that Lloyd-Roberts made by misidentifying ordinary grave sites as those of executed prisoners.

Fiedler added that the videotape fails to refute charges about the harvesting of organs from executed prisoners. The Chinese government has acknowledged using the organs of ex-

ecuted prisoners for transplants but says that it first obtains permission from the inmates.

The video released today showed interviews with doctors, administrators and a patient from a hospital Wu visited with Lloyd-Roberts while helping the television producer research the alleged sale of organs. The hospital staff described how Wu concealed his identity by saying he was from Tuscaloosa University in Alabama and presenting a phony letter about a sick uncle who needed a kidney transplant.

Wu is then shown in his interrogation saying that the story about his uncle wasn't true. Wu has said before that he used ruses to gain entry to prohibited areas.

"None of the doctors told me the kidneys were from condemned prisoners. All said they were from patients of brain death," Wu said.

Fiedler noted that Wu never said that the information about harvesting of prisoners' organs had come from the doctors. He cited information from patients.

Fiedler said Wu's comments were snippets of longer interrogations. "I trust everyone is looking at this with a fairly jaundiced eye," he added.

Wu's admission that he deceived people about his mission in China is likely to be a key part of the case against him. The New China News Agency said that since June 1991, Wu disguised himself as a Chinese policeman to enter areas closed to foreigners and filmed from a hidden camera.

The Chinese videotape also alleged that before emigrating, Wu had been convicted of embezzlement, plotting to illegally cross the national border and seducing students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To read a Post profile of Wu's campaign, see *Digital Ink*, The Post's on-line service. To learn about *Digital Ink*, call 1-800-510-5104, ext. 9000.

RED CHINESE TAPE

Beijing Bureaucracy Seen Impeding Women's Conclave

By Steven Mufson
Washington Post Foreign Service

BEIJING

Organizations planning to attend a U.N. conference on women and a parallel gathering for private women's groups here say they are being hampered by bureaucratic obstacles and the Beijing government's tardy preparation for the events.

The Fourth U.N. World Conference on Women and the collateral Non-Governmental Forum on Women are scheduled for late August through mid-September, but Beijing officials are still constructing a rudimentary site for the forum, wading through 34,000 visa applications and laying out ground rules that include restrictions on video equipment and printed materials that participants can bring into the country.

With time running out, many groups fear China's Communist leadership is using bureaucratic stalling tactics to limit attendance at the forum, particularly by women critical of China's human rights record or otherwise viewed as "hostile" to the Beijing government.

That would belie a commitment to unrestricted forum attendance the government was said to have made when U.N. officials acquiesced in its decision to move the meeting from central Beijing—near the site of the U.N. conference—to Huairou, a sleepy former garrison town about 35 miles and an hour's drive from the capital. Just today, the Chinese committee organizing the events acknowledged at a news conference that the Huairou site will accommodate less than a third of the people who have applied to attend the Forum.

The committee also said it had begun only this week to mail out hotel confirmation letters to forum delegates—letters the government requires before it will approve visa applications. Even with the best of intentions, it would be a massive bureaucratic task for China to get all

See BEIJING, A30, Col. 3

BEIJING, From A29

36,000 letters out in time for applicants to obtain visas. "We're going through them one by one," a committee spokesman said.

Initially, the only requirement for those wishing to take part in the non-governmental meeting was to register with forum organizers in New York; now, diplomats here say they have been swamped by procedural complaints and visa queries from would-be delegates. "Right now, I am in bureaucratic hell trying to figure out if I will have a visa," said a Chicago woman here who hopes to attend the meeting.

Last Friday, a U.N. agency in Geneva rejected accreditation to the official U.N. conference for 11 groups whose attendance was opposed primarily by China and Iran. These and other groups are now waiting to see if they are granted visas to attend the forum in accordance with China's U.N. pledge.

All this may make it awkward for first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to attend the U.N. conference, a decision her office says she is still contemplating. If she does not attend, the U.S. government delegation will be led by U.N. Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright.

"It's been clear all along that there's been an effort to deny some groups participation" in the official U.N. conference, said Susana Fried of the Center for Women's Global Leadership, an organization based at Rutgers University in New Jersey. However, with confirmation letters still in the mail, Fried said the jury is still out on visas for delegates to the women's Forum. "It's extremely difficult to

know if it's the slowness of the bureaucracy or if there's a more deliberate strategy to reduce participation."

The visa controversy is only the latest to plague the events. In March 1992, the United Nations agreed to hold its official conclave in Beijing, and China agreed at the same time to accommodate an estimated 20,000 delegates to an ancillary, unofficial gathering at a downtown stadium.

But apparently fearing that it would be unable to control demonstrations by crowds of foreign women in the capital, the government abruptly declared earlier this year that the stadium had structural defects and announced that the forum would be moved to suburban Huairou.

The decision was believed to have been spurred in part by memories of a 1989 visit here by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who arrived with a large number of journalists in the midst of the epic student-led democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square.

After shifting the site of the forum, China launched a frantic effort to prepare meeting facilities and accommodations at Huairou for the 36,000 people who had registered to attend. At their news conference today, members of the Chinese organizing committee said preparations there were going smoothly, but their descriptions dismayed foreign women's groups.

The committee said the site comprises 75 small rooms and 80 tents for seminars; a large hall in a converted movie theater that holds 1,500 people; a pavilion without walls that can hold 2,000; and seven shopping centers. At most, these facilities can

accommodate about 10,000 people at any one time, said Wan Siquan, deputy secretary general of the committee. The rest of the participants, he said, would have an opportunity to do some sightseeing on government-run tours or view "cultural shows."

Forum participants will be linked to the U.N. conference in Beijing by phone, closed-circuit television and electronic mail, the committee said. There will be hotel space for 10,000 people in Huairou; the rest will be bused there daily from Beijing.

When the conclave was conceived, women's groups had lobbied for a meeting site close to the official U.N. assemblage in hopes of influencing the official conference's final declaration. They also had sought a venue that included a meeting hall large enough to accommodate at least 10,000 delegates; both requirements were satisfied by the Beijing stadium, they said.

Meanwhile, forum organizers in New York have declared themselves satisfied with the Huairou arrangements so far. Irene Santiago, executive director of the sponsoring group, said Huairou "has been transformed into a site that the . . . forum can really use." She added that the Chinese have promised to provide forum participants with buses every 20 minutes from hotels in Beijing to Huairou and back, but European diplomats here have calculated that it would take hours or even days to transport 20,000 people by shuttle buses along the two-lane road.

Patricia Rengel of Amnesty International USA here agreed that the logistics seemed unmanageable. Shifting the site to Huairou "was clearly a step to distance [the Forum] from the government conference," she said.

Staff writer William Branigin in Washington contributed to this report.

White House dilemma

Hillary unsure she should lead delegation to China

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For months, Hillary Rodham Clinton has had her fingers crossed, hoping U.S.-Chinese relations would be smooth enough for her to attend an international women's conference in Beijing this fall. She's not packing her bags just yet.

Amid escalating tensions between Washington and Beijing, the first lady and others are debating whether her attendance at the massive U.N. conference would advance women's interests at the expense of human rights.

Many in the State Department and White House say privately it would send the wrong signal for Mrs. Clinton to lead the U.S. delegation, offering China a reward of sorts for improper behavior including the detention of human rights activist Harry Wu.

"There shouldn't be any argument about it," said one administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Others say the issue is far from clear cut. In fact, some believe the best way to advance human rights would be to send a strong U.S. delegation.

"These are issues that tear at individuals," said a second administration official. "Right

at the White House, there are a lot of diverging views."

Mrs. Clinton makes no secret of the fact that she would love to go.

Bruised in last year's health-care wars, she has pulled back from domestic policy-making this year and offered herself as an international advocate for women. An appearance in Beijing would build on her participation earlier this year in an international poverty conference in Copenhagen and her five-nation tour of South Asia this spring.

Aides say the first lady hopes the conference itself can be separated from its location — as though she's not really visiting China, just attending a U.N. event that happens to be taking place there.

That argument doesn't work for many within the administration, but officials wary of dictating to the first lady are hopeful Mrs. Clinton will reach that conclusion on her own.

Chances of Mrs. Clinton attending the fourth World Conference on Women dimmed last month after rocky U.S.-Chinese relations got worse with the detention of Wu, a Chinese-born American.

The White House says no decision has been

made on whether Mrs. Clinton will attend. But privately, officials doubt Mrs. Clinton, who is honorary chairwoman of the U.S. delegation, will attend the Sept. 4-15 conference unless Wu is released.

Human rights advocates have different ideas on how best to advance their cause: boycott the conference altogether, send a limited delegation, have Mrs. Clinton lead the charge.

"Mrs. Clinton would provide the Chinese government a major propaganda opportunity that they should not be given," said Mike Jendrzewski, Washington director of Human Rights Watch-Asia. His group thinks the United States should participate, but with a lower-profile delegation.

Wu's wife, Ching Lee Wu, says it would be wrong to send any U.S. delegation while her husband is in prison. Amnesty International wants "the most competent and informed delegation possible," without saying whether that should include Mrs. Clinton.

Looming over the debate are Republican threats to withdraw financing for the U.S. delegation altogether.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., chairman of the House International Relations Committee's



Associated Press file photo

IN A QUANDARY: First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton hopes to lead U.S. delegation to U.N. conference on women.

panel on human rights, is pushing legislation to scrap the delegation unless China releases Wu and eases conference restrictions.

The conservative Concerned Women for America, already unhappy with what it sees as a feminist tilt to the likely delegation, says simply, "China is not the place for this conference to happen."

"We don't believe that a delegation should go at all," said CWA's Penny Young.

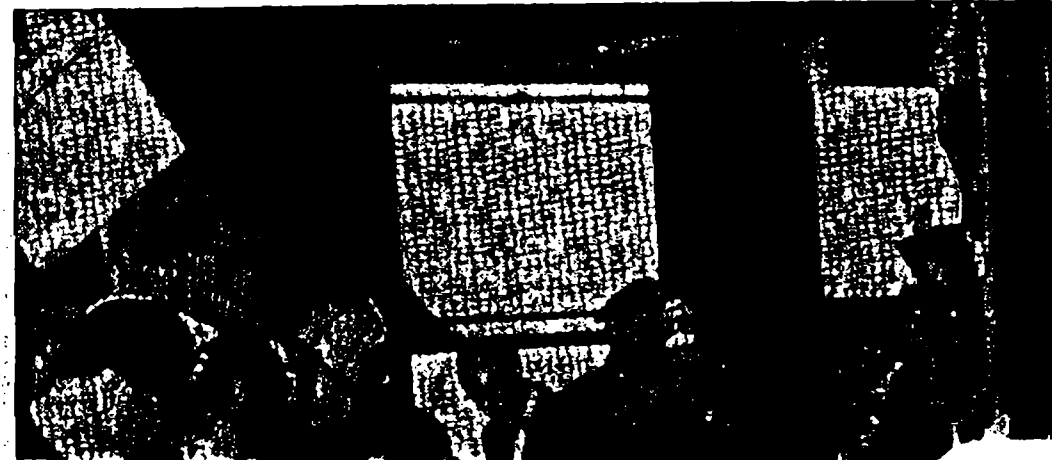
EMPIRE DISASTER

B-25 crash shook building

By Frank Lombardi
Knight-Ridder News Service

NEW YORK — On that

**SPECIAL
REPORT**



U.N. tries to avert discord on women

Talks set to fix Beijing agenda

By George Archibald
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

U.N. organizers of an international women's conference in Beijing are holding an advance meeting next week to try to head off a fight over disputed portions of a draft "Platform for Action," the head of the parley said yesterday.

Gertrude Mongella, secretary-general for the Fourth World Conference on Women, told reporters that countries participating in the conference will reach advance "understandings" on disputed provisions ranging from total equality for women in the workplace to government action on birth control, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases.

The weeklong advance meeting will start Monday in New York. The women's conference in Beijing is set for Sept. 4-15.

The U.N. decision to get advance agreements brought a cry of foul from Mercedes Arzu Wilson, a delegate from Guatemala, who shares many of the Vatican's views on platform references concerning family, motherhood and sexuality that feminist groups oppose.

"They're not supposed to have these meetings. They've changed the rules," Mrs. Wilson said yesterday. "Poor-country delegates cannot afford to attend. They [U.N. officials] say they can use their U.N. delegation in New York, but they do not know the document.... This is a way for the larger developed countries and the World Bank to get their way and force the Third World countries to go along with their agenda."

"In the United Nations, governments do negotiate," Mrs. Mon-



Gertrude Mongella, United Nations secretary-general for the women's conference in Beijing, speaks at the National Press Club yesterday.

gella said at a National Press Club briefing. "We do get gentlemen's agreement and we do get gentlemen's agreement. When we say an agreement will be reached, language in the document will still be bracketed, but when we get to Beijing a lot of understandings will be reached."

About one-third of the 121-page draft platform covering economic, employment, health and social issues — including whole sections dealing with a disputed "gender perspective" that has raised the specter of U.N.-sanctioned "omni-sexuality" worldwide — is under dispute.

Feminist groups — led by former Congresswoman Bella Abzug, who now heads the Women's Environment and Development Organization — have opposed adding references to "family," "motherhood" and "father," and to a definition of "gender" that makes clear the term "refers to woman and man as the two sexes of the human

being."

Traditional women's groups, led by the Holy See, the Vatican's observer delegate to the United Nations, and Muslim nations oppose sections that extol government-supported programs to replace the primary family roles of fathers and mothers, spread artificial birth-control methods and support sterilization programs.

Mrs. Mongella, a Tanzanian, said the aim of the conference is to "put us [women] in the decision-making and maybe we will fix up the mess men have put us in."

Mrs. Mongella praised China's cooperation during conference preparations and rejected suggestions that Beijing was the wrong location for the parley because of China's poor human-rights record and the arrest of American human rights activist Harry Wu.

"As much as the issues of China are important, they cannot replace the importance of the agenda for women," she said. "Women are

very far from being equal."

Women in many countries still "cannot inherit property.... People are still raped, battered in their own homes where they are supposed to be protected," she said. "There is a need of dialogue and negotiation. [Women] must participate in decision-making. That will make a big difference."

The conference secretary-general said she was concerned that the United States might back out of the conference because of deteriorating U.S.-Chinese relations and congressional action prompted by the imprisonment of Mr. Wu.

"We cannot change many things if governments are not partners," she said. "We talk of human rights, and that is a right — for people to be represented where other governments are participating."

Mrs. Mongella ducked a question about the possibility that the White House may scuttle plans for first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to lead the U.S. delegation.

Composition of the U.S. delegation "must be a concern of the U.S. people to deal with," she said. "It is an internal problem."

Similarly, she sidestepped a question concerning China's move to prevent accreditation and visas for delegations representing Taiwan and Tibetan women. "Questions on visas are the responsibility of each sovereign state," Mrs. Mongella said.

"You can't leave the United States and go straight to Cuba," she said of American restrictions requiring travelers to reach Cuba from another foreign departure point.

"There are all kinds of rules and regulations. It's the mess of the men," the U.N. official said. "They have been putting these rules while we have not been in the decision-making. We must fix up the mess of men."

Christopher to try detente with China

By Martin Sieff
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Beijing still irate over Lee's visit

Secretary of State Warren Christopher tomorrow will deliver a key speech on U.S. policy in Asia that the Clinton administration hopes will help improve relations with China.

Mr. Christopher's afternoon address at the National Press Club will try to reassure the government in Beijing that the administration will maintain the one-China policy the United States has followed for nearly a quarter-century.

Relations between Beijing and Washington have plummeted since the Clinton administration last month permitted a private visit to the United States by President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan. Neither of the Pacific powers currently has an ambassador in each other's capital, the lowest level their formal

relations have been since they were established 16 years ago.

President Clinton is apparently unwilling to guarantee that Mr. Lee or other future Taiwanese leaders will be forbidden from making private visits to the United States. But sources said the administration is prepared to privately assure Beijing that such visits would be very infrequent.

Beijing issued its fourth vitriolic attack on Mr. Lee in as many days yesterday. "Relations between the two sides of the straits are now at a crucial point," said a Xinhua commentary.

In the past week, China has also test-fired six missiles off the coast of Taiwan, generating fears the Communist government could resort to force against the island. All

six missiles fired by the People's Liberation Army at targets in the East China Sea hit their targets, China's official Xinhua news agency said.

The missile tests sent tremors of fear through Taiwan, causing the stock market to plunge.

But senior U.S. officials remain confident good relations can be restored.

Mr. Christopher is scheduled to meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at the annual Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) meeting in Brunei next Tuesday. Tomorrow's speech is seen as a walk-up to that meeting.

There had been speculation that Mr. Lee might seek to attend a U.S.-Taiwanese economic meeting in Alaska in December. But the Tai-

wanese have assured the administration that he will not, administration sources said.

U.S. sources said senior State Department and National Security Council officials both warned that letting Mr. Lee visit the United States would provoke a fierce Chinese reaction.

But Mr. Clinton instead listened to other voices, particularly NSC Chief of Staff Nancy Soderberg, who advises him on the domestic implications of foreign policy decisions.

Administration sources said Washington would seek to renew its dialogue on a number of levels.

But James L. Lilley, former U.S. ambassador to China in the Reagan administration, said that for the first time in more than 25 years, the Chinese did not believe there was a top U.S. official who particularly understood their concerns.

Helms asks \$4 million AID question

Senator seeks State report on money paid to Chad officials

By Joyce Price
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Sen. Jesse Helms, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, has asked Secretary of State Warren Christopher for a "full accounting" of \$4 million in federal money used to pay salaries of Chadean government officials.

Mr. Helms, a North Carolina Republican, discovered the payments in an unclassified cable sent by Laurence Pope, U.S. ambassador to Chad, to State Department officials earlier this year.

"Our parting gift of \$4 million for government salaries will have been paid out by the end of May," Mr. Pope wrote in the cable.

"This is delicately known in the trade as non-project assistance, which translates as the payment of government salaries, the premise being that we are making up for lost revenues," said Mr. Pope. "AID treats it as something of a guilty secret ... whatever it is, it isn't sustainable development."

Mr. Pope also indicated that half of the \$300 million in assistance that the U.S. Agency for International Development has provided Chad since fiscal 1982 has been wasted.

"We never build or fix anything, to speak of, and our programs have little direct contact with poor peo-

ple," Mr. Pope wrote.

He noted that he blocked one AID study, which would have featured Chadians assessing whether the "Chadian state is viable. ... What exactly would we have done if they had concluded that it wasn't?" the ambassador asked.

Mr. Helms said his committee was notified that the \$4 million would be used for an agricultural trade-policy reform program.

"Nowhere in the notification is there the slightest mention of payment of government salaries" nor of a "parting gift" to the Third World country, Mr. Helms told Mr. Christopher in the letter.

He said he wonders how many other "delicate terms of art exist to conceal the real nature of the expenditure of taxpayer monies" by AID.

A source close to the committee said an AID notice it received this month that included a \$10 million obligation for "non-project assistance" for a "regional rail restructuring program" in Malawi also was raising red flags.

AID spokesman Jay Byrne said Mr. Helms has a bill pending to eliminate most of the agency's programs.

"The agency takes that very seriously," he said.

As for the senator's concerns about U.S. funding going to pay for

salaries of African government officials and civil servants, Mr. Byrne said, "AID does not, as a matter of course, transfer money to other governments. Taxpayers wouldn't put up with that."

For the most part, he said, AID funding goes to private contractors who provide specific services.

However, he acknowledged "non-project assistance" can provide direct aid to foreign governments on a short-term basis. He was unable to address whether such aid to Malawi will pay any government salaries.

As for the \$4 million in "non-project assistance" that went to Chad, Mr. Byrne provided AID documents showing that this money was the final installment of a program of disbursements begun in 1992.

The Clinton administration has ended all AID programs in Chad, Mr. Byrne said.

A notification to Congress in August 1992 stated that the money for the Chad Agriculture Trade and Policy Reform Program "will be used to pay salaries and other related expenses of the [Chad] Ministry of Agriculture." AID said that under the program, the "U.S. paid approximately 6,600 civil servants for the months of November 1994 through February 1995."

BC-CLINTON-HILLARY

US asked to shape China women's conference

DENVER, July 26 (Reuter) - Hillary Rodham Clinton said on Wednesday the United States should have an important presence at an upcoming U.N. conference on women in China, but did not address the question of whether she would attend.

"It is important in my opinion that the United States play a very big leadership role in shaping the agenda of this conference to focus on the bread and butter issues," the First Lady told 3,100 women attending the Summit on Women's Economic Security here.

It has not yet been decided if the first lady herself will go to Beijing, her press secretary Lisa Caputo told Reuters, noting such a decision would be made with the participation of the State Department.

The upcoming conference has become more controversial since Harry Wu, a naturalised American citizen and human rights activist, was recently arrested in China on charges of spying.

The U.N. conference is scheduled for September 4-15 in Beijing. Clinton quoted U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright as saying that "human rights cannot be separated from women's rights."

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 07/26/95 at 18:39EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 07/27/95 at 08:42EDT ****

AM-CO- Hillary Clinton-Women's Conference,510
First Lady Advocates U.S. Presence at Beijing Women's Conference
AP Photo

By SANDY SHORE= Associated Press Writer=

DENVER (AP) The United States should participate in an international women's conference in Beijing this fall to emphasize the need for human rights, Hillary Rodham Clinton said Wednesday.

Although the conference has been criticized because of China's record on human rights, the first lady said it would be a good opportunity to showcase that very issue.

"It is important therefore, in my opinion, that the United States play a very big leadership role ... in this conference to focus on these issues," she told about 3,000 participants at the national Summit on Women's Economic Security.

Those who advocate a boycott "miss the point," she said, adding, "Human rights cannot be separated from women's rights."

Mrs. Clinton's attendance at the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women has been questioned because of increasing tension between the United States and China, and China's alleged human rights abuses. Another issue is China's detention of human rights activist Harry Wu.

James Dobson, president of the Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family, issued a statement Wednesday asking the Clinton administration to avoid the conference.

"It is outrageous that the U.S. government is helping to sponsor a human rights conference in a country that inflicts terrible abuse, including forced abortion on its women and girls," he said.

Mrs. Clinton made her comments during her keynote address at the 1995 Summit on Women's Economic Security, where women's leaders discussed ways to promote economic self-sufficiency for women.

Summit topics included education and employment training, leadership roles and retirement planning. A report from the Denver summit is expected to be forwarded to the Beijing summit.

Outside the gathering, a handful of placard-carrying protesters shouted, "Abortion is murder," and "Thou shalt not kill" and "The day of judgment is coming."

Mrs. Clinton said making women self-sufficient will help ensure that families and communities will be economically secure. But it will take a multi-faceted approach involving men, women, families, businesses and government.

"I don't think there are right or left or conservative or liberal answers to the problems and challenges we need to confront," she said.

Businesses and government should work on issues, such as flextime, leave time, day care, health care and salaries based on merit, not gender, she said.

"Beyond affirmative action, we should start practicing affirmative thinking," she said.

Women should work with one another, sharing success stories and lending helping hands, Mrs. Clinton said.

"Women are willing to say to one another, 'I need help,'" she said. "I think in a very down-to-earth way, that's what this summit is about."

Prior to attending the summit, Mrs. Clinton toured Mi Casa Resource Center, which she praised as a model for helping women turn dreams into reality by teaching business expertise and lending emotional support.

**** filed by:APW-(CO) on 07/26/95 at 17:56EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 07/27/95 at 08:41EDT ****

Women riled by 'gender' agenda

By George Archibald
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A1

A verbal war between two women's groups has erupted over a draft platform for the United Nations Conference on Women in Beijing in September.

At the heart of the matter is the platform's use of the word "gender" instead of "sex."

"Gender" appears more than 200 times in the 121-page draft conference platform intended to commit governments to specific actions on such issues as female poverty, access by women to educational opportunities and health care, "gender" inequality, and violence and discrimination against women.

The battle pits the American Society of International Law (ASIL) against the Independent Women's Forum (IWF). The ASIL backs the draft platform, calling it an at-



To go or not to go: Hillary Rodham Clinton debates attending a controversial U.N. women's conference in China. Story, A10.

tempt by "socialist feminists" to eliminate "sexual apartheid." The IWF regards the platform as an affront to traditional family-oriented women and fears it could lead to a "sexual free-for-all."

In a report, "The Elimination of Sexual Apartheid: Prospects for the Fourth World Conference on Women," the ASIL says the root of women's problems is "subordination" to men.

see WOMEN, page A10

WOMEN

From page A1

"Socialist feminists have identified the social construction of production and reproduction as the basis for women's oppression, and have focused attention on the social relations of gender, questioning the validity of roles that have been ascribed to women and men in the private and public spheres," says the report, written with a Ford Foundation grant by Rebecca J. Cook, a University of Toronto law professor.

"Most feminists see a contrast between sex and gender, in that sex is biologically determined whereas gender is socially constructed."

The IWF report questions whether the U.S. government should be assisting or promoting a gender-based agenda that "reflects the Marxist roots of feminist ideology."

"Gender perspective is a com-

prehensive world view that sees every human activity and relationship as 'socially constructed' so as to oppress women," writes Elizabeth B. Lurie, IWF president, in a report titled "Exporting Failure: The Radical Feminists' U.N. Agenda."

"Not spelled out in the Platform for Action itself, but much talked about behind the scenes (in U.N. preparatory meetings for the Beijing conference), is the notion that the world must come to understand an 'equality' of 'five genders' as this and other nations' ideal," the report says.

"The 'five genders' comprise female heterosexuals, male heterosexuals, female homosexuals, male homosexuals, and trans/bisexuals. The 'equality' involved is an identity of legitimacy regarding normative sexual behavior — one reason the document refers almost exclusively to 'gender' rather than 'sex' (the common understanding being that there are but two sexes)," the report says.

The Washington Times

MONDAY, JULY 24, 1995

"A clear implication is that our understanding of marriage and the particular legitimacy accorded to children born in marriage is to be overturned by radical feminist moral dictat."

Some feminist theorists also have referred to a "sixth gender — omni-sexuality," say members of traditional women's non-government organizations who have participated in preparatory meetings for the conference Sept. 4 through 15 in Beijing.

"They can have limitless numbers of genders," said Barbara Ledeen, executive director of IWF. "They are saying that girls are at one end [of the spectrum], boys at the other. They are saying that gender is socially constructed, so you can have as many as you can imagine socially. It's a sexual free-for-all."

The ASIL, which claims 4,500 members in 100 countries, supports a U.N.-imposed "gender analysis" of laws and government policies in all countries — a dis-

puted provision of the women's conference platform.

"The mandate of the 1995 Beijing conference is to accelerate the process that formally began in 1975" with International Women's Year to bring about "the emancipation of women" through equal representation in governmental, corporate, diplomatic and religious leadership positions, along with affirmative government action on a global scale to bring about "gender" equality and diversity, the ASIL report says.

The IWF, which claims 500 members throughout the United States and several foreign countries, says the upcoming women's conference is dominated by "ultra-radical feminists" who are anti-womanhood, anti-marriage, anti-family, and even man-haters.

"The words 'mother,' 'father,' 'wife,' and 'husband' do not appear anywhere in the platform. ... The definition of the family is fluid. Indeed, any notion that the concept of the family includes men is altogether missing.

AM-Mrs Clinton-China, Bjt, 761

China's Human Rights Record Could Cancel First Lady's Trip

With AM-Mrs Clinton-Column

By NANCY BENAC= Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) For months, Hillary Rodham Clinton has had her fingers crossed, hoping U.S.-Chinese relations would be smooth enough that she could attend an international women's conference in Beijing this fall. She's not packing her bags just yet.

Amid escalating tensions between Washington and Beijing, the first lady and others are debating whether her attendance at the massive U.N. conference would advance women's interests at the expense of human rights.

Many in the State Department and White House say privately it would send the wrong signal for Mrs. Clinton to lead the U.S. delegation, offering China a reward of sorts for improper behavior including the detention of human rights activist Harry Wu.

"There shouldn't be any argument about it," said one administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Others say the issue is far from clear cut. In fact, some believe the best way to advance human rights would be to send a strong U.S. delegation.

"These are issues that tear at individuals," said a second administration official. "Right at the White House, there are a lot of diverging views."

Mrs. Clinton makes no secret of the fact that she would love to go.

Bruised in last year's health-care wars, she has pulled back from domestic policy-making this year and offered herself as an international advocate for women. An appearance in Beijing would build on her participation earlier this year in an international poverty conference in Copenhagen and her five-nation tour of South Asia this spring.

Aides say the first lady hopes the conference itself can be separated from its location as though she's not really visiting China, just attending a U.N. event that happens to be taking place there.

That argument doesn't work for many within the administration, but officials wary of dictating to the first lady are hopeful Mrs. Clinton will reach that conclusion on her own.

Chances of Mrs. Clinton attending the fourth World Conference on Women dimmed last month after rocky U.S.-Chinese relations got worse with the detention of Wu, a Chinese-born American.

The White House says no decision has been made on whether Mrs. Clinton will attend. But privately, officials doubt Mrs. Clinton, who is honorary chair of the U.S. delegation, will attend the Sept. 4-15 conference unless Wu is released.

Human rights advocates have different ideas on how best to advance their cause: boycott the conference altogether, send a limited delegation, have Mrs. Clinton lead the charge.

"Mrs. Clinton would provide the Chinese government a major propaganda opportunity that they should not be given," said Mike Jendrzeczyk, Washington director of Human Rights Watch-Asia. His group thinks the United States should participate, but with a lower-profile delegation.

Wu's wife, Ching Lee Wu, says it would be wrong to send any U.S. delegation while her husband is in prison. Amnesty International wants "the most competent and informed delegation possible," without saying whether that should include Mrs. Clinton.

Many women's groups have been enthusiastic from the start about Mrs. Clinton's participation but are conflicted about going against the wishes of human rights advocates with whom they are usually allied.

"It's making everybody pause," said one women's activist who asked not to be identified by name. "I kind of feel like, what am I doing crossing a picket line?"

Longtime women's activist Bella Abzug, head of the Women's Environmental Development Organization, has no such qualms.

Of course she should go," Abzug said of Mrs. Clinton. "There has been an invasion of human rights for Harry Wu; there has been consistent invasion of women's rights all over the world. One of the purposes of this conference is to deal with this."

Looming over the debate are Republican threats to withdraw financing for the U.S. delegation altogether.

Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., chairman of the House International Relations Committee's panel on human rights, is pushing legislation to scrap the delegation unless China releases Wu and eases conference restrictions.

The conservative Concerned Women for America, already unhappy with what it sees as a feminist tilt to the likely delegation, says simply, "China is not the place for this conference to happen."

"We don't believe that a delegation should go at all," said CWA's Penny Young.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 07/23/95 at 11:55EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 07/24/95 at 08:48EDT ****

Pressure builds for U.S. to shun Beijing meeting

By George Archibald
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A1

Religious and social conservatives, backed by the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, yesterday urged withdrawal of a U.S. delegation to a U.N. women's conference in Beijing.

Several liberal congressmen also urged that American participation be reduced, as pressure continued to build for shunning the conference.

Mary Ellen Bork of Catholic Campaign for America told the House International Relations subcommittee on international operations and human rights that the

United States should not participate in the conference because it is prepared to endorse a "radical feminist" agenda.

"Participation in such a human-rights event as the Beijing women's conference when our own citizen is stripped of all human rights would amount to a shameful kowtowing by American delegates," said Nina Shea, president of the Puebla Institute. "To remove only [first lady Hillary Rodham] Clinton from the delegation in protest of [Harry] Wu's arrest would be a trivial gesture."

Subcommittee member Rep.

see **BELJING**, page A14

From page A1

Nancy Pelosi, California Democrat and chairman of the Congressional Women's Caucus, urged that at a minimum a reduced U.S. representation at the Beijing meeting because of China's "appalling human-rights record."

A member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission said his panel was prompted by the same concerns when it took "virtually unprecedented action" Friday in urging the outright withdrawal of the U.S. delegation from the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing Sept. 4-15.

Commissioner Carl A. Anderson said the commission weighed China's "perceived potential threat to the civil rights of other American citizens" after the arrest of Mr. Wu, a U.S. human-rights activist.

China's denial of religious freedom for delegates to the conference also was a factor in the decision by the eight-member commission, Mr. Anderson testified.

"We cannot as a nation become entangled in such gross violations of human rights as are now occurring in China without it having serious implications for civil rights within the United States," he told the House panel, which is considering action to block U.S. government participation.

Mrs. Pelosi said she opposes Mrs. Clinton's "presence at this conference" as honorary chairman of the U.S. delegation.

"China's appalling human-rights record and its practice of female infanticide, forced abortion and the abortion of female fe-

tuses make a mockery of the honor of hosting an international conference on the status of women," she said. "Mrs. Clinton's presence at the conference would send the wrong message to China's leaders. She should not attend the Beijing conference."

But Mrs. Pelosi and subcommittee Democrats led by Rep. Tom Lantos of California said a U.S. delegation should attend if it is led by Madeleine K. Albright, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Rep. Christopher H. Smith of New Jersey, the panel's Republican chairman, said, "Talk of relocating a conference from Beijing to a free country, or of insisting on fair procedures at such a conference ... is carefully crafted to achieve fairness for women, especially those from Tibet, Taiwan and developing countries" whose participation is banned by China.

Leaders of several women's groups representing religious and traditional family values urged complete U.S. withdrawal from the meeting.

Mrs. Bork of Catholic Campaign for America said a draft Platform for Action to be adopted in Beijing endorses "radical feminist views of equality and gender, which leads to inadequate treatment of motherhood and traditional marriage and ... religious and cultural values that women bring to society."

Laurel Heiskell of Concerned Women for America said her group was placed on "a no-no list" with other religious and pro-life organizations that were denied accreditation for the conference until Sen. Jesse Helms, North Carolina Republican and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, interceded.

(ED: 1grafsub7thgraf x x x U.S. delegation adding name, affiliation of Pelosi)

U.S. urged to boycott China forum

WASHINGTON, July 19 (UPI) Civil rights, religious and conservative organizations are urging the United States to boycott the upcoming U.N. womens conference in China, a published report said Wednesday.

The Catholic Campaign for America and the anti-abortion Concerned Women for America are among the groups protesting U.S. representation at the United Nations-sponsored event, The Washington Times said in its Wednesday editions.

Mary Ellen Bork of the Catholic Campaign told a congressional subcommittee Tuesday that she opposed participation in the conference because it was prepared to endorse a feminist agenda, the newspaper said.

But other organizations want the United States to boycott the conference in protest of China's human rights record and the recent arrest of civil rights activist Harry Wu, a Chinese-American who has accused China's communist government of using prisoners as slave labor and other human rights abuses.

The groups join others in opposing U.S. representation at the conference, slated for Sept. 5-14 in Beijing. The U.S. Civil Rights Commission last week recommended withdrawal of U.S. aid and representation, citing China's restrictions on religious freedom and the arrest of Wu, who is a U.S. citizen.

There has been increased pressure on first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to not attend the conference to protest Wu's arrest. Clinton is heading the U.S. delegation.

China's appalling human rights record and its practice of female infanticide, forced abortion and the abortion of female fetuses make a mockery of the honor of hosting an international conference on the status of women," said Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., according to the Times. "Mrs. Clinton's presence at the conference would send the wrong message to China's leaders. She should not attend the Beijing conference."

**** filed by:UPI-(us) on 07/19/95 at 04:44EDT ****
**** printed by:WHPR(JEL) on 07/19/95 at 08:36EDT ****

Beijing or Bust: U.S. Girls Get Ready

BY HAGAR SCHER

When the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women and the NGO (nongovernmental organizations) Forum on Women convene in Beijing for three weeks of meetings in September, there will be more girls and young women in attendance than at any of the previous world conferences. Some 30,000 activists and politicians will create a Platform for Action to improve the status of women, and by establishing youth groups in all five of the designated geographic regions,

BEIJING BLUES

The Chinese government seems determined to control the thousands of women expected to descend on its capital in September for the Fourth World Conference on Women. How else to explain that the NGO (nongovernmental organizations) Forum on Women has been banished to Huairou, an hour's drive from downtown Beijing, where the government delegates will be caucusing? With NGO delegates aiming to call international attention to such incendiary issues as abortion, homosexuality, and China's human rights record, rumor has it that the Chinese government hopes to avoid domestic turmoil by isolating these women in Huairou. Said Irene Santiago, executive director of the NGO Forum on Women: "The conference should be canceled if we can't get a satisfactory space." At press time, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had not resolved the dispute. —Ms. Editors

the organizers have acknowledged that the future of women depends on involving girls and young women in the process of change.

The Asia-Pacific youth group, for example, amended the platform to include this clause: "Women's rights must not only be protected at all stages of life but also inspire a new generation of women and men working together for a more humane society." And in Africa, a special working group on "the girl child" was established to address such issues as how to help girls stay in school and the impact of female genital mutilation on their development.

Zonny Woods, a 26-year-old El Salvadoran-Canadian, has been appointed the youth coordinator for the NGO Forum on Women. "The people involved in the global women's movement have gotten a lot

older," she told Ms. "If girls are not there and the conference is about the implementation of changes for the twenty-first century, who will implement the plans of action?"

Several girls' groups in the U.S. are planning to send members to Beijing. *New Moon: The Magazine for Girls and Their Dreams* has founded the Girls International Forum, whose first initiative is to raise funds to send between 10 and 15 representatives to the conference. The group has also submitted applications for two girls, Sarah Vokes, 16, and Nia Kelly, 14, to be official U.S. delegates to the U.N. conference. In each issue since Jan-

The future of women depends on involving girls and young women in the process of change.

uary, *New Moon* has been running a call for essays on questions like: "What do you think are girls' greatest strengths around the world?"; "What do you think you and your friends can do to make things better for girls?"; and "What can adults do?" The answers will be published in a booklet called "A Girl's Agenda," which will be distributed at Beijing.

The topic of youth media is at the heart of another Beijing initiative. Learning from Youth, an umbrella or-



Beijing becomes a reality: girls from "New Moon" and the Girls International Forum caucus with a couple of grown-ups.

ganization concerned with "globalizing" youth advocacy (creating a "connection between global and local issues"), is collaborating with Rise and Shine Productions, a New York City-based youth media education program, to send a group of girls to cover the event on video. After the conference, organizers hope to distribute the videos to educational and community groups and to broadcast them on public television and MTV. More important, they want the conference to be the beginning of an electronic, "global exchange pen-pal system" for young women.

The Learning from Youth and Rise and Shine participants will create three different media packages to be screened in Beijing. The first team has already made a video called "Youth Voices on the Road to Beijing," featuring New York City students speaking with Conference Secretariat Gertrude Mongella. The second team will produce a video comparing the concerns of U.S. youth with those of young people in South Africa. The third group will create personal video essays about their experiences as young feminists. Mandy Jacobson, one of the coordinators of Learning from Youth, is helping other girls around the world to gain access to video cameras so that together they can create a "traveling document." Rise and Shine also plans to set up a workshop at the NGO forum that will teach basic video production skills, so that, through electronic media, girls can voice their opinions even if they did not attend the conference.

Nia Kelly sees the Girls International Forum as a pioneering effort: "We'll just open the door for other girls so that they can go. Just getting it out there that we aren't little people who don't have any thoughts or opinions will help."

One of the challenges of the conference is to involve



the first Puerto Rican ever to be appointed to the federal bench for the southern district of New York. The district includes New York City, which has the largest population of Puerto Ricans outside of Puerto Rico.

—Celia Moore

Finally, a real live judge has confirmed what we've known all along: the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding lesbian and gay service members is unconstitutional. Federal Judge Eugene H. Nickerson of Brooklyn, New York, handed down the first legal rejection of the policy, ruling that to penalize a service member for an open declaration of homosexuality is a violation of free speech and a denial of equal protection. The case will most likely be appealed to the Supreme Court.

—Miranda Doming



girls without treating them as tokens. Says Zonny Woods: "It has to go beyond 'Look at all these girls, aren't they great? Aren't they smart?' We owe it to these girls to take them very, very seriously."

Says Reshma Patni, 11, of *New Moon*: "Before, I used to just dream about things like being the first woman president or being the first person on Mars, but now I think I could really do it." For now, Reshma is content with being one of the first girls to attend the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. **Ms.** Hagar Scher is a New York-based freelance writer and editorial assistant at "Working Woman" magazine.

Hearing probes U.S. role at Beijing women's forum

By Carol Innerst
and George Archibald
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A1

Amid the rising voices opposing U.S. participation in a women's conference in Beijing, Congress holds a hearing today.

"It's kind of ironic to pick China for a women's conference," said Rep. Bill Goodling, Pennsylvania Republican and a member of the House International Relations subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights,

which will hear 12 witnesses discuss the controversy surrounding the Sept. 4-15 conference.

"The U.N. and some do-gooders would say if we go there, we can change their human rights. ... You're whistling 'Dixie' if you think going there can improve human rights in China."

Later this week, China's most-favored-nation trading status comes up for a vote in Congress, so the hearing should "stir up the wa-

see WOMEN, page A14

From page A1

ters before that takes place," he said.

Mr. Goodling, who is chairman of the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, said he doesn't think the United States should participate in the Beijing conference, and he likely will vote against continuing China's special trading status.

Rep. Christopher Smith, New Jersey Republican and chairman of the International Relations subcommittee, also opposes U.S. participation in the conference.

"He believes it is entirely inappropriate to be having this conference [in Beijing] given China's horrendous record on human rights and oppression of women through coercive population control, and the arrest of Harry Wu," said Michael Pauley, press secretary for Mr. Smith.

"It's entirely inappropriate for the U.S. to be sending a delegation ... while China holds a U.S. citizen in captivity. Proceeding as if nothing is wrong sends the wrong message."

Meanwhile, a high-profile professional group issued a report on the conference saying the goal is "elimination of sexual apartheid" — the male domination of women through traditional family and economic structures.

"The mandate of the 1995 Beijing conference is to accelerate the process that formally began in 1975 with International Women's Year to bring about 'the emancipation of women' through equal representation in governmental, corporate, diplomatic, and religious leadership positions, says a report by the Washington-based American Society of International Law (ASIL).

The report, "The Elimination of

Sexual Apartheid: Prospects for the Fourth World Conference on Women," was written by Rebecca J. Cook, a law professor at the University of Toronto and member of the ASIL's six-member advisory committee, under a grant from the Ford Foundation.

The report supports proposed language on gender in a 124-page draft platform for the Beijing conference.

The language, not yet approved, "moves from a sex-neutral norm that requires equal treatment of men and women, usually measured by how men are treated, to one that ... allows women to question the way in which laws, cultures and religious traditions have constructed and maintained discrimination against women," the report says.

A small group of countries, including Benin, Guatemala, Honduras and Malta, object to the "gender" terminology, the report notes.

Mercedes Arzu Wilson, a Guatemalan delegate, said she opposes the terminology because she sees it as an attempt by socialist feminists to obtain international sanction for homosexual, bisexual and transexual orientation on an equal basis with traditional heterosexual behavior.

Cecilia Royals, president of the National Institute of Womanhood, who will be testifying at today's hearing, said she plans to call the committee's attention to the status of motherhood in the conference document.

"I'll be suggesting to the chairman that this document is hostile to motherhood," Mrs. Royals said. "Motherhood is an experience of at least 90 percent of the women worldwide and certainly 90 percent of U.S. women. In the document, motherhood is trivialized and reduced to the non-essential tasks that some mothers do."

cc: Lisa

PHYLLIS GEORGE

HRC has copy
-Pam

July 14, 1995

Dear Hillary,

Hello! Lincoln enjoyed seeing you and the President (so did John) and of course touring Air Force One was a thrill - thank you.

Hillary, it was about this time last year that I interviewed the President for my TNN Special. It is still getting rave reviews (as cable runs their shows three an four times) - very positive and a great audience for him.

Around that time, when we were talking in your office and I asked you to be on one of my specials - and - you said yes! We would like to interview you in the next six to seven weeks (the Special will air the end of September). If you remember, TNN (Group W - Westinghouse) has the potential of going into 60 million homes - a very important demographic particularly with the campaign coming up! Please say yes again! I've got a new contract for four more specials. It's so good to be working again. My new producer, Susan Winston, is incredibly experienced and talented. She was the Executive Producer of "Good Morning America" in the beginning and she is a good friend of mine. I want people to know the Hillary I know and love!

Also, Yue-Sai Kan is a friend of mine - a rather new friend. I'm impressed with her. She's an American (married to a Mr. McManus) and she spends 50% of her time in China. They love, adore and respect her there. She's the Barbara Walters of China in that she's the most famous woman in China (on T.V. or not).

As you will see by her request she would like to interview you. She can reach 600 million people. She said she spoke to Ann Stock, but never got a response. Will you be attending the Beijing Women's Conference on September 5th? This lady is powerful and thinks you are the greatest thing that's ever happened for women - not only in America, but around the world. She needs an answer.

Yue-Sai and her husband are very wealthy and very close friends with Lew & Rachel Rudin. Someone needs to respond as soon as possible as she is leaving for China very soon. I've been with her twice in the last six weeks. She's a real dynamo.

Also, the Rudins have given \$10,000 to Save the Children. He's a big Democrat as you know and also very wealthy. They will be attending the "Save" event honoring you on September 18th. Rachel talks about how Lew has stayed at the White House and she hasn't and that you always say "You'll have to come and stay sometime" - now might be a good time!

The Rudins are dear friends of mine & very supportive of you all - I hope the interview works for you - It would mean a lot to me to see you - I want to COME BACK STRONG!
I love P. George

靳羽西

*Yue-Sai Kan, Inc.**6 Sutton Square**New York, NY 10022 U.S.A.**Tel: 212-223-0278 Fax: 212-644-9146**Yue-Sai Kan
President*

May 1, 1995

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

It is my honor as a producer and host of a very popular television show called "Half of the Sky" on China Central Television, to cordially invite you to be a guest on the show. The show is aired prime time every Sunday night on the national television network to an estimated audience of 600 million. I would like to propose to you a personal interview in three segments, first you as a wife and mother, second as an outstanding attorney, and third as the First Lady of the White House (including a tour).

If you grant me this interview, it will make you the very first First Lady of the United States of America to appear on China's national television network. It would be a great privilege for the Chinese audience who have a tremendous admiration and curiosity to learn everything you stand for. In view of the fact there will be the United Nations World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing in September, 1995, I would arrange to have these segments aired in August. We would like to arrange this TV shoot sometime in June or July, and we will try to make it very efficient—it will not take more than 2 hours of your time.

We look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Yue-Sai Kan
President

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. bio	re: Yue-Sai Kan; [Personally Identifiable Information] [Partial] (1 page)	07/14/1995	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lisa Caputo
OA/Box Number: 10231

FOLDER TITLE:

U.N. 4th World Conference on Women (Sept. 4-5 '95) [Folder 1]: [2]

2012-0094-F

jp3681

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1** National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2** Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3** Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5** Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6** Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

- b(1)** National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2)** Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3)** Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4)** Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6)** Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7)** Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8)** Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9)** Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

YUE-SAI KAN BIOGRAPHY (two pages)

Parade magazine said she was "More famous than anyone!" People magazine called her "the most famous woman in China." Money magazine described her as a "Modern Day Marco Polo" and while women's magazines such as Vogue, Elle and Cosmopolitan celebrated her beauty and style, the Congressional Record deemed her "The De Facto Citizen Ambassador!" They all accurately, if not completely describe Chinese American Yue-Sai Kan, whose life straddles both the East and West as scholar, author, journalist, T.V. personality, humanitarian and recently an entrepreneur.

[001]

(b)(6) often singled out as the most beautiful place on earth. Her father is a widely respected painter in the traditional Lingnan Style. Her family settled in Hong Kong when she was a baby, and Yue-Sai's artistic ability and love of beauty began to manifest itself when she started taking up ballet and piano at four. Her musical talents impressed everyone but herself. After years of 8-hour practice days and a degree in music from the Brigham Young University in Hawaii, Yue-Sai made a watershed decision. "I felt that I could never be another Rubenstein. And if you can't be the best at something, why do it?" With that, she turned her attention to her other great love: promoting a connection between East and West.

In 1972 she moved to New York City and with her sister Vickie began a successful import/export trading business with China. Concurrently, she volunteered to host a TV show in English and Chinese on a local Manhattan cable station. There she quickly grasped the power of TV as a means of bridging the enormous gap in understanding between East and West. "In those days" says Yue-Sai, "Asia was not such a hot topic. But I felt I should stay with it, because I knew it would soon be one of the most important parts of the world." Her first major TV production, a weekly series called LOOKING EAST, introduced eastern cultures and customs to a growing and receptive American audience. Rich in content, vivid with Yue-Sai's personality, that series garnered high praise, dozens of awards and reviews such as this one from the New York Times: "Few people are able to bridge the East and West, but Yue-Sai Kan can, and does it with beauty, intelligence and grace." Some others credited her as the first TV journalist to bridge the gap between East and West. LOOKING EAST stayed on the air for 12 years, the last 2 years on the national network of the Discovery Channel.

Yue-Sai's hard work paid off in 1984 when PBS invited her to host the first live broadcast from China of the 35th Anniversary of the People's Republic of China. Working non-stop for 48 hours, Yue-Sai prepared background material, translations and scripts so insightfully that both East and West took notice of her. Soon after, in 1985, the Chinese Government asked her to produce ONE WORLD, another television first. It was the first TV series ever produced and hosted by an American on China's national network CCTV.

It took her 4 years to complete the project, but her broadcast captivated the entire nation and made her a household name. Both the script and video from the series were used as

teaching materials in schools across the country. Besides being trusted and loved by millions of Chinese for being the first to bring the "world" to them, her easy television style has also influenced a generation of TV journalists in China.

Today, as China continues to open to the outside world, Yue-Sai continues to produce sophisticated series like YUE-SAI'S WORLD, aimed at raising the Chinese consciousness to the latest international life styles, trends and standards. She also contributes a weekly segment to a highly popular women's program HALF OF THE SKY on CCTV.

Yue-Sai is the author of countless articles and two books—ONE WORLD and YUE-SAI'S GUIDE TO ASIAN BEAUTY, both published in Chinese and English.

In the U.S., Yue-Sai's other TV credits include the ABC documentary CHINA, WALLS AND BRIDGES, which garnered her the coveted Emmy Award. JOURNEY THROUGH A CHANGING CHINA which was syndicated across the country was so impactful that it was read into the Congressional Record. And popular series such as MINI DRAGONS and DOING BUSINESS IN ASIA, broadcast on PBS, fed the West's growing hunger for eastern knowledge.

For her dedication in promoting East and West, Yue-Sai has been presented with honorary doctorate degrees, honorary citizenships, a Women of the Year Award, a Life Time Achievement Award, an Ambassador Award and countless humanitarian awards.

Through it all, her husband of 5 years, James R. McManus, himself a highly successful businessman, is her number one fan. "He's never too busy to find the time to help me," she says. And the two of them ~~run~~ ^{run} Rether Dr. Crymeals on Wheels.

Currently, Yue-Sai is involved in yet another part of her dream, that of enabling Asian women to feel confident in their own unique beauty. Frustrated by years of needing to look her best before the camera without appropriate cosmetics for her Asian skin tone, Yue-Sai finally created her own line. "I have always been amazed" she says, "at the ignorance of cosmetic companies who fill Asian markets with foundations and colors that look perfect on Caucasians and ridiculous on us."

Meticulously researched and tested, Yue-Sai cosmetics are an absolutely foolproof system of skin care, hair care and color for enhancing Asian beauty. As proof that they are superior, Yue-Sai cosmetics became an instant success in China, the biggest Asian market in the world. Forbes magazine reported that she has become "China's new role model and is changing the face of the Middle Kingdom, one lipstick at a time." And indeed she is. In less than three years, Yue-Sai's fast-growing company in China now employs over 500 people, operates 10 regional offices, has two factories and sells in over 250 stores.

Yue-Sai spends 50% of her time in Asia and while in the U.S., she resides in New York City with her husband James R. McManus.

Happy

People
weekly

MAY 19, 1997

VOL. 27, NO. 20

HELPING EAST MEET WEST VIA TV, AMERICA'S YUE-SAI KAN HAS BECOME THE MOST FAMOUS WOMAN IN CHINA

There being no Nelsens in China, it is impossible to say precisely how large an audience watches the program *One World*. Its star, Yue-Sai Kan, has a pretty good idea though. Every Sunday at 5:45 p.m., an estimated average of five people—sometimes as many as 50—crowd around almost every one of the country's 80 million TV sets to watch her show, a quarter-hour documentary

about life in other countries. That translates into about 400 million viewers, which gives *One World* the largest TV audience on the planet. It also makes the diminutive, 38-year-old Yue-Sai Kan by far the most famous woman in China—an achievement that is doubly extraordinary since she is an American.

The China-born Kan, a U.S. citizen

since 1975 and a resident of New York, is China's first media celeb. Her hair-style, known as the Yue-Sai cut, is copied from Shanghai to Sinkiang. When she visits China she is mobbed by adoring fans; when she's in the U.S., they send her flowery poems. "Walking down the street with Yue-Sai is like walking down the street with Johnny Carson," says a friend, stage director

CONTINUED

In her Manhattan apartment the self-proclaimed capitalist says of her success, "It's like having one's wildest dream come true."



07/11/95 10:20 FAX 212 644 9146

YUE SAI KAN

0000



Kan, who was born in China, confers with her assistant, May Wu, "I'm the chief cook and bottle washer on the show," says Kan.

After visits to China, Kan (below, in Tientsin), says, "I need the break from celebrity that I get when I come home."



Happy

George White, "only bigger, because there's nothing like her in China." Her unmarried state is talked of in neighborhood noodle shops. And Chinese newspapers outdo each other with ardent headlines: "Welcome, Ambassador of TV," and "Intelligence, Wisdom, Brilliance, Grace, Warmth and Humor—An Interview With Yue-Sai Kan."

These perfervid outpourings stem in part from China's fascination with the seldom-seen world beyond its borders. *One World* has taken Chinese viewers to New York, Egypt, Greece and Australia and has exposed them to the Mup-

rights in Denmark. The program is even broadcast twice—at 5:45 p.m. in English (a TV guide runs partial scripts in Chinese so viewers can follow) and again at 9:30 p.m. in Mandarin. Says former *New York Times* China hand Fox Butterfield: "The Chinese for years were starved for information from the outside world. They really craved it. She's filling an important need. She's also charming—and they're not beyond being charmed."

With a staff of four assistants, Kan shoots the shows on location and transmits them to China on tape. She picks

thing they should know about America is not how rich we are or how advanced our technology is, but the combination of people in our society," she says. So her first segment showcased the successes of Korean grocers and Polish butchers, among others, and most programs are similarly upbeat. "Yet we have no censorship problems at all," she reports. "It is amazing." Still, Kan asserts her beliefs diplomatically: "Communism is not for me, but that does not mean it's not a good system for China. I'm a real entrepreneur."

She clearly is, and her current venture is risky. Her sponsors, including Coca-Cola, Xerox and General Foods, seem mainly interested in exposure for the future. Although her deal with Chinese Central Television (CCTV) in Peking gives her a 50-50 split of the profits, she hasn't yet broken even. If the vast Chinese market opens up to American business, however, she could make a small fortune.

Yue-Sai was born into an upper-middle-class family in the Chinese city of Guilin in 1948. Two years later her father, Ying-Lin Kan, a well-known artist, fled to Hong Kong with his family. Kan studied piano at a branch of Brigham Young University in Hawaii, rejoined her family in Hong Kong, worked for Hyatt Hotels, then moved to New York City in 1971. There, she and her sister Vickie began importing silk from China and thrived, but after nine years she says, "I was ready for a change." She developed a cable-TV show on life in Asia, *Looking East*, and sold it to syndication. It now runs on 640 U.S. cable systems. In 1984, when CCTV and PBS broadcast the 35th anniversary celebrations of the People's Republic, Kan was brought in as the English translator and dazzled everyone. She simultaneously translated Premier Deng's speech, read the colorful banners for viewers and tossed in explanations of the history behind the 250,000-strong parade. Shortly after, CCTV suggested she do a show for China about the West.

Yue-Sai went to Peking to celebrate her first show on Feb. 23, 1986. "I was in my hotel room," she recalls, "and I saw myself greeting the Chinese people. That was the most elating moment of my life. I just jumped up and said, 'I did it! I did it!'" She still uses the same opener—"Hello, I'm Yue-Sai Kan. Welcome to *One World*."—but by now she really needs no introduction.

07/11/95 19:25 FAX 212 644 8146

YUE SAI KAN

0006

Time Magazine

TIME
Magazine

Video

Queen of the Middle Kingdom

An American shows China to the world, and vice versa

BY SANDRA BURTON BEIJING

She is an ordinary foreign citizen, yet her presence invariably causes a stir worthy of a visiting head of state. In the northeastern city of Tianjin a year ago, 150 policemen had to be called out to maintain order among Chinese fans who queued up for autographed copies of her first book, *One World*. At the Great Wall, her unheralded arrival set off something of a stampede, as Chinese tourists raced up steep stairs to watch her shoot a scene for a television documentary. In northern Heilongjiang province, officials bent over backward to grant her permission to film otherwise off-limits stretches of the closely monitored Sino-Soviet border. In Beijing a Politburo member presented her with a painting classified as a "national treasure"; there were no objections when the lady took it home—to New York City.

Yue-Sai Kan, 59, an American whose parents fled the mainland after the Communist takeover in 1949, greets the fame and favor bestowed on her by her ancestral homeland with a flutter of her mascaraed lashes—and a characteristically blunt assertion. "I am not the type of TV hostess who wears a Chinese gown and stands in front of a dragon pillar," she says. Instead, she is probably the most popular interlocutor between the outside world and the People's Republic. In 1981 Kan launched the cable-television series *Looking East* to introduce Americans to Asia. In 1986 she began a yearlong series (104 shows) called *One World* to acquaint the Chinese with life outside the country. With that, the peripatetic writer, producer and star assured herself of an audience of more than 350 million viewers on both sides of the Pacific, making her the world's most watched China watcher.

To some degree, her success reflects the economic and political transformations under way in China. Steering clear of politics, she seeks to convey, through images and anecdotes of everyday life, the best and worst of both China and the outside world. Ever pragmatic, the Chinese appreciate the benefit of engaging a sympathetic, mainland-born foreigner to present those pictures.

done her first dream of becoming a concert pianist, having concluded that she lacked the talent to reach the top. In 1976 she opened a profitable import-export business with her sister Vickie. However, the favorable reviews Kan received as the unpaid host of a talk show on a Chinese-language cable station led her to gamble



YUE-SAI KAN was born in Canton, Guangdong province, in southwestern China, the daughter of Wing-lin Kan, a famed painter. Her parents fled to Hong Kong in 1949; she was educated in Hong Kong and Hawaii.

that television was her best medium for success. In 1980 she sold her share in the import-export firm and invested \$500,000 in launching the English-language *Looking East*, now syndicated on 940 cable stations in the U.S.

Kan's China break came in 1984, when the U.S.'s Public Broadcasting System suddenly found itself responsible for

ing the 35th anniversary of the Communist revolution. Two days before the Oct. 1, 1984, event, PBS still had no one to handle the English-language narration. Kan offered her services, even though, having been brought up in Cantonese, she spoke no Mandarin, the most common language in the People's Republic and Taiwan. Nor was she particularly well versed in contemporary Chinese history. Unrattled, she holed up in her apartment with a shelfful of reference books and a stack of Chinese newspapers, memorizing photos of Beijing leaders who were likely to appear on the screen. The broadcast was a success. "That established my credibility with the Chinese," she recalls.

Two months later, Kan became the first foreigner to sign a contract to produce programs for state-controlled China Central Television. Intrigued by China's determination to modernize its economy, she asked herself, "How can they open themselves up to the outside world if they know nothing about it?" The approach she developed was to present CCTV audiences with a video primer that ranges in subject matter from good manners ("The Chinese have forgotten how to be courteous") to free speech ("In Hyde Park anyone who has an opinion can voice it").

By the time *One World* completed its first year, she had, with the help of three tutors, become fluent in Mandarin. Perhaps more important, she had lined up enough *guanxi*, or connections, with well-placed officials to transform Yue-Sai Kan Inc. into a mini-conglomerate. Besides publishing guidebooks and textbooks, the firm produces TV specials on China that are also destined for foreign audiences. "The more famous you are, the easier it is to do things," says Kan pragmatically.

One of those things is an attempt to become a cultural mediator between the two Chinas. In a recent chat with Vice Premier Tian Jiyun in a Beijing hall normally reserved for visiting heads of state, she was assured that the six-part series on Taiwan she plans to make for U.S. television early next year will be allowed to run, uncensored, on CCTV. She has also secured Beijing's endorsement for a proposal to the Taiwan authorities to mount in Taipei an unprecedented exhibition of mainland art and archaeological treasures. "Getting Taiwan and China together,