

Files of Christine Macy, Senior Speechwriter to the First Lady
Box 1: Files

Archived from OEOB 100 by Caroline Marvin on May 25, 2000

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 - Child Care
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- ❖ International Health
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- ❖ Children of Chernobyl
 - Children's Health
- ❖ Hispanics: background

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
ARTICLE FOR EBONY
JUNE, 1998

Bill and I ended our remarkable journey to Africa on Goree Island. It is a beautiful place, lined with cobblestone streets and brightly colored houses, and filled with the same warm, resilient, and brilliant people we met throughout our trip. But for many years, it was used as a launching pad for one of the greatest evils ever perpetrated by human beings -- slavery.

In a slave house -- the Maison des Esclaves -- built the same year our nation was born, we peered out from "The Door of No Return," where Africans were separated from their families and slave traders from their humanity. Today, that open doorway is a powerful symbol of a past we must never return to or forget and a new future we must continue to walk towards together.

I thought about that as my husband spoke there, surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean and the hopes of generations. The audience was filled with students, including those from the Martin Luther King Girls' School, which I visited last year in Senegal, and the Margaret Amidon Elementary School in Washington, D.C., the sister city of Dakar.

There were hundreds of citizens from Goree Island and throughout Senegal. And, we were accompanied by many prominent African Americans who were part of my husband's delegation, including Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater; Reverend Jesse Jackson, the President's Special Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy in Africa; Congressman Charles Rangel; Congresswoman Maxine Waters; Congressman Donald Payne; Congressman William Jefferson; Bob Nash, Assistant to the President; Susan Rice, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs; and Bob Johnson, President of Black Entertainment Television.

When the President asked them all to stand, a wave of emotion and pride moved through the air. Like 30 million other African Americans, their ancestors had been taken from Africa and sentenced to live in bondage. Now they were coming back as extraordinary leaders of America and architects of a new partnership between our two continents -- proving, as my husband said, that "the human spirit can never be enslaved."

When Chelsea and I went to Africa a year ago, I announced that my husband would soon become the first President to make a major trip there. He was convinced that Africa was undergoing a Renaissance -- and that there was a new, positive face of the continent that all Americans needed to see and be part of.

Challenges remain. But, too often the images we see of Africa are still dominated by misconceptions and stereotypes. We see pictures of brutal dictators. Yet half of the 48 nations in sub-Saharan Africa now choose their own governments. We see images of famine and poverty. Yet, as countries have embraced economic reform, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rates in Africa have more than tripled since 1990. We see America's role in Africa characterized solely in terms of aid. Yet America's private investment in Africa earns a return of more than 30 percent a year, higher than on any other continent. We see countless pictures of war and conflict. Yet people all over Africa are choosing reconciliation and renewal. Those are the people -- and the new picture of Africa -- we were privileged to see in every country we visited.

I will never forget the welcome we received from the moment we got off the plane in Ghana. At Independence Square in Accra, there were hundreds of thousands of people as far as the eye could see, the largest welcome we'd ever received anywhere. Despite the heat, they had all come to express friendship towards America and pride in their 40 years of freedom. Some women had even made dresses from cloth adorned with pictures of both Bill and Ghana President Jerry Rawlings.

At a day care center I visited with Mrs. Rawlings, the women we spoke with were dressed in aqua, orange, yellow, and other bright colors. Like other female pioneers who have built and sustained Ghana's democracy, these women were united by a common mission -- the desire to become full participants in their country's political and economic development. I saw the micro enterprises some women have created selling jewelry, art, clothing, and other goods. But nothing delighted us more than the child care center. In bright rooms, children were learning and being cared for, while their mothers worked to support their families.

In Uganda, the children at the Kisowera school sang to us about the key to their future, "Universal Primary Education." This is a new program that President Museveni has undertaken to provide education for every boy and every girl. Right now, two-thirds of the 130 million children out of school worldwide are girls. Yet, at this school, it's a different story. As their teachers told us with pride, they now graduate as many girls as boys. What's more, last year, the girls outscored the boys on their exams!

Of course, children cannot learn or dream if they're targets of war. At Makerere University, where I gave a speech about human rights, I met three children who had escaped after being kidnaped and brutalized by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a terrorist group based in Southern Sudan. And I met a woman who has put her life on the line to protect the children of Uganda. When you first see Sister Rachele Frassera, the Deputy Head Mistress of St. Mary's School in Aboke, you are immediately struck by the contrast between her small size and her enormous courage. When the LRA kidnaped 139 girls from her school, 75 percent of her student body, she chased down the terrorists and convinced them to release 109 girls. Now, she is working day and night to get them all home safely.

Everywhere we traveled, we saw the human spirit's remarkable ability to heal and rebuild. It's still hard to imagine that in less than four months, one million people were murdered in the genocide in Rwanda. My husband and I will never forget the faces of the 6 Rwandans we met in Kigali as they described the human toll of their nation's violence. One woman had lost her husband, her six children and her brothers. Her teeth had been knocked out and machete cuts were left on her head. A man whose right arm had been hacked off described having to hide under dead corpses to survive. But none of these victims had given up to bitterness or despair. All of them were doing everything they could to rebuild their lives, their communities, and their country.

We saw the same powerful commitment to the future throughout South Africa, where, in less than 10 years, Nelson Mandela rose triumphantly from Prisoner to President. He showed us the tiny cement cell on Robben Island where this man of freedom spent 18 years of his life imprisoned. As Bill said, we should thank God that President Mandela was able to survive “without having his heart turned to stone and without giving up on his dream for South Africa.”

That dream is being realized at the Victoria Mxenge Housing Project in Cape Town. When I visited it last year, the women sang to me of “Strength, Money, and Knowledge.” When my husband joined me there on this trip, we witnessed the remarkable changes borne of those three ingredients. As we approached the housing project, we could still see the shanties where these homeless squatters -- mostly women -- had once lived. Now, on the other side of the street, we found a vibrant community they have built by pooling their resources, securing small loans, and constructing homes together.

Last year, I asked the women if they believed they would own a home someday. Their answer was a resounding “yes.” This time, when I asked how many had become homeowners, hands shot up throughout the group. In just one year, the number of homes in that village has increased from 18 to 104. Roads once made of dirt are now paved. The concrete slab where we gathered last year is now a community center, complete with a day care center and a store. And the women have just bought a larger plot of land that will provide fertile soil for new businesses and new homes.

One of the personal highlights of the trip for Bill and me was the dedication of the Ron Brown Commercial Center in Johannesburg. Ron's beautiful widow and our dear friend, Alma, was there for the occasion. The President spoke about how Ron was the champion of close ties to Africa because of his deep conviction that it would help both Africans and Americans. We saw how right he was.

Just as in our country, people in Africa are trying to find ways to grow their economies, while protecting their beautiful environment. We talked with a group of environmental leaders in Botswana, which is home to some of the most amazing creatures that inhabit this earth. At the Chobe National Game Park, it was great to see Bill's eyes light up as we encountered elephants, hippos, giraffes, lions, crocodiles, and countless wild animals that we never knew existed -- from the sable antelope to the magnificent secretary bird. But equally impressive was the people of Botswana's rock-solid commitment to democracy and the impressive results they have achieved in everything from literacy to road building.

In Senegal, the beauty of the water and land was only overshadowed by one thing: the will of the people to create a new future for themselves and their children. On the last day of our trip, I met with a group of women and two men from the Malicounda Bambara Village who have done something remarkable. Although female genital mutilation (FGM) affects less than 20 percent of women in Senegal, in many villages like theirs, it is considered a rite of passage for all girls.

The women of Malicounda had taken a literacy class created by an American, Molly Melching, who had come to Senegal with the Peace Corps more than 20 years ago and never left. It was during this class, where they learned about their health and rights, that they decided FGM had harmed their daughters' bodies and spirits for too long. They decided it was time to end the pain, hemorrhaging, infections, AIDS and childbirth complications caused by a tradition that is sometimes deadly, but always painful.

During our discussion, the women showed me the skit they had used to educate their religious leaders, their neighbors, and their husbands -- because men must be part of this and every struggle for women's rights. A 66 year-old man described how he now goes from village to village spreading the word about the dangers of FGM.

Because of all of their efforts, Malicounda Bambara has now banned FGM and, in the process, they are inspiring others to do the same. Recently, 13 other villages with a combined population of more than 8,000 people joined together to end female circumcision in their communities. And now, Senegal's President Diouf has called for a new law to abolish it throughout the country.

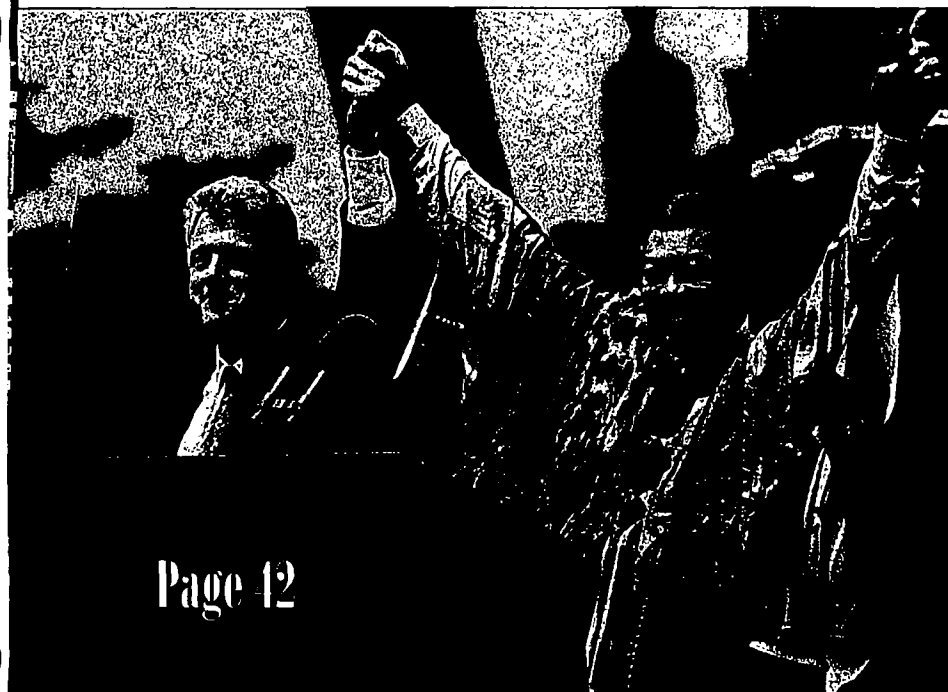
I wish every American could see the new faces of Africa -- and how much America's involvement means for both our continents. We talked to Peace Corps volunteers who are helping Africans lift up their own lives, health, and education. We saw the results of assistance from the United States Agency for International Development in the hopes of women building their own homes and starting micro enterprises. We saw African and American soldiers training side by side at the Thies Military Base in Senegal. And we saw the fulfillment of Ron Brown's vision in the vast opportunities now open to American businesses.

We all came from Africa -- and we have so much to learn and gain from Africa. When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. came back from witnessing the birth of Ghana in 1957, he was, as most of us are upon returning from this continent, transformed. After that trip, he talked about Africa as the "Promised Land," the same phrase he used to describe America in his final speech 30 years ago.

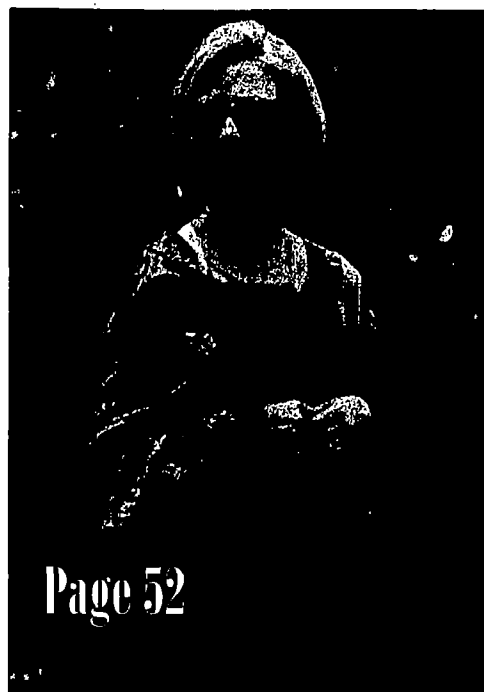
As Dr. King understood, both Africa and America can lead us to the Promised Land of the future -- if we walk together through a door opened to all.

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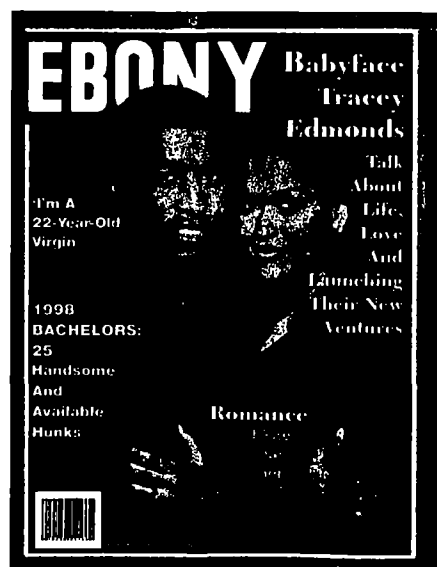
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Superstar musician, producer, singer and writer Babyface and his wife, Tracey Edmonds, who is flexing her muscle in the television and film industry, are one of Hollywood's most successful power couples. In the story that begins on Page 36, they talk about life, love and launching their new ventures. Cover photograph by Randee St. Nicholas. Cover design by Ute Jansen Alonzo.

EXCLUSIVE!



Calling for improved rights for children and women, Hillary Rodham Clinton speaks to dignitaries, including first lady Janet Museveni, at Makerere University in Uganda.

THE FIRST LADY'S AFRICAN DIARY

"We all came from Africa—and we have so much to learn and gain from Africa."

By Hillary Rodham Clinton

BILL and I ended our remarkable journey to Africa on Goree Island. It is a beautiful place, lined with cobblestone streets and brightly colored houses, and filled with the same warm, resilient and brilliant people we met throughout our trip. But for many years, it was used as a launching pad for one of the greatest evils ever perpetrated by human beings—slavery.

In a slave house—the Maison des Esclaves—built the same year our nation was born, we peered out from "The Door of No Return," where Africans were separated from their families and slave traders from their humanity. Today, that open doorway is a powerful symbol of a past we must never return to or forget and a new future we must continue to walk towards together.

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AFRICAN DIARY *Continued*

President to make a major trip there. He was convinced that Africa was undergoing a Renaissance—and that there was a new, positive face of the continent that all Americans needed to see and be part of.

Challenges remain. But, too often the images we see of Africa are still dominated by misconceptions and stereotypes. We see pictures of brutal dictators. Yet half of the 48 nations in sub-Saharan Africa now choose their own governments. We see images of famine and poverty. Yet, as countries have embraced economic reform, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rates in Africa have more than tripled since 1990. We see America's role in Africa characterized solely in terms of aid. Yet America's private investment in Africa earns a return of more than 30 percent a year, higher than on any other continent. We see countless pictures of war and conflict. Yet people all over Africa are choosing reconciliation and renewal. Those are the people—and the new picture of Africa—we were privileged to see in every country we visited.

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Visiting a day care center with Ghana's first lady Nana Rawlings, Hillary Rodham Clinton salutes the children, the future of the new Africa.

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Last year, I asked the women if they believed they would own a home some day. Their answer was a resounding "yes." This time, when I asked how many had become homeowners, hands shot up throughout the group. In just



Laying bricks, the president and first lady help African women build a foundation for better housing in the Mxenge housing project in Cape Town, South Africa. Below, Hillary Clinton is shown in traditional African garb.

AFRICAN DIARY *Continued*

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Just as in our country, people in Africa are trying to find ways to grow their economies, while protecting their beautiful environment. We talked with a group of environmental leaders in Botswana, which is home to some of the most amazing creatures that inhabit this earth. At the Chobe National Game Park, it was great to see Bill's eyes light up as we encountered elephants, hippos, giraffes, lions, crocodiles and countless wild animals that we never knew existed—from the sable antelope to the magnificent secretary bird. But equally impressive was the people of Botswana's rock-solid commitment to democracy and the impressive results they have achieved in everything from literacy to road building.

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thing: the will of the people to create a new future for themselves and their children. On the last day of our trip, I met with a group of women and two men from the Malicounda Bambara Village who have done something remarkable. Although female genital mutilation (FGM) affects less than 20 percent of women in Senegal, in many villages like theirs, it is considered a rite of passage for all girls.

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During our discussion, the women showed me the skirt they had used to educate their religious leaders, their neighbors, and their husbands—because men must be part of this and every struggle for women's rights. A 66-year-old man described how he now goes from village to village spreading the word about the dangers of FGM.

Because of all of their efforts, Malicounda Bambara has now banned FGM and, in the process, they are inspiring others to do the same. Recently, 13 other villages with a combined population of more than 8,000 people joined together to end female circumcision in their communities.

And now, Senegal's President Diouf has called for a new law to abolish it throughout the country.

I wish every American could see the new faces of Africa—and how much America's involvement means for both our continents. We talked to Peace Corps volunteers who are helping Africans lift up their own lives, health and education. We saw the results of assistance from the United States Agency for International Development in the hopes of women building their own homes and starting micro enterprises. We saw African and American soldiers training side by side at the Thies Military Base in Senegal. And we saw fulfillment of the late Ron Brown's vision in the vast opportunities now open to American businesses.

We all came from Africa—and we have so much to learn and gain from Africa. When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came back from witnessing the birth of Ghana in 1957, he was, as most of us are upon returning from this continent, transformed. After that trip, he talked about Africa as the "Promised Land," the same phrase he used to describe America in his final speech 30 years ago.

As Dr. King understood, both Africa and America can lead us to the Promised Land of the future—if we walk together through a door opened to all. □





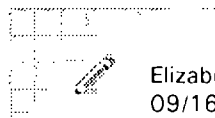
Katharine Button
09/17/98 08:54:13 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Brenda B. Costello/WHO/EOP
cc: Noa A. Meyer/WHO/EOP
Subject: Statement by the Press Secretary: Africa Trade Bill

FYI for CBC event

----- Forwarded by Katharine Button/WHO/EOP on 09/17/98 08:52 AM -----



Elizabeth R. Newman
09/16/98 05:52:44 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject: Statement by the Press Secretary: Africa Trade Bill

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 16, 1998

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

As Members of Congress prepare to adjourn for the year, the President urges them to move quickly to approve the Africa trade bill. This legislation would establish a new U.S. trade policy toward sub-Saharan Africa, spurring growth in a region that is embarking on the arduous, yet promising, path of economic and political reform. For America, this bill allows us to seize an historic opportunity to support the people of Africa, while increasing trade and investment with the region's emerging markets. It helps American business and workers by enhancing trade opportunities in Africa and ensuring that we do not cede important markets in Africa to others.

A broad bipartisan and diverse community of Americans has voiced support for the Africa trade bill. The bill has also raised the hopes of Africans who genuinely want and merit a priority position on our nation's trade policy agenda. We remain committed to passage of

the Africa trade bill in this legislative session, and we urge Congress to finish its work on this important legislation before it adjourns.

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Message Sent To: _____

**FIRST LADY HILARY RODHAM CLINTON
TALKING POINTS FOR CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS 28TH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER
SEPTEMBER 18, 1998**

- Acknowledgments: Thank you, Congressman (Donald) Payne, for that introduction, and for your leadership in organizing this important Annual Congressional Black Caucus conference; Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney; Congressman Earl Hilliard; Congresswoman Corrine Brown; Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick; A special welcome to the Ambassadors from the many African countries represented here; representatives of the non governmental community; foundation and business leaders; friends and supporters.
- So pleased to have this opportunity to thank the leadership of Congressional Black Caucus -- and all of you here today -- for focussing -- day in and day out -- on the business of the American people: improving our schools; fixing social security; passing the health care bill of rights.
- Thank you all for the hard work that all of you do -- and invaluable role you play -- in making this country a better place. We all know how much is at stake -- both here and around the world. And we need leaders like yourselves engaged in finding the solutions to our many challenges.
- So pleased to be joining you here today -- for your 28th Annual Legislative Conference -- as you place the spotlight on another issue that all of us care deeply about: the future of Africa. And as you know -- this Administration is deeply committed to its partnership with Africa -- and expanding the opportunities for growth and democracy throughout the continent.

[Secretary of Transportation Rodney Slater will speak after the First Lady, and the President and the Vice President will speak at the final session Saturday night.]

- It's fitting that the Congressional Black Caucus -- whose members are committed to opening the doors of opportunity to minorities and all Americans here in the United States -- has chosen as the theme of this annual conference : "Opening Doors in Africa." As many of you know -- I've visited Africa twice -- and both times, I've come away not only amazed at the warmth and intelligence of the people I met there -- but also far more aware of how much we can learn and gain from Africa -- and how much we can accomplish, as we open doors together.
- As you know, there were many prominent African Americans with us on this last trip to Africa -- including Congressman Donald Payne; Congressman William Jefferson; Congressman Charles Rangel; and Congresswoman Maxine Walters; as well as Transportation Secretary Slater; Reverend Jesse Jackson; and Bob Johnson, President of Black Entertainment Television.
- When the President asked them all to stand, a wave of emotion and pride moved through the air. Like 30 million other African Americans, their ancestors had been taken from Africa and sentenced to bondage. Now, they were coming back as extraordinary leaders of America, and architects of a new partnership between our two continents.
- Today, we come together as Africa faces a difficult time -- in the wake of the bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania -- and the resurgence of conflicts in the Congo and throughout Central Africa. Yet we cannot let these setbacks discourage us -- or weaken our commitment; or allow us to forget the extraordinary potential of these great nations.
- It is important to realize that Africa -- like many other regions of the world -- is in the process of transition. And we should not expect this process to be easy -- or instantaneous. There will be some setbacks and backsliding. We must also recognize that Africa is a vast and diverse continent -- and will not be homogeneous in either its crises or its successes. But we must build on and reinforce those successes.
- This Administration continues to have two over arching policy goals for Africa -- combating transnational threats and fully integrating Africa into the global economy. And these goals have never been more important than they are now.

- We must build on the good news stories about micro-enterprise, commitment to self-sufficiency, grass roots development, and potential for trade and investments. And I know that some of these are topics you will be exploring at this conference.
- Since we've traveled to Africa, there have been other signs of progress -- in some of the most difficult and persistently troubling areas:
 - ** Nigeria is once again moving toward a return to democracy;
 - ** Regional efforts have brought down a brutal junta in Sierra Leone and restored a democratically elected government;
 - ** some of those who perpetrated the ethnic slaughter in Rwanda in 1994 are now being brought to justice before the international criminal tribunal.
- The African Renaissance is not dead -- but neither is it a smooth and seamless process. As partners, we must be there through the challenges that lie ahead, with our sleeves rolled up and working alongside African nations to build our collective future.
- Recent bombings in Kenya, Tanzania and Cape Town underscore that while we must continue to work to ensure peace in Africa -- we must also ensure that these nations are used as the new staging grounds for terrorism, or criminal and security threats.
- But most importantly, we must continue to help Africa break out of the bonds of poverty and want, that have for so long deprived its people of opportunities and hope. As many of you know -- and as the President stated while in Uganda -- our history with this continent has not for the most part been a positive one. From slavery to colonialism to the cold war. We have recently begun a new journey -- a journey of partnership -- and we are committed to continuing that journey in the 21st century.

- We hope you will continue to support these Administration efforts -- through your own initiatives, such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act; through joint efforts we have undertaken on supporting debt relief; child survival and health; and through your continued support for Administration initiatives to bring better technology and educational opportunities to African children; to provide food so that no Africans go hungry; and to help secure peace to regions troubled by conflict.
- This Administration is committed to this new Africa partnership, and we need your support to ensure that the goals of peace, prosperity, freedom, and economic progress become a reality for Africa and its children in the next millennium.
- When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. came back from witnessing the birth of Ghana in 1957, he was, as most of us are upon returning from this continent, transformed. After that trip, he talked about Africa as the "Promised Land," the same phrase he used to describe America in his final speech 30 years ago.
- As Dr. King understood, both Africa and America can lead us to the Promised land of the future -- if we walk together through a door opened to all.

**TALKING POINTS FOR FLOTUS MEETING WITH THE CBC
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998**

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Background

Following the bombings of our Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania on August 7, and the resurgence of conflict in Congo and throughout central Africa, some critics have asserted that the Africa Renaissance is over – or never really began. Even some of the staunchest supporters of Africa have been discouraged by recent setbacks to the positive trends Africa has exhibited over the past five years.

It will be important during this meeting with many who are very interested in our Africa policy to emphasize that Africa, like many other regions around the world, is in the process of transition. We should not expect this process to be instantaneous, and we must come to terms with the fact that there will be some setbacks and backsliding, as there is in any transition. At the same time, we also must recognize that Africa, a vast and diverse continent, is not homogenous in its crises just as it is not homogenous in its successes. Success stories continue and we must help build on and reinforce those successes.

Talking Points

- Come to talk to you during a time that has been difficult for Africa. Recently there has been lots of criticism that we have been naïve in believing in that Africa is changing and can succeed, and in forging a new Africa policy. There have been assertions that the African Renaissance is over, or never began.
- Persistent and new conflicts do indeed threaten seriously some of the progress many African countries have made in the past few years. But this does not mean that it is time to throw up our hands and give up. In fact, our commitment to and our partnership with Africa and her people are equally as important as they were six months ago when the POTUS and I visited the region.
- The U.S. can and should show African nations that we are not fair-weather friends, but friends indeed, friends and partners against adversity as well as friends and partners in building a better future for all the world's children. Partnership means that you are there through the good times and bad, and we must work with African nations, as partners, to seek lasting and permanent solutions today's conflicts.
- As you know, the Administration continues to have two over arching policy goals for Africa – combating transnational threats and fully integrating Africa into the global economy. And these have never been more important than they are now.
- The ongoing regional conflicts in some regions of Africa should not obscure the good news stories highlighted by the President on his recent trip. The good news stories about micro-enterprise, commitment to self-sufficiency, grass root development, and potential

for trade and investment are still there and should not be overshadowed by ongoing conflicts.

- The Malis, Botswanas, Mozambiques and Ghanas of Africa continue to make progress on economic reform with close to double-digit growth rates and continued efforts to ensure that their countries have democratic, broad-based political systems.
- And since we traveled to Africa there have been other improvements – in some of the most difficult and persistently troubling areas.
 - Nigeria is once again moving, and moving rapidly, towards a return to democratic civilian government.
 - Regional efforts have brought down a brutal junta in Sierra Leone and restored the democratically elected government.
 - Some of those who perpetrated the ethnic slaughter in Rwanda in 1994 are now being brought to justice before the international criminal tribunal.
- Justice is increasingly being served in many countries, human rights are prominently discussed and more respected, and regional efforts have helped solve three conflicts (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau) in West Africa – this is progress.
- Peace, freedom, inclusiveness, increased prosperity and economic growth are what will build a better future for Africa in the next millennium. The U.S., UN and the rest of the international community must be there to support peaceful efforts to address fundamental security issues – they will not, at the end of the day, be solved by military means. Military prowess does not bring development, or better jobs, or better schools, or better health to the people of Africa. Ensuring these things are available to all Africans – that will bring greater security, greater tolerance, and greater prosperity.
- The African Renaissance is not dead, but neither is it a smooth and seamless process. African economies and African political reforms were "jump started" in the last several years. Now we must work with all the people of Africa as they refine and redefined themselves, their governments, their economies and their national and regional interests. In order to make the Renaissance a reality, it must be durable – and durability implies flexibility, revision, and change. As partners we must be there through the challenges that lie ahead, with our sleeves rolled up and working alongside African nations to build our collective future.
- In addition to our key role in working with Africans to ensure peace as Africa redefines itself, we must also ensure that during this transition it is not used as the new staging ground for transnational threats – including terrorist, criminal and security threats.
- The recent bombings in Kenya, Tanzania, and Cape Town are tragic examples of how agents of terrorism seek to abuse the long tradition of African hospitality to perpetrate heinous crimes against humanity.

- It is important that we work with Africans in partnership to combat the use of the continent as a new stage for acts of terrorism, and likewise that we redouble our efforts to assist Africa in combating organized crime and other threats.
- But, most important we must continue to help Africa break out of the bonds of poverty and want, that have for so long deprived its people of opportunities and hope. As many of you know, and as the President stated while in Uganda, our history with the continent has not – for the most part – been a positive one – from slavery, to colonialism, to the cold war. We have recently begun a new journey, a journey in partnership with Africa, and it is imperative that we continue on that journey and not turn back just because challenges remain and we see adversity in some of the new conflicts in Africa.
- We are committed to continuing to work with Africans as partners and friends to build a better future. We hope you will continue to support these efforts – through your own initiatives, such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act; through joint efforts we have undertaken on supporting debt relief, child survival and health; and through your continued support for Administration initiatives to bring better technology and educational opportunities to African children, food security so that no Africans go hungry, and peace to regions troubled by conflict.
- This Administration is committed to the new Africa partnership, and we need your support to ensure that the goals of peace, prosperity, freedom, development and economic progress become the order of the day for Africa and its children in the next millennium



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**CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS LEGISLATIVE WEEKEND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAINTRUST
"OPENING DOORS IN AFRICA"**

September 18, 1998
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Registration 8:00-9:00 a.m.
Washington Convention Center - Room 27

**Agenda
and
Greetings**

Congressman Donald M. Payne, Chair

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

QUESTION PERIOD

Opening Statements

~~Congressman Alcee L. Hastings~~
Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney
Congressman Earl F. Hilliard
Congresswoman Corrine Brown
Congresswoman Carolyn Kilpatrick

*Cong.
Payne*

Special Remarks

Rodney Slader
Secretary of Transportation

Panel I: Famine in Sudan

Frances Deng
Brookings Institute

Alek Wek
IMG Model

John Garang*
SPLA

Bob Arnot
Dateline NBC

Panel II: Support for Trade and Micro-credit Programs in Africa

Ramelina Kamga
President, COFINA

Secretary Robert Rubin
Treasury Department

Sam Daley Harrison
President, RESULTS

Panel III: Low-Intensity Conflict Areas

Mora McLean
President
Africa-America Institute

I. William Zartman
Organizations and Conflict Resolution
Johns Hopkins School of International Service

Jim Scher
Assistant Secretary of Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Assistance
Pentagon

Closing with Special Remarks
Kikebe Mutombu

Administration Response

Dr. Susan E. Rice
Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs

*invited

Questions and Answers

Closing Statement

C. Payne Lucas
President of Africare

Melvin Foote
Executive Director for the Constituency for Africa

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE CORPORATE COUNCIL ON AFRICA
CHANTILLY, VIRGINIA
APRIL 21, 1997**

Heads of State, Prime Ministers, and Vice Presidents; Ministers; Ambassadors; Members of Congress; Members of the Corporate Council; award winners; distinguished guests and friends:

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to talk with you. But first, I want to bring you a brief message from my husband, the President of the United States, Bill Clinton. [President's videotaped message]

Just a little over three weeks ago, my daughter and I boarded a plane in Asmara, Eritrea to fly home to the United States after two weeks in Africa. It was the end of the Christian Holy Week. We touched down in Washington as dawn broke on Easter morning, and it occurred to me how fitting our timing was. Millions around the world were celebrating a holiday that marks the passage from sorrow and despair to hope and renewal. And that was precisely the story we had seen unfolding in Africa.

I went to Africa -- at the request of the President and the Secretary of State -- to highlight examples of Africa's economic and democratic renewal. I wanted Americans to see the importance of our partnership with Africa and to appreciate the stake we have in the future of that great continent. I also wanted to underscore America's modest contributions in foreign assistance -- and the successes they have helped produce.

By the time I reached home after visiting six countries -- Senegal, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda and Eritrea -- I was more convinced than ever that Africa is a continent on the move: a continent bulging with possibilities for political, economic and social progress. I was also convinced that American engagement with Africa is essential to our nation's goal of strengthening peace, prosperity and democracy around the world.

This is not to say that Africa's future is cloudless. We have been optimistic before. After independence, economists and commentators predicted with great

certainty that the African economy was on the verge of an immense boom; that the world's best economic performers would emerge south of the Sahara; that the continent represented the world's ripest and most lucrative new market for international trade.

History proved more complicated than some of those economists guessed. Colonialism left the African landscape rife with arbitrary divisions -- divisions of class, culture, race, tribe and land. The Cold War imposed new tensions, as Africa became a giant chessboard for superpowers maneuvering for strategic advantage in the world. By the time the Cold War was over, Africa had to contend with the legacy of totalitarianism and closed economies, along with old nemeses like disease, poverty, illiteracy, explosive population growth, environmental degradation, corrupt and incompetent governments, and civil strife.

Now, however, there is reason to be optimistic again. As Deputy President Mbeki of South Africa often says, Africa is undergoing a renaissance. Democracy is flowering across much of the continent. Dramatic economic growth is occurring in country after country. A new generation of reform-minded leaders is in charge in many capitals. And there is new respect for human rights -- and especially the rights of women to become equal partners in society.

President Clinton and his Administration applaud this progress.

The United States wants democracy to take root and grow throughout Africa. And we want Africa to be a strong partner for peace, prosperity and progress in the 21st century. Today, the question for all of us who care about the future of Africa is: What can be done to sustain and deepen the democratic and economic transformation that is underway?

As we know from our own experience in the United States, democracy is a complicated and sometimes messy business. It requires many ingredients. Free and fair elections -- not once, but time and again. A functioning legislative branch, an independent judiciary, active political parties, a free press, and the basic rights of assembly, association and free speech.

It also requires free market economies that can produce and sustain growth and support investments in human capital -- investments in the health, education and well-being of every man, woman and child. People, after all, are every nation's

greatest resource.

Africa has made extraordinary progress on this front. Last year, 30 African countries reported positive economic growth. In Uganda, I saw how democracy and reform had enabled an economy ravaged by decades of war to now record the stunning growth rate of over eight percent a year.

What we have learned from Africa is that the right economic strategy can produce the right results.

Trade and investment are the wave of the future if we want to assure Africa's integration into the global economy. As Secretary Rubin said earlier today, the United States can lead this effort through engagement with Africa and by encouraging trade and open markets on the continent.

The simple fact is: Nations with free market systems do better. Look around the globe: Those nations which have lowered trade barriers are prospering more than those that have not.

It would be our loss if we failed to take advantage of the opportunities that a growth-oriented Africa represents. Today the United States accounts for only seven percent of the African market. Yet even that small market share has produced 100,000 jobs in our country. As that share expands, so will the number of American jobs.

We also know that companies doing business in South Africa have enjoyed returns on their investments higher than in many other parts of the world. Today leading American corporations are setting up operations throughout sub-Saharan Africa, as I saw on my recent trip. And I want to commend the companies represented here tonight for recognizing the investment potential of Africa.

Let me also note that many American businesses are also upholding a time-honored tradition of American corporate philanthropy. Companies like Coca-Cola aren't just benefitting financially from their investments but are offering compelling examples of corporate citizenship in a democracy.

I gained a greater appreciation of the vital role that American corporations have played in the building of democracy when I visited Central Europe last year.

In the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary and elsewhere I saw the extent of American corporate investment. The companies opening plants and hiring workers were doing far more than improving their own bottom lines; they were creating jobs, raising incomes and skill levels, spurring local development and growth, and lending confidence to people and institutions undergoing profound political, economic and social change.

I saw the same spirit of corporate philanthropy in Africa, when I visited the Dorothy Duncan Center for the Blind in Harare, which has received computers and software from an IBM subsidiary called Bedford Investments. Coca-Cola has supported arts, cultural, environmental and sports activities in Zimbabwe. And Johnson & Johnson has an active social outreach program there too.

As we continue to promote trade and investment policies that will contribute to Africa's growth, we also must remember that foreign assistance remains crucial for many countries. A good business climate requires a citizenry that is healthy, educated, free and involved in civic life. Foreign assistance -- even the modest sums the United States contributes -- helps create the social and economic conditions that are good for business and make trade and investment viable and profitable.

In other words: Aid is a bridge to trade.

I hope all of you -- as leaders of the American business community -- will speak out in support of American foreign assistance, which is so essential to your individual corporate goals and to our nation's goals of democracy, economic growth and freedom.

In every country I visited, I saw examples of our foreign assistance at work: A village in Senegal where rural women were working to improve health care, education and the economy and were even helping to teach their fellow villagers about the tenets of democracy. A primary school in the heart of Soweto where a classroom of six-year-olds -- led by a wonderful and formidable teacher -- was learning English using a tape recording funded in part with U.S. assistance. A health clinic in Zimbabwe where American assistance has been instrumental in helping to expand family planning opportunities and lower infant and maternal mortality rates. The International Criminal Tribunal on Rwanda in Tanzania, where U.S. support is crucial to the investigation and prosecution of genocide. A vocational center in Eritrea, where former women freedom fighters are teaching

their fellow citizens skills and trades so necessary to the future of that young democracy. An AIDS Information Center in Uganda, where we have supported President Museveni's courageous and effective campaign to fight HIV and AIDS.

Let me also say that President Museveni should be commended for recognizing the importance of investing in women and girls as part of his country's democratic and economic transition. Uganda is making an unprecedented effort to train teachers and educate children, especially girls who too often are left out of the academic equation. As President Museveni said to me during my stay there, "Women form more than half of our society, so you'd be hurting yourself if you left behind six of every ten people."

And I would add: Not only would you be hurting yourself, you wouldn't be building a democracy. Because a democracy without the full participation of women is a contradiction in terms.

We have seen in Africa and around the world that a vibrant democracy depends not just on free elections and open markets, but on the internalization of democratic values in people's hearts, minds and everyday lives. It depends on people creating a flourishing civil society in which individuals, community groups, religious institutions, businesses, academia and government join together to promote the common good. And it depends on strong international partners who are willing to support the rise of democratic institutions and free market systems around the globe.

Earlier today, the President authorized his Administration to begin intensive discussions with Congress to outline a joint package that will strengthen our economic partnership with Africa and support the continent's democratic and economic renewal.

First and foremost, the President is committed to efforts that open economies to private sector trade and investment because he realizes that these strategies offer the greatest potential for growth and the alleviation of poverty.

Second, he believes such efforts must be coupled with investments in people, particularly the areas of health and education. Foreign assistance is critical-- but should be viewed as one, not the only, engine of growth.

Third, the President believes that there must be renewed emphasis on management and governance in developing countries if we want opportunities for private investment to flourish.

The United States welcomes the progress that many African nations have made thus far. We also recognize that the governments willing to undertake the boldest actions to liberalize, open and privatize their economies have achieved the greatest results.

At the same time, the President and his Administration understand that not all African countries are at the same stage of growth and development. The United States wishes to create opportunities for growth for all of our African partners through infrastructure investment, better regional integration, new and stronger business partnerships and efforts to support exports to Africa. And we are prepared to provide additional opportunities to support countries that are pursuing ambitious growth-oriented policies.

This approach, the President believes, will enable more African countries to achieve their goals of greater self-reliance and full integration into the global economy. At the same time, it will attract U.S. investment to Africa and spur jobs and growth here at home.

As optimistic as we are about Africa's prospects, we cannot overlook threats to Africa's fragile democracies: regional conflicts; crime; narcotics trafficking and international terrorism, all of which undermine political and economic progress. And that is why the United States will collaborate with our partners in Africa to maintain peace and stability and ensure that democracy is given every chance to grow.

During my last few days in Africa I had the opportunity to visit the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania, where scientists and anthropologists have made many discoveries about the origins of human kind. It is hard to walk through the gorge, as I did, without being overcome by the realization that all of us — no matter the color of our skin, our faith, or our beliefs — came from the same place. We share a common home. We are part of a larger family.

The message embedded in the rock at the gorge is that we share a common past — and we share a common future. We have a stake in each other's triumphs

and failures. And I hope that in the days and months ahead we will see a growing consciousness in people's minds — here and in Africa — that despite the wide ocean between us, we are neighbors on this shared earth. We cannot live without each other. We have much to learn from each other. And we have much to give to each other.

As you know, the President will travel to Africa during this term. Whenever he makes his trip, I am confident he will return home as moved as I was by the people he meets and the places he sees — and as inspired by the promise and possibility that Africa represents.

Thank you very much.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Washington, D.C. 20504

AFRICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

fax cover sheet

Date: 7/16/93
Pages to follow 3

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 _____ **Robin Sanders** **fax: 202-456-9260**
 ✓ _____ **Erica Barks-Ruggles**
 _____ **John Prendergast**

TO: **PHONE NUMBER** **FAX NUMBER**

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2. _____

MESSAGE:

POINTS FOR CBC

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**TALKING POINTS FOR FLOTUS MEETING WITH THE CBC
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998**

Background

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It will be important during this meeting with many who are very interested in our Africa policy to emphasize that Africa, like many other regions around the world, is in the process of transition. We should not expect this process to be instantaneous, and we must come to terms with the fact that there will be some setbacks and backsliding, as there is in any transition. At the same time, we also must recognize that Africa, a vast and diverse continent, is not homogenous in its crises just as it is not homogenous in its successes. Success stories continue and we must help build on and reinforce those successes.

Talking Points

- Come to talk to you during a time that has been difficult for Africa. Recently there has been lots of criticism that we have been naïve in believing in that Africa is changing and can succeed, and in forging a new Africa policy. There have been assertions that the African Renaissance is over, or never began.
- Persistent and new conflicts do indeed threaten seriously some of the progress many African countries have made in the past few years. But this does not mean that it is time to throw up our hands and give up. In fact, our commitment to and our partnership with Africa and her people are equally as important as they were six months ago when the POTUS and I visited the region.
- The U.S. can and should show African nations that we are not fair-weather friends, but friends indeed, friends and partners against adversity as well as friends and partners in building a better future for all the world's children. Partnership means that you are there through the good times and bad, and we must work with African nations, as partners, to seek lasting and permanent solutions today's conflicts.
- As you know, the Administration continues to have two over arching policy goals for Africa – **combating transnational threats and fully integrating Africa into the global economy**. And these have never been more important than they are now.
- The ongoing regional conflicts in some regions of Africa should not obscure the good news stories highlighted by the President on his recent trip. The good news stories about micro-enterprise, commitment to self-sufficiency, grass root development, and potential

for trade and investment are still there and should not be overshadowed by ongoing conflicts.

- The Malis, Botswanas, Mozambiques and Ghanas of Africa continue to make progress on economic reform with close to double-digit growth rates and continued efforts to ensure that their countries have democratic, broad-based political systems.
- And since we traveled to Africa there have been other improvements – in some of the most difficult and persistently troubling areas.
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 - Regional efforts have brought down a brutal junta in Sierra Leone and restored the democratically elected government.
 - Some of those who perpetrated the ethnic slaughter in Rwanda in 1994 are now being brought to justice before the international criminal tribunal.
- Justice is increasingly being served in many countries, human rights are prominently discussed and more respected, and regional efforts have helped solve three conflicts (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea-Bissau) in West Africa – this is progress.
- Peace, freedom, inclusiveness, increased prosperity and economic growth are what will build a better future for Africa in the next millennium. The U.S., UN and the rest of the international community must be there to support peaceful efforts to address fundamental security issues – they will not, at the end of the day, be solved by military means. Military prowess does not bring development, or better jobs, or better schools, or better health to the people of Africa. Ensuring these things are available to all Africans – that will bring greater security, greater tolerance, and greater prosperity.
- The African Renaissance is not dead, but neither is it a smooth and seamless process. African economies and African political reforms were "jump started" in the last several years. Now we must work with all the people of Africa as they refine and redefined themselves, their governments, their economies and their national and regional interests. In order to make the Renaissance a reality, it must be durable – and durability implies flexibility, revision, and change. As partners we must be there through the challenges that lie ahead, with our sleeves rolled up and working alongside African nations to build our collective future.
- In addition to our key role in working with Africans to ensure peace as Africa redefines itself, we must also ensure that during this transition it is not used as the new staging ground for transnational threats – including terrorist, criminal and security threats.
- The recent bombings in Kenya, Tanzania, and Cape Town are tragic examples of how agents of terrorism seek to abuse the long tradition of African hospitality to perpetrate heinous crimes against humanity.

- It is important that we work with Africans in partnership to combat the use of the continent as a new stage for acts of terrorism, and likewise that we redouble our efforts to assist Africa in combating organized crime and other threats.
- But, most important we must continue to help Africa break out of the bonds of poverty and want, that have for so long deprived its people of opportunities and hope. As many of you know, and as the President stated while in Uganda, our history with the continent has not – for the most part - been a positive one – from slavery, to colonialism, to the cold war. We have recently begun a new journey, a journey in partnership with Africa, and it is imperative that we continue on that journey and not turn back just because challenges remain and we see adversity in some of the new conflicts in Africa.
- We are committed to continuing to work with Africans as partners and friends to build a better future. We hope you will continue to support these efforts – through your own initiatives, such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act; through joint efforts we have undertaken on supporting debt relief, child survival and health; and through your continued support for Administration initiatives to bring better technology and educational opportunities to African children, food security so that no Africans go hungry, and peace to regions troubled by conflict.
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