

Romania Depart.

7/2/96

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON  
STATEMENT UPON DEPARTURE FROM ROMANIA  
BUCHAREST, ROMANIA  
JULY 2, 1996**

I leave Romania with new admiration for this country and for the courage of the Romanian people.

Although my stay was brief, I saw clear signs that democracy is taking root. Despite great obstacles and a long legacy of communist rule to overcome, the people of Romania are now poised to enter a new era politically, economically and socially and to take their place in the Democratic family of the West.

I was proud to see the ways in which the United States, through public and private sources, is working with the government and non-governmental organizations to help build the foundations of democratic society and improve health, education and civic life in Romania.

When I return to the United States, I will think back fondly on my visit here. And I will know that the Romanian people are on the right path to a successful democratic future.