

Departure from Estonia  
7/9/96

PHOTOCOPY  
PRESERVATION

FINAL

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON  
STATEMENT UPON DEPARTURE FROM ESTONIA  
TALLINN, ESTONIA  
JULY 9, 1996

I leave Tallinn today inspired by Estonia's example as a country that has lifted itself from the darkness of occupation to a place among the democratic nations of the West. Even on this short visit I could see that Estonia is enthusiastically embracing the democratic values so necessary to reuniting Europe in the post-Cold War era.

While problems remain, particularly in the area of inter-ethnic relations, I talked to many government leaders and private citizens of different backgrounds who are confident that Estonia can prosper and thrive as a free, democratic and multi-ethnic society.

I will return home with high hopes about Estonia's future, and a warm place in my heart for the Estonian people. This is a beautiful country, one which I look forward to visiting again. To President and Mrs. Meri and the people of Estonia, I offer my deepest thanks for making my visit so special.

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