

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	cover sheet, Ann White to Evan Ryan (partial) (1 page)	06/12/1998	P6/b(6)
002. bio	Christine Loh (partial) (1 page)	nd	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Speechwriting (Noa Meyer Subject Files)
OA/Box Number: 17212

FOLDER TITLE:

Hong Kong

2012-0869-S

kc936

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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]

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]
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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]

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.



FAX COVER SHEET

American Consulate General, Hong Kong

To: Evan Ryan
Company: Office of the First Lady
Phone: 202/ 456-6751
Fax: 202/ 456-5340

From: Ann Cody White
Title: Vice Consul
Phone: 85-2/ 2841-2210
Fax: 85-2- 2845-4845

Date: 06/11/98
Number of Pages: 1 2

Comments:

Evan,

A few questions. Hope you can call me your Thursday night/my Friday morning.

O Would the First Lady consider holding the round table at breakfast, as one way to avoid any conflict over press coverage? I can assure you that Hong Kong women are used to breakfast meetings.

O Who would pay for the rental of a room at the Convention Center? Jeanine Jackson and I think that you're talking about a room in the "300" series, dead-center at the tip of the building over the water. Right?

O Local liberal politician Christine Loh's office called to see if the First Lady is considering any speeches on women's issues here in Hong Kong, possibly as a follow-up to the Beijing women's conference. (Ms. Loh, a major supporter of women's rights and a clean environment among other things, is on our alternate list of proposed round table attendees.) While this morning you said a speech is not now under consideration, please let me know if this changes. I kept things vague with Loh's office.

(next page)

O Here are a couple more suggestions for the round table:

Rosemarie Kreisel, president, Financial Women's Association of Hong Kong.
Vandana Shiva, vice president, Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women
FYI, there seems to be only one microcredit program here, the one run by Caritas Catholic
charities (see Shirley Hung on round table alternate list).

O FYI, I'm gathering statistics on the amount of money the Hong Kong American Women's Club
donates to Mother's Choice and the number of club members who are volunteers at the
orphanage. If the First Lady could somehow mention the stats, it could help point out the
American community's truly high degree of commitment and personal involvement and generosity
to Hong Kong not just at the orphanage but more broadly.

Regards,



WhiteAC@hongkwpoa.us-state.gov

cc: Steve Schlaikjer
Jeanine Jackson
Paul Horowitz
Cindy Crowe

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South China Morning Post

March 29, 1998

SECTION: AGENDA; Pg. 3

LENGTH: 1393 words

HEADLINE: Where dreams live and die

BYLINE: The lure of easy money in Zhuhai draws women by the thousands. Some find good jobs and a better life, while others often turn to prostitution, says Vivian Chiu

BODY:

In the harsh midday sun, Zhuhai's Jida industrial estate is a cheerless concrete expanse with row upon row of factories. But come dusk, it is transformed into a lively meeting place as vendors hawk their wares and migrant women stream out of plants to pick up their dinner. Conversations float through the air, some in Putonghua, most in dialects from northern China.

The estate is a microcosm of Zhuhai, one of China's five special economic zones set up in the early 1980s.

Almost half of Zhuhai's population of 607,000 are migrant workers, and 80 per cent of them are women aged 16 to 25.

The economic zone has a special lure for these women, many of whom move there to escape the bleak work prospects back home. Especially at a time when massive layoffs are taking place at state-owned companies throughout the mainland, Zhuhai is viewed as a land of opportunity.

Tan Shen, a senior researcher at the Chinese Academy of Social Science, estimates there are four million migrant women concentrated in the Pearl River Delta boomtowns of Dongguan, Zhongshan, Shunde, Shenzhen and Zhuhai. She says the economic success of these cities can largely be attributed to the female migrant labour force.

"These girls who work in joint-venture factories, restaurants or hair salons, as servants or hawkers, are mostly from Sichuan, Hunan, Guangxi and Jiangxi," says Ms Tan, adding that the northern provinces, whose economies developed later than those in the south, have surplus labour.

While many in the north can make money only during the harvest, in Zhuhai they have a steady income. "Once they've worked in the south for three or four years, the cleverer ones will go back with their savings and start a village enterprise," says Wang Xiulin, editor of China Women's News. "They can be hair stylists or open a clothing shop."

But not everything is as rosy as it seems.

"The girls may have adjustment problems when they come to the big cities. They work long hours and have little social life," says Chan Yu, chairperson of the Hong Kong-based Chinese Working Women Network, which has a branch in

*invite to
Beijing
speech?
HK Roundtable?*

South China Morning Post, March 29, 1998

Shenzhen. To help migrant women adapt to their new environment, the organisation informs them of their labour rights and organises outings, among other activities.

"Very often they are homesick or find the work too hard so when they go home during Lunar New Year, many don't return," says Ms Chan, who came to Hong Kong from Fujian province at the age of 12.

Still, conditions have improved, according to Ms Wang. Not only have hours been shortened but many workplaces are less hazardous and workers' benefits more charitable. "Many companies give their workers free train or plane tickets to go home for Lunar New Year," she says.

Lurking beneath the improvements, however, is the continuing problem of sexual harassment, which seems more prevalent in factories owned by joint ventures than in state-owned plants, according to Leong Po-lam, director of Asia Monitor Resource Centre. He cites examples of migrant women workers raped by their superiors at factories and says a clinic in Zhuhai's Jida district has helped some victims with abortions.

Xu Shiling, 19, and Gong Wenzhen, 18, are the luckier ones. Both are from farming families in Anhui province and both work at a Taiwanese shoe factory situated in the Jida industrial estate.

"In the factory we can talk a bit when our supervisor is not around," says Ms Gong. "Otherwise the rules are quite strict. When we go to the toilet or drink water, we must get a permission card."

Management at the factory did well to employ mainly female supervisors at the five-level Yu Yuan Factory, says Ms Xu, especially as the workers are almost exclusively women. Ninety per cent of the workers are migrants.

Ms Xu and Ms Gong, who share a room with eight other women, start work at 7am and finish at 5.30pm, with a one-hour lunch break at noon.

"After work we watch television, but I like to read and the factory has a lot of books for us to borrow," Ms Xu says.

Employees at Yu Yuan have eight days' annual leave in addition to the four-day Lunar New Year break. Pregnant women can have 45 days' maternity leave.

As workers on the assembly line, the women are paid 800 yuan (HK\$ 750) a month, though those who are more productive can make up to 200 yuan extra.

The only discomfort, says Ms Gong, is the heat inside the factory: "We can't turn on the air-conditioner during summer because the shoes need to be glued in a room with a constantly warm temperature."

She notes that the heat is nothing compared with the 60-degree Celsius temperature she endured in a flower factory where she worked for five months before finding employment at Yu Yuan.

Another reason she left the flower plant was the fear of being injured on the job. "It's dangerous working with the machines," she says. "The year before I came, a girl had her arm crushed by the machine."

South China Morning Post, March 29, 1998

In the year since arriving in Anhui, she has saved 1,000 yuan, all of which she has sent home. Despite her relative success in Zhuhai, she plans to go home in November and says she may end up staying there.

Most, however, get used to Zhuhai and decide to start a new life in the city.

"They've seen how their mothers spend their whole life serving their husbands and don't want to be like that, confined in a village and seeing the same old people," says Song Meiya, editor of a Beijing magazine, Rural Women Knowing All.

"In the city, once they get used to flushing toilets and running water, they no longer want to fetch water from the village well," she adds.

Liu Yaping understands well why many women refuse to return to their villages after a taste of city life. After working as a masseuse for three months in Zhuhai, the 26-year-old Hunan native married a forester from Guangxi province who had also sought to make his fortune in Zhuhai.

Ms Liu, who has just found work as an insurance agent, has no plans to return to Hunan, where she had worked as a nurse for six years.

"At first I was full of confidence about my job, which paid 400 yuan a month," she says. "But by the end of 1994, the government stopped paying us regularly. In the three months before I left, we received only 300 yuan."

After a former classmate working in Zhuhai urged her to come to try her luck, she packed her bags, moved south and soon began a four-month training course in Chinese medical massage in the city. She then found work at the New Yuan Min Palace, a newly opened theme park modelled after the Beijing Palace, where tourists are given massages so they can pretend to be emperors living a life of luxury. However, a few amorous customers who misunderstood her intentions persuaded her to find a new job.

"In Zhuhai I can develop my career in a free and competitive work environment where I can rely on myself and not on connections," she says. "Back home no matter how much ability you have, there are not many places for you to put it to use."

Ms Liu knows she is among the fortunate few in Zhuhai.

"Some migrant women who cannot earn much from regular jobs turn to prostitution," says Ms Song.

Every evening in Zhuhai's Gongbei district, sex workers swarm around two five -star hotels, the Yin Do Hotel and the Guangdong Hotel. On a recent Wednesday a 23-year-old woman from Liaoning province, Li Dan, was among them. Having heard women were making 10,000 yuan a month working as prostitutes, she boarded a train for the 40-hour journey to Zhuhai.

After finding a 50-yuan-a-night hostel in Gongbei, Ms Li headed straight for the hotels, knowing she had to find a customer quickly because there was only 14 yuan left in her handbag.

South China Morning Post, March 29, 1998

"My parents worked in a steel factory in Shenyang but they were laid off two years ago, and were forced to sell vegetables in the market," says Ms Li, clad in a white sweater and tight, black mini-skirt.

The province of Liaoning has been crippled by its crumbling state-owned sector and soaring unemployment. In March, laid-off workers accounted for 28.9 per cent of Shenyang's workforce of 1.3 million.

"I wouldn't be a prostitute if my whole family had jobs bringing in a steady income," she said. "But we just have temporary jobs. This month we have rice to eat but we don't know what will happen next month."

GRAPHIC: (Photo: VIVIAN CHIU); STREET LIFE: factory girls walk a gauntlet of food hawkers after work in Zhuhai's Jida industrial district. Life is difficult for many migrant women, who are far from home and have little time to socialise

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: March 31, 1998

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FOLDER TITLE:

Hong Kong

2012-0869-S
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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.



[001]

FAX COVER SHEET

American Consulate General, Hong Kong

To: Evan Ryan
Company: Office of the First Lady
Phone: 202/ 456-6751
Fax: 202/ 456-5340

From: Ann Cody White
Title: Vice Consul
Phone: 85-2/ 2841-2481
Fax: 85-2- 2845-4845

Date: 06/12/98
Number of Pages: 3

Comments:

Evan,

Sorry I missed your call 10 hours ago. Here's more info and questions.

If you like you can call me at home tonight, P6/(b)(6) about these questions.

Yesterday's questions were:

- o Could the round table be scheduled for breakfast-time?
- o Would the White House pay for the use of a meeting room in the Convention Center if that's the RT venue?
- o Are you thinking of the "300" series room, dead-center at the tip of the building over the water?

Now, the info or questions that have come up over the last 10 hours:

- o Do you want to include U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshevky in the round table? She'll be part of the President's delegation, but that would mean one less seat for a Hong Kong woman.
- o When exactly will the three First Lady advance people arrive?

o As local politician Christine Loh asked, is the First Lady considering any speeches on women's issues here in Hong Kong, possibly as a follow-up to the Beijing women's conference?

Today Loh specifically suggested the following topics:

- women's self-esteem and their role in the Hong Kong economy
- The UN Fourth World Conference on Women - progress three years after
- women in politics-
- women's role in coping with the Asian economic conflict
- priorities for women in the 21st century
- how to achieve economic empowerment for women

o You asked me to find out about CHAN Yu and the objectives of the Hong Kong-based Chinese Working Women Network. A fact sheet on the network is attached. Its links to Mainland China are stronger than its presence in Hong Kong. Here, the network has no actual programs but local volunteers write materials on the promotion of women's and labor rights. In Mainland China, the network organizes exchange programs and women's studies and informs migrant women about their labor rights, especially in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, just across Hong Kong's border. The Special Economic Zone was established by Deng Xiao Ping 18 years ago to attract foreign investment. It is now something of a boom town with many migrants from much poorer Chinese provinces.

Mother's Choice

o At Mother's Choice, would it make sense to ask the First Lady to meet one or more local American families who adopted a child through the orphanage? She could see the child and the family as a whole after they've been a family for a couple of years or even more.

o You asked about the gender ratio: right now it is 25% girls to 75% boys (likely to be roughly the same in early July). That has nothing to do with any preference of the natural mothers to keep boys, the director says, since only extremely rarely does a young woman from a traditional Chinese family decide to keep a child after seeing it is a boy. Rather, this has to do with the current situation that adoptive parents with gender preferences tend to want girls.

o It's been virtually impossible to hear anything bad about Mother's Choice. However, the chief counselor to the young women has heard that a couple of complaints, time unknown, were made to the Hong Kong Government Information Service. The government runs television ads in Cantonese promoting Mother's Choice as a place young pregnant girls can go for advice on a full range of options. Apparently a couple people have said, only to the GIS, that the mere existence of Mother's Choice promotes premarital sex. This comment has gone nowhere, I hear. As you know Mother's Choice was founded to give young women an alternative to abortions. Abortion is legal in the first trimester here, is extremely widely accepted in the Chinese community and is not a matter for public debate. Mother's Choice's approach is to tell young women who seek an abortion to go to a family planning center or to an established doctor rather than a backstreet clinic. It does provide contraceptive advice to young women post-birth if they want it.

o Key comment: Mother's Choice says it puts out no religious pressure but the chief counselor said they do tell young women that "the fetus is alive and you must consider that, don't treat it as tissue or cells." But again, everyone I've talked to says there is no sense, whatsoever, that Mother's Choice is anything but a promoter of options. (I found the woman Aviva heard talking about Mother's Choice, got the same extremely positive feedback from her, even though I asked very specific questions re religion, abortion and family planning.)

That's it. Call me if you want at home or wait until Monday morning.

Attachment.
Regards,



WhiteAC@hongkwpoa.us-state.gov

cc: Steve Schlaikjer Jeanine Jackson
Paul Horowitz Cindy Crowe

Johnson & Johnson International

Room 1515-17, 19th Floor, Tower I, Grand Century Place
193 Prince Edward Road West, Mongkok,
KOWLOON, HONG KONG.

URGENT

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:	FROM:
Ms. Evan Ryan	Sarah E. Kochling
The White House	DATE:
	MAY 28, 1998
FAX NUMBER:	CC:
002-1-202-456-5340	Ms. Ann Cody White (HKG)
PHONE NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
	2
RE:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
Invitation for Mrs. Clinton	

☒ URGENT ☐ FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☒ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

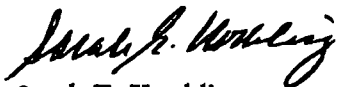
Dear Ms. Ryan,

I understand from Ann Cody White of the American Consulate in Hong Kong that you can help to forward the attached invitation from the Wellesley College Club of Hong Kong to Mrs. Clinton.

We are grateful for your assistance and look forward to Mrs. Clinton's favorable reply.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,



Sarah E. Kochling
President
Wellesley College Club of Hong Kong

WELLESLEY CLUB



HONG KONG

48 Tin Hau Temple Road
3rd Floor
North Point, Hong Kong

May 26, 1998

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

On behalf of the Wellesley College Club of Hong Kong, I am writing to let you know how delighted we are that you will be making a brief stop in Hong Kong during your upcoming China trip. Our group includes not only expatriate Americans, but women from across the region, who would be honored to have the opportunity to meet with you. We hope you will be able to find time in your schedule to join us for breakfast or lunch while you are in town.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sarah E. Kochling".

Sarah E. Kochling W'90
President,
Wellesley College Club of Hong Kong
(e-mail dragnfly@hk.super.net)

BY POST
BY FAX c/o Ms. Evan Ryan
(002-1-202-456-5340)

THE FIRST LADY'S SCHEDULING OFFICE

PLEASE DELIVER TO:

- 1.) Erin
- 2.) _____
- 3.) _____
- 4.) _____

ORGANIZATION	Consulate General of the USA - Hong Kong	
EVENT	mtg. w/ Hong Kong women's business leaders re: Hong Kong's new microcredit program	
DATE OF EVENT	during HRC's trip to Hong Kong	
LOCATION	Hong Kong	
EVENT DESCRIPTION	mt w/ women's business ldrs. re: new govt microcredit program	
CONTACT	Ann White Cody White & Christine Loh	
RECOMMENDED BY		
STATUS	ACCEPT _____ REGRET _____ PENDING _____	LETTER _____ VIDEO _____
NOTES		



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
HONG KONG

FAX NO: (852) 28454845

DATE: June 4 1998

TO: Evan Ryan
scheduling
Office of the First Lady

FAX NO: (202) 456-5340

FROM: Ann Cody White

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES: 5 (Including this page)

Evan,

Here's another proposal, quite interesting, for the First Lady's brief time here in Hong Kong. The idea would be for the First Lady to discuss the potential of microcredit programs with members of several different Hong Kong business women's groups.

This July the Hong Kong government will start a "Credit Guarantee Scheme" that could work to increase credit availability for women doing business in Hong Kong.

See attached, drafted by a prominent local woman politician, Christine Loh.

Regards, Ann



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權
黨

CITIZENS
PARTY

June 3, 1998

Ann Cody-White
US Consulate
By Fax: 2845-4845
Number of pages (including this page): 4

Dear Ms. Cody-White:

I write on behalf of several women's groups in Hong Kong, regarding the impending trip of the First Lady of the United States, Hillary Clinton, to Hong Kong at the end of June. I understand that her time is quite limited, and that there are many activities worthy of her attention while she is here. I would like to propose that she take part in a short (half-hour) forum with representatives of the major women's groups in Hong Kong. The topic I propose is women in business in Hong Kong, with particular attention to access to financing, and to the prospect of developing microcredit and microloans for Hong Kong's women entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Hong Kong is facing a significant economic downturn. Figures released at the end of May indicate an economic contraction for the first time in 13 years, and the decline is expected to continue. One possible economic stimulus measure is to facilitate the creation and growth of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs).

Hong Kong's 280,000 SMEs comprise 98% of our enterprises, and employ 60% of our workforce. They foster innovation and diversify our economic base. SMEs serve as a key, flexible source of employment, and a point of entry into the economy for entrepreneurs, particularly women and new immigrants, otherwise left at the margins of society and the economy. As unemployment grows, and the population of lesser-skilled, new immigrants from mainland China increases, removing barriers to the establishment and growth of new SMEs offers potential for addressing Hong Kong's economic woes.

Women bear a disproportionate burden of the pain of Hong Kong's economic dislocation. Women are often the lowest paid and the least senior employees, and are the first to be laid off when financial difficulties strike. Women also feature prominently in many of the front-line, expendable jobs - in retail sales, and in other clerical and non-technical jobs. Age discrimination in hiring and firing affects women more than men. Most new immigrants from the mainland are women, who are at the fringe of society and the economy and could be greatly helped by measures to ease entry into the economy.

In Hong Kong as elsewhere, fewer women than men work, and women on average receive lower monthly wages than men do; at the time of the 1996 Population By-census the average monthly wage for men was \$11,000 compared with \$8,500 for

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CITIZENS PARTY - Room 1203, Dominion Centre, 43 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong
電話 Tel.: (852) 2893 0213 - 國文 傳真 Fax: (852) 2575 8430 - 電子郵箱 E-mail: enquiry@citizensparty.org
網址 website: www.citizensparty.org

- 2 -

June 3, 1998

women. The decline in labor force participation of women in their thirties indicates that having a child and a job are still considered mutually exclusive; and, after having children, many women find it difficult to rejoin the workforce.

Many of Hong Kong's 700,000 female homemakers would like to work outside the home, but are hindered by existing barriers to entering the economy, re-entering the labor force after having children. A 1993 Government survey of people who had left the labor force within the past year revealed that the average age of women leavers was 35 compared with 50 for men. Of those people who were economically inactive yet willing to take up a job if suitable employment were offered, over three-quarters were women, averaging age 38 (the age for male respondents was 58). Over two-thirds of those saying they would like to work but were unable to were female homemakers.

Prior to the current economic crisis, Hong Kong's larger trend towards an increasingly technologically advanced and high value-added service economy is having a disproportionate impact on women. More than half the women in Hong Kong's labor force are in clerical or non-technical jobs. These include sales clerks, who are the first to go when the economic downturn hits the retail market, and pager operators whose jobs are increasingly being relocated to lower-wage areas. Women also form the bulk of employees in the garment and fashion sector, which has been particularly hard hit by the recent economic turmoil.

Women are ready to take the lead in upgrading their skills: over 80% of the participants in the Employee Retraining Scheme are women. A large majority of students in adult accounting and business classes at Hong Kong University's School of Professional and Continuing Education are women. Measures to help Hong Kong entrepreneurs and small business owners offer tremendous potential to tap the developing economic expertise of Hong Kong women, and to enable them to help themselves and contribute to the economy.

There are many barriers to the development of Hong Kong's SMEs. Primary among these is lack of access to credit and financing. Hong Kong's banks are often wary of the risks inherent in lending to smaller firms. In the current economic climate, SMEs are facing even more difficulties. Banks are lending less, and the assets that they lend against are decreasing in value - Hong Kong's property prices have dropped 40% in the last year. Unlike many other developed economies, Hong Kong has no program to help small businesses gain access to credit and financing. Hong Kong is in great need of such a program, with a particular focus on microcredit and microloans.

The First Lady's interest in and knowledge about microcredit programs around the globe is well-known. Microcredit and microloan programs have achieved impressive success in helping the world's poorest, most of whom are women, in developing and developed economies. Programs throughout the industrialized world have provided a combination of targeted loans, training and technical assistance that enable microentrepreneurs to run a business in highly regulated and complex economies.

X Hong Kong, with its high per capita GDP and low unemployment, historically has not considered public sector efforts to aid SMEs. In July, the Government will establish its first Credit Guarantee Scheme, available exclusively to Hong Kong

- 3 -

June 3, 1998

exporters, with strict limits on duration and amount of loans, and application to export enterprises of all sizes. There is tremendous potential for a broader-scale loan guarantee scheme, modeled after the US Small Business Administration's 7(a) loan program, to target help towards Hong Kong's SMEs, and extend it to those enterprises outside of the export/import sector.

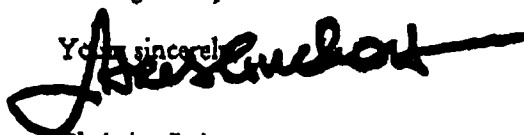
Such a scheme would offer particular benefits for Hong Kong's businesswomen. There are no official or private statistics about the number of women-owned businesses, or the sectors which women are most likely to enter and prosper. However, as elsewhere, women proprietors are found across the spectrum. For example, the Hong Kong Women Business Owners Club includes lawyers and doctors, and women running export/import and freight companies, retail and wholesale operations, restaurants - even one owner and operator of a tin plating company. The Club also includes a number of expatriate Americans, who find Hong Kong a good place to gain experience in business, which they then apply upon returning to the United States. The First Lady's visit, and attention to this area, would help to highlight this area.

A number of groups of Hong Kong businesswomen, have been established in recent years. These include: the Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women; Women Business Owners Club; Financial Women's Association of Hong Kong; and the Hong Kong Association of Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs. In addition, the Government's Equal Opportunities Commission has been charged with collecting information about women entrepreneurs and small business owners as part of a project by APEC's working group on SMEs.

All of these organizations, welcome the First Lady to Hong Kong. We invite her to share her ideas and knowledge about the potential of microcredit programs to help Hong Kong's women enter the economy and prosper. Mrs. Clinton's participation in a short forum would highlight the contribution of Hong Kong women to the economy, and support efforts towards providing public sector support for SMEs, particularly those owned by women.

Thank you for communicating our invitation to the First Lady. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Christine Loh
Chair, Citizens Party and Legislative Councillor-elect

Rosemarie Kriesel
President, Financial Women's Association of Hong Kong

Vandana Shiva
Vice President, Hong Kong Association of Business and Professional Women

Marina Wong
President, Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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002. bio	Christine Loh (partial) (1 page)	nd	P6/b(6)

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b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
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[002]

Christine Loh

P6/(b)(6)

Wanchai, Hong Kong

P6/(b)(6)

Email: cloh@citizensparty.org**Personal Biodata**

Christine Loh was born in Hong Kong and was educated in Hong Kong and England. She has an English law degree, became a commodities trader in 1980 for a multinational corporation, then took on various senior management positions before devoting herself to full-time politics in 1994.

Ms. Loh was appointed to the Legislative Council in 1992, and won direct election to the Legislative Council in 1995; her term ended with the dissolution on 30 June 1997. In her year off from the Legislative Council she continued her work in politics and the community, hosted a morning public affairs programme on HIT radio, and studied for a Masters of Law degree in Chinese Law at City University. She won direct election to the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region from the Hong Kong Island geographical constituency in May 1998. She continues to serve as Chair of Citizens Party, established on 4 May 1997.

Ms. Loh writes extensively in local and international publications and is a leading advocate for the environment, equal opportunities, open government, human rights and the arts.



FAX COVER SHEET

American Consulate General, Hong Kong

To: Evan Ryan
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Date: 06/09/98
Number of Pages: 8

Comments:

Evan,

As promised, here are the Consulate General's suggested names of distinguished Hong Kong women who might participate in the First Lady's round table women's forum. We've included some of the Hong Kong government's suggestions.

The first memo, in the form of a site memo, includes our first and preferred tier of proposed attendees. Asterisks indicate that a biography is currently available and attached. We will add bios as available.

The second list, of alternates, is grouped according to type, for example, business, or the arts.

Finally, if you have any information on a possible venue and time for the women's forum, we'd appreciate it if you could let us know. While we understand the President's schedule determines the First Lady's schedule, and that both are now in flux, getting a better idea of possible times and the likely venue would help us greatly. We suggest scheduling the women's forum during the morning of July 3 while the President visits the Sealand terminal. I recall the Convention Center and the Consul General's residence appealed to you all, but perhaps the Court of Final Appeal in Central Hong Kong might also be feasible. Many thanks for your feedback in advance.

Regards, Ann

EVENT: First Lady Roundtable Meeting
with Distinguished Hong Kong Women
SITE/ADDRESS: TBD (Possibly Convention Center or Consul General's Residence
or Court of Final Appeal)
DATE/TIME: TBD (Friday, July 3, possibly 9 - 10:30 a.m.)

PURPOSE/SIGNIFICANCE: The First Lady's roundtable discussion with distinguished and accomplished Hong Kong women in government and the professions would highlight common concerns of and about women, and the public and private sector resources available to deal with these issues.

PROPOSED ATTENDEES:

Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States
Madeleine Albright, U.S. Secretary of State
Carolyn Brehm, Vice President for Asia, Project ORBIS, Consul General's wife
Anson Chan, Chief Secretary of the Civil Service
Cheung Man Yee, Director of Broadcasting, Radio Television Hong Kong
Fanny Mui-Ching Cheung, Chairperson, Equal Opportunities Commission
Lena Chi, Mutual Legal Assistance Office, Department of Justice
Susanna Chou, textile manufacturer and possible first Chief Executive of Macau
Audrey Eu, Chairman, Hong Kong Bar Association
Julita Lee, Honorary Chair of the Federation for Women
Elsie Leung, Secretary for Justice
Anna Tam, Professor of Family and Children's Law, Hong Kong University
Betty Tung, spouse of Chief Executive C.H. Tung
Anna Wu, head of the Hong Kong Consumer Council and solicitor
Lily Yam, Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption
Marjorie Yang, chair, Esquel Enterprises Ltd, Young President's Organization member
Denise Yue, Secretary for Treasury

NOTIONAL SCHEDULE: The meeting would last approximately 75 minutes and could take place as her first event. It would afford the First Lady a chance to discuss substantive issues with a small group of women who have each made a major contribution to Hong Kong in government, law, business, medicine and the arts. The meeting could consist of opening remarks from the First Lady and Mrs. Tung, followed by an open exchange while all are seated.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: Individual and group photos are possible.

LOGISTICS: Access and security already would be controlled if held at the Convention Center; press set-up and parking would be slightly more difficult but possible if held at the Consul General's residence. Other possible sites include the Court of Final Appeal's first-floor reading room or Hong Kong University's seventh floor meeting room.

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**GUEST LIST FOR FIRST LADY ROUNDTABLE MEETING
WITH DISTINGUISHED HONG KONG WOMEN**

Business (2)

Susanna Chou, textile manufacturer and possible first Chief Executive of Macau
Marjorie Yang, Esquel Enterprises, Ltd.

Government Officials (8)

Hillary Rodham Clinton, First Lady of the United States
Madeleine Albright, U.S. Secretary of State
Carolyn Brehm, Vice President for Asia, Project ORBIS and Consul General's wife
Anson Chan, Chief Secretary of the Civil Service
Lena Chi, Mutual Legal Assistance Office, Department of Justice
Elsie Leung, Secretary for Justice
Lily Yam, Commissioner, Independent Commission Against Corruption
Denise Yue, Secretary for Treasury

Law, Journalism, Academia (5)

Cheung Man Yee, Director of Broadcasting, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK)
Fanny Mui-Ching Cheung, Chairperson, Equal Opportunities Commission
Audrey Eu, Chairman, Hong Kong Bar Association
Anna Tam, Professor of Family and Children's Law, Hong Kong University
Anna Wu, head of the Hong Kong Consumer Council and solicitor

Medicine (1)

Betty Tung, spouse of Chief Executive C.H. Tung

Political Leaders (1)

Julita Lee, Honorary Chair of the Federation of Women

Total: 17

Biographies of Proposed First Lady Roundtable Participants

Betty Tung: Mrs. Tung is the wife of the Chief Executive C. H. Tung of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. She was born and raised in Hong Kong. She studied at Boston University's School of Nursing in 1955. Mrs. Tung is President of the Hong Kong Red Cross and of the Hong Kong Community Chest. Mrs. Tung has an interest in Japan and speaks Japanese. She has one daughter and two sons.

Anson Chan: Chan is the Chief Secretary for Administration – Hong Kong's top civil servant. She was the first Chinese appointed to this post. Chan rose quickly through the ranks after beginning her government career in 1962. Responsible for Hong Kong's 180,000-strong civil service, Chan enjoys high esteem in the local community for her leadership, efficiency, and determination to speak up for Hong Kong interests. Born in Shanghai in 1940, Chan earned a Bachelor's in English Literature at the University of Hong Kong. Her grandfather was a well-known Nationalist general and World War II hero. Her mother, Fang Zhaoling, is a noted artist and calligrapher. Chan consistently leads Hong Kong public approval polls, ahead of Martin Lee and C.H. Tung.

Cheung Man-yee: Cheung has served as Director of Broadcasting, Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) – Hong Kong's public broadcasting station – since 1986. Born in 1946, Cheung was raised and educated locally, graduating from the Chinese University with a B.A. degree. She rose rapidly in the bureaucracy, serving as Director of the Government Information Service before joining RTHK in 1971. Cheung is tough and independent. She was in the limelight this winter when she forcefully rejected suggestions to limit the range of opinions voiced on RTHK and turn it into a government mouthpiece.

Audrey Eu: Eu was elected Chairman of the Bar Association – the professional group representing Hong Kong's barristers – in January 1997. She pledged that the Association would continue its stand for the rule of law through the reversion and beyond. Maintaining close working connections with pro-democracy lawyers both locally and abroad, Eu enjoys great respect in the legal profession for her meticulous judgment, open-mindedness and liberal outlook. She strongly criticized the Government's decision to rush through the Provisional Legislature the controversial Adaptation of Laws Bill, which exempts Chinese state organs from some Hong Kong laws, arguing that the move would seriously undermine both local confidence and the rule of law. Eu is in her second consecutive one-year term heading the Bar Association.

Elsie Leung: Leung, 59, is Secretary for Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. She has pledged to uphold the rule of law and to carry out her duties "fairly, impartially and fearlessly." Born in China in 1939, Leung went to night school to finish her university course in law, while working in a law office during the day. Leung specialized in family law, particularly women's and children's issues. She is a devout Catholic, and comes from a family with long-term connections to progressive causes in China and Hong Kong. She decided in February 1998 not to prosecute the local branch of China's Xinhua News Agency for allegedly violating the Privacy Ordinance,

and in March 1998 not to prosecute Sally Aw, Chairman of Sing Tao Holdings, for fraud. Those decisions, plus the passage of legislation exempting Chinese state organs from some Hong Kong laws, sparked criticism that the Justice Department showing favoritism to powerful, pro-China individuals and groups.

Anna Wu: Wu is head of the Hong Kong Consumer Council. She was an appointed member of the pre-reversion Legislative Council from 1992 to 1995. A lawyer by profession, Wu was one of the prominent human rights activists in Hong Kong calling for the establishment of an independent Human Rights Commission to oversee the implementation of the Bill of Rights, for extending the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women to Hong Kong, and ending discrimination against homosexuals. Wu's tireless efforts to fight discriminatory practices contributed significantly to the establishment of the Equal Opportunity Commission in 1996. A law graduate of the University of Hong Kong, Wu currently heads the Consumer Council.

Lily Yam: Yam was appointed Commissioner of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) in April 1997. She has expressed confidence in the ability of the Commission -- a powerful and highly sensitive organ -- to combat corruption under Chinese sovereignty. Born in July 1946 in Hong Kong, Yam has a B. A. degree from the University of Hong Kong (1969) and an MPA from Harvard (1985). Earlier in her career with the ICAC, she served as head of the Community Relations Department (1980) and as Secretary to the ICAC Review Committee (1994). She served as Commissioner for Transport from 1995-1997.

Denise Yue: Yue, 45, has been Secretary for the Treasury since April 1998. Prior to this appointment, she was Secretary for Trade and Industry of Hong Kong from 1995 to 1998. Yue joined the Hong Kong Government in 1974 and served in a number of branches and departments, including Home Affairs Department, Finance Branch, the Chief Secretary's office and Education and Manpower Branch. Yue was born in Hong Kong and, graduated from Hong Kong University in 1974, and studied at Harvard in 1987.

**Alternate Names for Round Table
grouped by functional type**

The Arts (11)

Barbara Fei, vocalist

Mona Fong, managing director, Shaw Brothers (HK) Ltd., prominent film producer

Ann Hui, movie director

Alice King, director and owner, Alisan Fine Arts Ltd., and sister of C.H. Tung

Helen Lai, resident choreographer, City Contemporary Dance Company

Josephine Siu, actress

Anna Sui, fashion designer, New York and Hong Kong

Vivienne Tam, New York-based clothing designer and Hong Kong boutique owner

Jean Wong, principal, Jean M. Wong School of Ballet

Frances Yip, singer

Wing See Yip, conductor

Business and Finance (14)

Christine Chao, managing director, (legal), Federal Express Corporation

Choi Ngor Cheung, director and securities analyst, South China Securities Ltd.

Shirley Chong Sok Un, CEO, Shenyn Wanguo (HK) Ltd. securities firm

Susan Chow, Executive Director, Hutchison Whampoa

Katherine HUNG Siu Lin, director, Cheung Kong Holding Ltd.

Elizabeth Kan, managing director, First Eastern Investment Group

Kersti Krepp, vice president, Asia/Evergreen International Airlines, Inc.

Sophie Leung, chairman, Golden Emblem Investment Co., textile industry representative
for the legislative council

Paddy LUI Wai Yu, executive director, K Wah International Holdings Ltd.

Joyce Elena Ma, chief executive officer, Joyce Boutique Holdings Ltd.

Elle SHUM Mun Ling, director, Wealthy Bloom Investment Ltd.

Anna Sohmen, chairman, Starform Service Ltd; council chairman, Hong Kong Academy
for Performing Arts, daughter of late shipping tycoon Sir Yue-kong Pao

Jing Ulrich, director of China research, Credit Lyonnais Securities

Mina Wang, chairwoman, Chinachem Group

Children's and Family Issues (5)

Shirley HUNG Suet Lin, Task Force on Single Parents, Caritas Youth & Community
Service (microcredit project)

Helen Stephens, managing director, Mother's Choice home for orphans and single
expectant mothers

Rosanna Wong, executive director, Hong Kong Federation of Youth; chairman, Hong
Kong Housing

Nora YAU Ho Chun, JP, director, Christian Family Service Centre

Jessie Yu Sau Chu, chief executive, Hong Kong Single Parents Association

Education (2)

Dr. Gail Schaeffer Fu, Wellesley '64, English Language Teaching Unit, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Helen Yu, director, Education Department

Government (10)

Marion LAI CHAN Chi Kuen, Commissioner for Official Languages, Official Languages Agency
Yvonne Choi, Deputy Director-General of Trade
Katherine Fok, Secretary for Health and Welfare
Regina Ip, Director, Hong Kong Immigration Department
Rebecca Lai, Deputy Secretary for Financial Services
Amelia LUK Siu Ping, Deputy Law Officer (International Law), Department of Justice
Elsie Tu, Provisional Legislative Councillor
Anissa WONG Sean Yee, Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service, Civil Service bureau
Wing Chen WONG, Deputy Director of Urban Services (Administration), Urban Services Department
Patricia CHU YEUNG Pak Yu, Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department

Law (6)

Claire Beeson, District Court Judge
Sally Harpole, consultant, law firm of Deacon, Graham & James
Gladys Li, former chairman, Hong Kong Bar Association
Margaret Ng, legislator, legal constituency, barrister
Sylvia SIU Wing Yee, chairman, Hong Kong Federation of Women's Lawyers
Maria Tam, barrister; member, Basic Law Committee

Media (4)

Joyce Barnathan, bureau chief, Businessweek (invite to cover event?)
Sandra Burton, bureau chief/contributor, Time magazine (invite to cover event?)
Carol Lai, chairman, Hong Kong Journalists Association (invite to cover event?)
Winnie Yu, managing director, Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Co. Ltd.

Medicine (4)

Felice Lieh Mak, former executive councillor; doctor
RuLin Fuong, pediatrician, working mother and daughter-in-law of C.H. and Betty Tung
Dr. Rose Ong, family practitioner and medical columnist, South China Morning Post
Rosie Young, Dept of Medicine, Hong Kong University; former chairman of Education Commission

Non-governmental Organizations (5)

Chan Yuen-han, director, HK Federation of Trade Unions Social Affairs Committee; member, Democratic Alliance for Betterment of Hong Kong; Provisional Legislative Councillor
Nellie Fong, executive director, the Better Hong Kong Foundation, and executive councillor
Mona Leong, assistant director, Hong Kong Red Cross (Betty Tung's favorite charity)

Mei Ng, director, Friends of the Earth
Diana Pang Wai Sum, Society for Community Organization

Politics (4)

Selina Chow, Provisional Legislative Councillor; member, Liberal Party
Emily Lau, chairman, The Frontier party
Christine Loh, chairman, Citizens Party
Elsie Tu, Provisional Legislative Councillor

Sports (3)

Lai-Shan Li, Olympic gold medalist, windsailing
Lok-Si Li, first Hong Kong woman to visit the North Pole
Jenny Wallis, Deputy Secretary for Culture and Sport

Women's Interest Groups (7)

Chan Yu, chair, Hong Kong-based Chinese Working Women's Network
Elaine Healey, President, Hong Kong Women Business Owners Club
Evelyn Ng, chairperson, Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres
Ivich Neuville, president, American Women's Association
Sylvia SIU Wing Yee, chairman, Hong Kong Federation of Women Lawyers
Marina WONG Yu Pok, Hong Kong Women Professional and Entrepreneurs Association
Annie WU Suk Ching, vice chairman, Hong Kong Federation of Women