

Statement in  
Linn's force 5/12/98

**First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton**  
**Statement upon Arrival**  
**Limoges, France**  
**May 12, 1998**

I am delighted to be back in France, the United States' oldest ally. The French and American people share a common commitment to the bedrock principles of liberty, democracy and human rights. Our deep bonds of friendship have a long and rich history and continue to be strengthened today.

I look forward to visiting with Mrs. Chirac in the historic area of Correze, meeting elected officials, and learning first hand about the central role that local government plays in strengthening democracy and improving the health and lives of citizens throughout France. Tomorrow, I will travel to Paris to meet with President and Mrs. Chirac and Prime Minister and Mrs. Jospin. In Paris, I will also have the opportunity to talk with women leaders about the common challenges we face and will visit a school to explore how cooperation in outerspace can improve children's education in both our nations.