

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS
WELLESLEY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

May 12, 1994

Greetings, everyone, and welcome to Washington. I'm so sorry I can't be with you in person, but I am definitely with you in spirit. And I'm really heartened that all of you -- President Walsh, Professor Stettner, Professor Phibbs, who was my intern director, and so many former interns and directors and members of the Washington Wellesley Club -- are able to be here in the nation's capital for this celebration.

I was an intern here in the summer of 1968. I lived on the George Washington University campus, the same place the Wellesley interns will live this summer, arriving just in the aftermath of Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy's assassinations.

It was a time of great political ferment for our nation. And the 14 Wellesley interns in Washington were in the thick of the most spirited debates our nation was having about domestic and foreign policy issues.

(NOTE: This summer, a few Wellesley interns are working with us in the White House).

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May 17, 1994

WELLESLEY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM VIDEO

DATE:	Wednesday, May 18
TIME:	4:30 pm
LOCATION:	Library
FROM:	Liz Bowyer

I PURPOSE

To give remarks via videotape on your experience as an intern at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Wellesley Washington Internship Program.

II BACKGROUND

The 50th anniversary celebration of the Wellesley Washington Internship Program will be held in conjunction with the Washington Wellesley Club Annual Meeting on June 10th at the National Press Club. Approximately 500 guests are expected to attend the meeting/reception, including members of the Washington Wellesley Club and former interns and internship program directors from around the country (including your internship director, Professor Phillip Phibbs.) President Diana Chapman Walsh also plans to attend.

As you know, the Wellesley Washington Internship Program was the first college internship program in the country. When Wellesley was shut down temporarily during World War II due to a shortage of heating oil, some students were sent to Washington to help with the war effort, many of them working as secretaries in the war offices.

Today, between fifteen and eighteen women are chosen every year for the 10-week Wellesley Washington Internship Program. Students are housed on the George Washington University campus, and Wellesley pays the students' entire internship costs.

III PARTICIPANTS

HRC

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

* HRC tapes 3 - 5 minute remarks

V. PRESS

Video: Closed Press.

Event: Closed Press.

VI REMARKS

Provided by Lissa Muscatine.

Department of Political Science



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*Video
5/18*

May 9, 1994

Patty Solis
Scheduling Office
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Patty,

I am sending this fax to give you some idea of the topics that might be covered on the video that we hope Hillary will be able to make for the 50th anniversary of the Wellesley Washington Internship Program on June 10th. Mrs. Clinton has already written a brief memoir for the brochure that will be distributed to all of the former interns. Ideally, the video should be about five minutes long,

- Regrets that she cannot be here that night and greetings to members of the Washington Alumnae Club on the occasion of their annual meeting
- Welcome Diana Chapman Walsh to Washington
- Greetings to former interns assembled from around the country to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the program
- Hillary's personal reflections on her own internship in the summer of 1968 at the House Republican Conference
- Importance of continuing the program and exposing students to the public service sector

Patty, thanks for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan".

Alan Schechter
Professor

May 17, 1994

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LOCATION:
FROM: Liz Bowyer

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II. BACKGROUND

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III. PARTICIPANTS

acknowledge:

President Walsh

Professor Edward Stettner, current director of the WW Internship Program

Former Washington interns and directors, members of the Washington Wellesley Club

IV. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

V. PRESS

Closed Press.

won the election. Showing up in Stephen London's class, she asked to speak to him. "The way she said it, I thought something had happened because she wanted to speak to me privately. 'I can't believe it,' she told me. 'I just was notified that I was elected student government president!'"

If that was a prospect that took getting used to, she had a summer to adjust. Fittingly, perhaps, she got a look at how big government operated when she went to work that June for the House Republican Conference in Washington. Schechter and a faculty committee chose her and thirteen other students for the Wellesley Internship Program, begun in World War II when the fuel shortage forced the college to add a winter vacation to its academic year. Competition had been keen. Like Hillary, most of the students chosen were political science majors with a strong interest in public law and politics. It was up to them to apply for the available internships on Capitol Hill and in the various government agencies.

Hillary arrived in Washington to find a city devastated by the assassination of Robert Kennedy. Out of three hundred applicants, she had been one of thirty hired by the GOP group. "We picked these people on the basis of their ability and what we thought they could contribute," said Melvin Laird, the then-congressman from Wisconsin who chaired the conference. "We never asked them—maybe we should have—for party affiliation although I tried to tell them why it was important to be a Republican. All these young people were activists—they wouldn't have applied if they weren't."

Laird paid his interns, in effect, by passing the hat among various Republican members of Congress, who then assigned the interns to their staffs for two months. He put Hillary on the payroll of Illinois Congressman Harold Collier, whose district included Park Ridge. "You'd go up and say, 'I've got a bright young constituent from your district.' He was very cooperative," Laird said. "That's how I got him to go along."

She was not just bright. "She presented her viewpoints very forcibly, always had ideas, always defended what she had in mind," said Laird. The conference staff was working up plans on revenue sharing that summer and also preparing a white paper on what Laird called the "fight-now-pay-later" way the Vietnam War was being financed. "We thought they [the Johnson administration] should come to Congress and get funding and that they'd gone beyond the congressional mandate of the Tonkin Gulf resolution."

Hillary wrote several papers for the conference, including one on revenue sharing. "She was for it," said Laird. "Instead of the categorical fixed grants being dictated on how you spent every dollar, she felt it was better to return funds to the states and local communities where the decision could best be made."

She was also outspoken on the war and left no doubt about her sentiments in spirited discussions with Laird, later to become secretary of defense in the Nixon administration, and others on the staff. Among them were three men who one day would head major Washington think tanks of more or less conservative intentions: David Abshire at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, William Baroody at the Ameri-

can Enterprise Institute and Edwin Feulner at the Heritage Foundation. "They were challenging people and would challenge these young people," said Laird. "They had great arguments and great debates. We wanted that."

That summer was significant for another reason: The national political conventions. The question among Hillary's liberal and independent-minded contemporaries was who to vote for in their first presidential election, although Hillary would learn that for her the question was moot. She would turn twenty-one on October 26 but because the state of Illinois cut off registration thirty days before an election, she would not be eligible to vote. "I've always been kind of sorry I couldn't have voted for Humphrey," she told me in an interview in 1993.

With Robert Kennedy dead and Eugene McCarthy out of the race, Democrats were left with Hubert Humphrey, whose domestic liberalism was commendable but whose loyalty to Lyndon Johnson on Vietnam was troubling. Many of Kennedy's youthful supporters were attracted to Nelson Rockefeller, the Republican governor of New York whose "New Politics" offered a four-point program on Vietnam and stressed his approach to urban problems.

In early August, Hillary went to Miami to work in a draft-Rockefeller effort. When Richard Nixon carried off the nomination, she returned to Park Ridge where later in the month she and her high school chum Betsy Johnson Ebeling rode the train to Chicago to take in the Democratic National Convention. "We saw kids our age getting their heads beaten in. And the

police were doing the beating," Ebeling told *The Washington Post*. "Hillary and I just looked at each other. We had had a wonderful childhood in Park Ridge, but we obviously hadn't gotten the whole story."

Before Hillary returned to Wellesley in September, she went to see Saul Alinsky, the guru of community organizers whose approach to social change was an emphasis on teaching people to help themselves but also confronting government and corporations to provide the necessary resources. Terms such as "empowerment" and "entitlement" were coming into use while Alinsky was turning words into deeds by bringing energetic graduates of elite schools to the ghetto to organize grassroots efforts to force an improvement in living standards.

Back at Wellesley that fall, Hillary led the student government association in negotiations with the faculty over greater control of nonacademic community life. As Ruth Adams told *The Boston Globe*: "She was liberal in her attitudes, but she was definitely not radical. She was, as a number of her generation were, interested in effecting change, but from within rather than outside the system. They were not a group that wanted to go out and riot and burn things. They wanted to go to law school, get good degrees and change from within."

Wellesley's stated goal the previous spring, to enroll twenty-five additional black students, had fallen short by twenty-four. (The following fall, 104 would be accepted and fifty-seven would be enrolled.) But there was some progress. One sign of that was a young Harvard graduate student brought in as "head of