

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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001. fax	Roundtable with Distinguished Women; RE: phone/fax number [partial] (1 page)	07/03/1998	P6/b(6)
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COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 First Lady's Office
 First Lady's Press Office (Lissa Muscatine)
 OA/Box Number: 20110

FOLDER TITLE:

FLOTUS Statements and Speeches 6/27/98--11/30/98 [Binder] : [Roundtable with Distinguished Women, Hong Kong, 7/3/98]

2011-0415-S

ms132

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Roundtable with Dist. Women
Hong Kong
7/3/98

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To: Marcia Berry
From: Kay Mayfield

P6(b)(6)

P6(b)(6)

[001]

ROUNDTABLE WITH DISTINGUISHED WOMEN

Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center
July 3, 1998

**(TRANSCRIPT OF OPENING REMARKS BY THE FIRST LADY AND THE
SECRETARY OF STATE)**

PARTICIPANTS:

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT
BETTY TUNG, WIFE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE C.H.
TUNG
ANSON CHAN, CHIEF SECRETARY FOR
ADMINISTRATION
CHEUNG MAN-YEE, DIRECTOR OF
BROADCASTING, RADIO TELEVISION HONG
KONG
FANNY CHEUNG, CHAIR, EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
COMMISSION
LENA CHI, DEPUTY LAW OFFICER
CHRISTINE LOH, CITIZENS PARTY LEGISLATOR
ANNA WU, CHAIR, HONG KONG CONSUMER
COUNCIL
DENISE YUE, SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY
AUDREY EU, CHAIR, BAR ASSOCIATION
ROSANNA WONG, CHIEF OF HOUSING AUTHORITY**

(FOLLOWING AN INTRODUCTION BY MRS. TUNG)

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT: Thank you very much, Mrs. Tung. And Anson Chan, I'm very glad to see you here, and I would like to thank all the panelists very much for coming. I know that your husband is the head of the town, but it seems to be run by women. (Laughter.) So it's great to see everybody here. It's wonderful to be here to be able to learn about the dramatic changes taking place in Hong Kong from the people who are making things happen. I was here a year ago for the ceremony, and it's wonderful to be back and to have a chance to see you. I also would like to thank Mrs. Tung for this beautiful scarf. Women's intuition knew that purple was my color. (Laughter.)

As women in your respective fields, you are pathfinders, and in that, we all have something in common. Since President Clinton named me as the first female Secretary of State, I have found some important benefits to working closely with women colleagues. The understanding is there, and we all face the same challenges, and frank and honest talk, and a commitment to take each other's phone calls. There are now nine women foreign ministers in the world, and I always take their calls first. (Laughter, applause.)

But as leaders in fields from politics and law to finance and journalism, you are showing the

way not just for the next generation of women, but for the future of Hong Kong and the region. And those of you that are in the government have managed Hong Kong's reversion to Chinese sovereignty with great aplomb, maintaining the confidence of citizens and business alike. And this is a process we have watched with great interest, and I'm eager, as is the First Lady, to hear all your thoughts about what lies ahead.

Those of you who work as lawyers, advocates, and journalists are helping to ensure that every citizen enjoys full and equal protection under the law. And as you know, the United States strongly supports those efforts to maintain and expand the rule of law. In the United States and Hong Kong and elsewhere, a legal system is always a work in progress, and what you do here has important implications for the future. And I know that those of you working in finance or business find yourselves in truly uncharted territory these days, as Hong Kong copes with the effects of Asia's financial crisis. I want to stress our support and our confidence in what you are doing.

In all these areas, you are accumulating experience that may be of value elsewhere in China, and that will certainly be invaluable to those who follow you. When women and men take on new challenges and try to make themselves agents of change, they usually find that there is no manual on how to do it. And nobody knows that better than our First Lady.

Our First Lady, I think, has managed in a most remarkable way to combine her professional life with that of First Lady of the United States. She is someone who has had a career in many of the areas that you all represent in one form or another. She has been a professor, she has been a lawyer, a legal aid advocate, and so when we've visited legal centers she is able to ask the most penetrating questions because she's been there. She also has had a great interest in children, and she is someone that American women look up to. She is also a woman that is, I think, America's best ambassador abroad. She has traveled widely representing the United States in an incomparable way, showing the fact that American women are strong and smart and determined, and that our partnership with the men is something that makes things work. It is my great pleasure to introduce to you the First Lady of the United States and my very good friend, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

(Applause.)

MRS. CLINTON: Thank you very much. Thank you Madeleine, thank you Betty, thank you all for taking time out of your very busy schedules to be here. Let me just make a few quick points, because I came to listen more than to talk. I'm very anxious to hear from the extraordinary women gathered on this panel, and as I look at this audience, I see more extraordinary women who have made an accomplished contribution to what has gone on here in Hong Kong.

There are several reasons that Secretary Albright and I are here together at this meeting. The first is that we both believe strongly that the voices of women and the contributions of women have to be recognized at the highest levels of government, of business, and throughout society. One of the commitments that Secretary Albright made and that she and I articulated in a speech together at the State Department shortly after she became the first woman Secretary of State for our country, is that women's concerns and voices had to be part of the calculus of American foreign policy that there were issues that women had a particular interest in that the United States Government had to pay attention to. And we have

worked very hard these last several years to make that apparent, whether it is support for family planning, or an understanding of the economic dislocations that occur around the world that affect women primarily, or continuing to press for literacy and health care and other basic rights that are often denied women in many societies.

Secondly, we both feel very strongly that much of what is going on in the world today as we move into the 21st century is being shaped both directly and indirectly by women: in their private lives, at home, as Betty referred, and in the public arena — in so many different capacities. And that as women, we want to be supportive of these changes and of the women who are putting themselves on the front line to bring these changes about.

As I've traveled, both with my husband and alone, I've always sought out women such as the ones here, both publicly in a setting such as this and often privately, to learn more myself about what is happening in the lives of women in different settings, and also to learn how in either a direct or indirect way I personally, or the United States can be supportive of the positive changes that are occurring. That is one of the reasons why I went to Beijing in 1995 to the International Women's Conference that I'm sure some of you also attended, to speak out strongly on behalf of the basic principles that affect women's lives, and to try to do what we could to promote a platform for action that would result in transforming change. Because as we have had these conversations, and as I've seen changes occurring, it is apparent to me that we are making progress, but that the progress is faster in some settings than in others.

Now when I was in Beijing and Shanghai, I had the privilege of meeting with a number of Chinese women who spoke openly and freely about what they were doing to bring about changes in their own particular areas of expertise and interest. So whether it was the panel discussion that I held in Beijing last Saturday, where six women were among the most spirited that I've ever discussed anything with anywhere in the world, or visiting the legal aid center in Beijing that is operated in association with Beijing University, or visiting a women's retraining center in Shanghai where many of the women whose jobs are being lost to economic transformation are seeking help and assistance, I was struck over and over again by the way that women in China are doing all they can to change attitudes that would hold them back and make a very solid contribution to their own personal development and to the building of a new China.

But I was particularly struck by a private comment that a woman made to me, when she said, "Well, now that you have met us, do you think that we are like Hong Kong women?" (Laughter.) And I thought I knew what she meant, but I wasn't quite sure, and I said, "Well, now, exactly what do you mean by that question?" She said, "You know, assertive, forward-looking, standing on our own." And I said, "Yes, I think you are like Hong Kong women." (Laughter and applause.) But I thought that it would be better for me to come to the source of such a comment and to have an opportunity to listen to some, very few, but some of the women who are leaders in Hong Kong in every sector of society.

So I appreciate greatly these women taking time out of their extraordinarily busy schedules to be here to talk about what is happening in Hong Kong, what challenges and opportunities are available certainly for all people, but in particular for women and girls growing up in Hong Kong today facing this new century. So with that, I would like to turn first to a woman I had the privilege of meeting just a few weeks ago in Washington in preparation for this trip, and whom I am greatly admiring of, and the work that she is doing and the leadership that she is

providing. So, Anson, if you would start off the conversation, please.

(ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION FOLLOWS)