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Scan ID: 413215
Document Number:

Folder Title:
HU016

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H4016

February 17, 2000

Ms. Pinar Ilkkaracan
Director
Women for Women's Human Rights
Plajyolu Sokuk 12/9
Çamlıdağ Apartment Suadiye
81070 Istanbul
TURKEY

Dear Ms. Ilkkaracan:

Thank you for your kind letter on behalf of Women for Women's Human Rights. I was deeply moved by my visit to Izmit and by seeing firsthand the devastation caused by the earthquake.

I am especially grateful to you and the members of your organization for your willingness to devote your time, talents, and energy to helping the families affected by this tragedy rebuild their lives. You can be proud of the powerful example of compassion and service you are setting.

My Administration shares your commitment to restoring hope and providing relief to this troubled region. As we move forward in that critical endeavor, I am grateful for your leadership. Best wishes.

BILL CLINTON

Sincerely,

BC/MMW/DA/DC/lynn-pfs-ckb (Corres. #7083027)
(1.ilkkaracan)

cc: Kirk Hanlin, 184 OEOB w/copy of incoming

000224

February 17, 2000

Ms. Pinar Ilkcaracan
Director
Women for Women's Human Rights
Plajyolu Sokuk 12/9
Çamlıdağ Apartment Suadiye
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TURKEY

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BC/WMW/DA/DC/lynn-pfs (Corres. #7083027)
(l.ilkkaracan)

cc: Kirk Hanlin, 184 OEOB w/copy of incoming

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2/18

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

John-
Pls pass out to
Delia.
The
uuu

INITIALS: BC /wmw	DOCUMENT NAME: \\s_who00010\dos\public\letter\slr\p\wmw \ilkkaracan pinar wmw.doc
DRAFT / LETTER DATE: January 7, 2000	CORRESPONDENCE #: 7083027
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO: Ms. Pinar Ilkcaracan Director Women for Women's Human Rights Apt. 81070 Plajyolu Sok ^{ak} 12/9 Istanbul TURKEY	CC: Kirk Hanlin 184 w/ incoming. Based on previously used refugee assistance language (attached). I was deeply moved by my Suadiye Camlidag Apt.

Dear Ms. Ilkcaracan:

Thank you for your kind letter on behalf of Women for Women's Human Rights. ~~It meant a lot to me to visit the Izmit Rehabilitation Center and to see first hand the devastation caused by the earthquake that struck Turkey last year. I was deeply moved by the experience and appreciated the warm welcome I received.~~ ^{to} ^{be able to}

I am especially grateful to you and the members of your organization for your willingness to devote your time, talents, and energy to helping the families affected by this tragedy rebuild their lives. You can be proud of the powerful example of compassion and service you are setting.

My Administration shares your commitment to restoring hope and providing relief to this troubled region. As we move forward in that critical endeavor, I am grateful for your leadership. Best wishes.

re
2/17

January 24, 2000

Ms. Pinar Ilkkaracan
Director
Women for Women's Human Rights

~~8081070~~ Apt. ~~81070~~^{uk} 12/9 Camlidag Apt. Suadiye
Plajyolu Sok Istanbul
TURKEY

Dear Ms. Ilkkaracan:

Thank you for your kind letter on behalf of Women for Women's Human Rights. I enjoyed my visit to Turkey very much and was touched by the warm welcome I received.

I'm pleased to learn of your organization's efforts to empower women with the skills and assistance to rebuild their lives and to provide a better future for their families. My Administration shares your deep commitment to advancing the rights of women. As we continue working to widen the circle of opportunity, I'm grateful for your leadership. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

BC/WMW/DA/lynn (Corres. #7083027)
(1.ilkkaracan)

cc: Kirk Hanlin, 184 OEOB w/copy of incoming

WW -
You need to
write about
his visit to
Izmit & the
earthquake.
-DC
2/3

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC /wmw	DOCUMENT NAME: \\s_who00010\dos\public\letter\slr\p\wmw \llkkaracan pinar wmw.doc
DRAFT / LETTER DATE: January 7, 2000	CORRESPONDENCE #: 7083027
	CC: Kirk Hanlin 184 w/ incoming.
CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO: Ms. Pinar Ilkkaracan Director Women for Women's Human Rights Apt. 81070 Plajyolu Sok. 12/9 Camlidag Istanbul ✓ TURKEY	Based on trip and message language.

Dear Pinar:

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MA

JAN 24 2000

*****Draft/Clearance Record*****

Wayne M. Wondwossen

RECEIVED: 12/13

brief by trip letter
general human rights lang. or lang. recently
cleared on women's rights by nge.

This was
received on
11/16 in
Izmit, Turkey.
Left on plane.

Rev PLM 12/13

12/13

Wayne - Ashville.
(Check to see if they
received a letter - This
Group demands similar.
let me know. Dec 17

SUBMITTED: 1/7

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Auburn, New York)

For Immediate Release

September 2, 1999

FACT SHEET

U.S. Humanitarian Relief Efforts for
Turkey Earthquake Victims

Since a devastating earthquake struck Turkey August 17, President Clinton has mobilized public and private resources in a broad-ranging effort to help those affected by this disaster. The earthquake caused more than 14,500 deaths and 24,000 injuries, with thousands more still missing. The United States has undertaken the following relief operations:

-- The President's Special Coordinator for International Disaster Assistance, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator J. Brady Anderson, toured the disaster zone on August 31 to survey relief efforts and met with Turkish officials. The U.S. has provided almost \$11.5 million in goods and services to support Turkish relief efforts (excluding Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group operations).

-- USAID immediately deployed two search and rescue teams to help recover earthquake survivors. The U.S. teams from Fairfax County, Virginia and Dade County, Florida traveled to the region on U.S. military aircraft and worked with other local and international teams to retrieve survivors from the rubble. Each U.S. team included 70 rescue experts, search dogs and sensory and earth-moving equipment. The last U.S. rescue team departed Turkey on August 28.

-- A 15-member USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) is in Turkey working closely with local authorities and the U.S. military to conduct shelter, health, water and sanitation assessments; help coordinate U.S. military transportation and distribution of relief supplies; advise local groups on the proper use of plastic sheeting for shelter; and recommend further U.S. assistance needed.

-- The Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group (ARG), including the USS Kearsarge, USS Gunston and USS Ponce, has brought 2200 Marines, 22 helicopters and substantial medical treatment capacity to the region. ARG members are delivering relief supplies and addressing shelter and medical needs. The Marines are constructing tent camps to house the displaced, in areas designated by Turkish authorities.

-- A 20-member U.S. Navy medical team specializing in acute trauma care provided medical assistance in Izmit during the initial phase of the disaster response. They have since relocated to the Kearsarge to supplement its medical capacity.

-- The U.S. military has donated nearly 5,500 tents of various sizes to provide shelter for approximately 95,000 people. The military will also deliver some 200 portable latrines, four generators and water bladders, and has donated surgical gloves, body bags, masks and medical supplies.

-- USAID-chartered planes have delivered 30,000 blankets, 16,400 five-gallon water containers, 10,000 hygiene kits, 700 rolls of plastic sheeting, medicine for 10,000 people, and three water purification units. The units are installed in the disaster zone and are each capable of meeting the daily clean water requirements of 27,000 people. USAID also locally purchased 7000 bars and 3000 bottles of soap for distribution to disaster victims.

-- The President encourages Americans to help the Turkish people by providing support to relief agencies that are active in the region. Cash donations will enable these organizations to purchase exactly what is needed, locally and regionally, thus speeding up the delivery of assistance. For more information on organizations active in Turkey, call 1-800-USAID-RELIEF or access the USAID web site at www.info.usaid.gov.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Istanbul, Turkey)

For Immediate Release

November 16, 1999

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE SURVIVORS AND RELIEF WORKERS
OF THE EARTHQUAKE

(Izmit, Turkey)

12:10 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thanking for making us feel so welcome. I want to especially thank the governor, the mayor, the deputy governors who went on tour. (Applause.) I want to thank the Yoldas family and the other families who took us into their tents and gave us a feeling for what your lives are like here. (Applause.)

I want to thank the teachers and the students who took us into the schools. (Applause.) I want to thank the children who sang us songs and gave us their posters and gave us their little work of clay. (Applause.) I want to thank all of you who have worked hard to clear away the remaining damage done by the earthquake and to begin the process of rebuilding.

I know this is a time of great uncertainty for you, especially since another earthquake just hit not too far from here. I want you to know that most of the tents that you are staying in here came from the United States; and we have sent 500 more winterized tents to that province, to help the people who have been made homeless by the earthquake there. (Applause.)

We are also working hard to help the reconstruction process and help Turkey's businesses get back in business. We want everyone to be able to go back to work as soon as possible. (Applause.)

The one thing I would like to say today -- I know I speak for my wife and my daughter -- is that we were very, very moved by having family contact with other families. And we could imagine what our lives would be like if such a thing were to happen to us, as we have seen it happen to families in the United States. (Applause.)

We were so impressed that a total of 87 other countries came forward to help the people of Turkey who were hurt in the earthquake. And we were very grateful that one of the countries that came forward to help was your neighbor, Greece. (Applause.) And then, when the Greeks had their earthquake, the Turkish people came forward to help them. (Applause.)

I hope the ordinary people in Greece and Turkey who have suffered from these terrible natural disasters can send a clear message to the leaders that the people of this region can get along, and they should get along, and when they do get along, our children's lives and futures are better. (Applause.)

Now, in the meanwhile, I want you to know that we in the United States will do everything we can to help you until your lives return to normal. And we will help those people in the area hit by the most

recent earthquake. We will stay with you and work with you. And I just want to urge you to keep your spirits up, keep the smiles on your children's faces, keep helping the people who lost their loved ones in the earthquake, and know that together we will get through this to better days.

Thank you very, very much. (Applause.)

END 12:14 P.M. (L)

April 14, 1999

Warm greetings to everyone gathered for the 19th annual Forum and Luncheon of the Women for Human Rights and Dignity.

Motivated by a tragedy that took the lives of three children and caused the emotional breakdown of their mother, ten caring women in New York formed an organization to provide an emotional, economic, and social support network for women in need. Nearly 20 years later, Women for Human Rights and Dignity continues to encourage women on the path to personal growth and financial independence. Through a variety of public-private partnerships, WHRD has empowered numerous women with the skills and assistance to rebuild their lives and to provide a better future for their families.

It is a very American idea that we meet our challenges not through big government or as isolated individuals, but as members of a true community, with all of us working together. Upholding this fine tradition, the members and supporters of WHRD have rightly earned the respect and abiding gratitude of all those you have served. You have proved that, by working together, we can give all our fellow citizens the gift of hope and the promise of self-sufficiency.

Hillary joins me in extending best wishes for a memorable 20th anniversary celebration and continued success in the years to come.

July 5, 1994

Ms. Bella Abzug
Co-Chair
Women's Environment and
Development Organization
15th Floor
845 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022

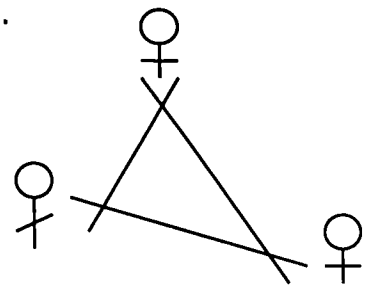
Dear Bella:

Thank you for your suggestions on behalf of the Women's Environment & Development Organization. I share your deep commitment to advancing the rights of women, and my Administration is working hard to meet this crucial challenge.

As Melinda Kimble, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, has detailed, the State Department is actively engaged in preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women. With the continued participation of government and non-governmental organizations across the country, I am confident that the United States will be most effective in promoting women's rights in this nation and around the world.

I appreciate your insights and involvement as we work to promote human rights for all people.

Sincerely,



16 November 1999

Dear Mr. President and the U.S. Delegation,

We are very honored to welcome you at the İzmit Rehabilitation Center for earthquake survivors. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to *Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR)* and our Center.

Women for Women's Human Rights was founded following the *Vienna Conference on Human Rights* in 1993. Our aim is to facilitate the empowerment of women by using multiple strategies - including lobbying governments and international bodies for policy and legal changes on national, regional and international levels. Our work is funded by several organizations, including the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC) in the USA.

Following the devastating earthquake, The İzmit Rehabilitation Center was established by *Women for Women's Human Rights* and is currently run in cooperation with the General Directorate for Social Services and Child Protection. Our aim is to provide psychological, social and legal counselling services for children and adults who have suffered from the earthquake.

Dear Mr. President and the U.S. Delegation,

Your presence here has been a most valuable support for **WWHR** and our Center.

Thanking you we remain, with all due respect,

Sincerely yours,

Pinar Ilkkaracan
Director of WWHR

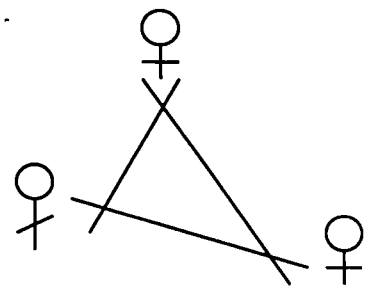
Kadının İnsan Hakları Projesi

Women for Women's Human Rights

Plajyolu Sok. 12/9 Çamlıdağ Apt. 81070 Suadiye, İstanbul - TURKEY

Tel: (90) - (216) - 357 21 42 Fax / Tel: (90) - (216) - 385 12 62

e-mail: wwhrist@superonline.com / wrp-ist@fenestra.comlink.de



WOMEN FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS (WWHR)

ISTANBUL, TURKEY

Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) is an autonomous women's NGO that was founded in 1993, inspired by the Vienna Conference on Human Rights. We aim to facilitate the empowerment of women and women's rights organizations by documenting laws and practices which promote or constrain women's rights, raising public consciousness concerning violations of these rights, increasing legal literacy, improving information exchange and solidarity between groups and individuals through active networking and outreach programs, and influencing governmental and other public bodies, with the goal of enacting policy and legal changes on national, regional and international levels.

On the regional and international levels, our group has collaborated or is currently collaborating with women's groups and networks on a variety of initiatives such as: UNIFEM (the Global Videoconference at the United Nations General Assembly on International Women's Day 1999, entitled "A World Free of Violence Against Women"), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (integration of women's issues into OSCE Operations), The Religious Consultation of Population, Reproductive Health and Ethics (research on women's sexuality and religion), International Peace Bureau and World Council of Churches (Co-sponsorship of the Women's Peace Petition), Center for Women's Global Leadership (organization of an international training for women's leadership for women activists from Muslim societies), International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC), and WINPEACE (networking between Greece and Turkey to promote women's role in the prevention of conflict and peace-building for regional stability).

As a result of its efforts, WWHR was recently selected as the recipient of the "Leading Solutions" award for "an organization whose collective and innovative efforts have had significant impact in advancing gender equality and social justice worldwide" by the Association of Women in Development (AWID) based in Washington, D.C.

Kadının İnsan Hakları Projesi

Women for Women's Human Rights

Plajyolu Sok. 12/9 Çamlıdağ Apt. 81070 Suadiye, İstanbul - TURKEY

Tel: (90) - (216) - 357 21 42 **Fax / Tel:** (90) - (216) - 385 12 62

e-mail: wwhrist@superonline.com / wrp-ist@fenestra.comlink.de

Women for Women's Human Rights İzmit Rehabilitation Center

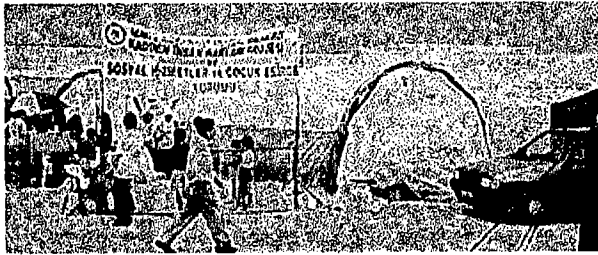


Background

As Women for Women's Human Rights, we started working for the İzmit Rehabilitation Center on 24th August, 1999. Initially we collected help from friends of the foundation and personal contacts. These amounted to 190 m2 of tents (consisting of one big and three smaller tents), playgrounds, toys of various sizes, furniture, television sets and a video player.

Following this relatively pleasant start, more difficult and exhausting days started. For example, in the

ever-changing conditions of the field, it took us three full days to choose the right location for the tents to be set up. We struggled with various problems changing every minute, like contacting authorities, getting permission, making sure the permission would be valid the following day as well, transporting the tents, setting them up, arranging the environs, and the technical teams. In spite of all this, we managed to open our Center in İzmit - Doğuşla on 6th September, 1999. On its first day, the center started working with 400 children.



Our Objectives:

To provide an environment for various group activities for the children who lost their relatives and/or homes in the earthquake, and are residing in tents in İzmit - Doğuşla.

To provide rehabilitation (through techniques like drama, game therapy, arts, and communication) in small groups for the children who have suffered traumas.

To provide individual therapy and help for children in need.

To give psychological counselling to parents or other people who have undertaken the responsibility of child care.

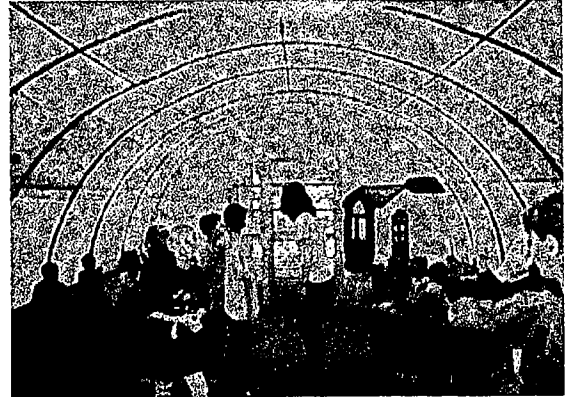
To provide psychological, social and legal counselling for adults and elderly people who have suffered the effects of the earthquake. To develop programs for the reduction of fear in adults and children through education about earthquakes and earthquake preparedness; and to help them acquire a future-oriented perspective about their own lives.

What Are We Doing?

Since September 6th while working for the continuation and betterment of our efforts with the kids, we are also trying to solve the infrastructure problems of the Center. We are also working to organize the joint efforts of WWHR, General Directorate for Social Services and Child Protection (SHÇEK) and the volunteers on a healthy basis. The big tent is full of toys. The three small tents are used as office and for arts and drama. We have provided two toilets, two showers, drinking water and electricity for children, employees and volunteers. The floor has been tiled, so



that dust and rain will not be a problem in the future. Another issue we are working on right now is the thermal isolation of the tents for the winter.



We have organized the activities of children by age groups. In our drama, arts, music programs, and during free play times, we are helping them express their feelings about the earthquake. We have provided toys (like see-saws and climbing towers) to meet the increased need for physical activity that is common among children who have suffered traumas. We have been making them play games that support controlled physical activity. Also, we have been providing toys that give feelings of housing and construction, like large Lego's and toy houses. Another problem we encountered while working with the children has been hygiene. It did not take us long to notice that we had to be careful against a possible lice infestation. After one week, we had to undertake the tasks of giving 350 children haircuts and freeing them from lice, with the help of 4 barbers from İzmit.

Through all this the most important thing that made us smile has been the support of volunteers. They have been with us through the founding and operation phases, and are still helping us with all of their energy and enthusiasm.

Currently, we are serving 300 kids organized in age groups in two daily sessions. We have 600 registered children in our Center. We have 2 staff members in charge of coordination between İstanbul and the Center, 2 people that reside in the Center, and a changing number of volunteer helpers from locals. Including 3 experts that SHÇEK has provided and has promised to continue to provide and together with 2 teachers, 2 service people, and two guards, we have almost 20 personnel.



As Women for Women's Human Rights, we wish to extend our help for earthquake victims beyond the services we provide for the children in İzmit Rehabilitation Center. In the long run we would like to concentrate our efforts on providing training to SHÇEK experts, volunteers and other professionals, who want to help women and elderly people with various problems, in the areas of trauma rehabilitation, women's specific problems, and self-help groups.

We still need help for our Center and ongoing operations. If you wish to help, you can contact us at wwhrst@superonline.com.