

# The Boston Globe

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## Albright says US frowns on turmoil plaguing Haiti

By Charles A. Radin  
GLOBE STAFF

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright said yesterday that the Clinton administration "is very disappointed" with the political violence now roiling Haiti, but has so far been unsuccessful in getting former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide to help ease the situation.

■ **Rights activists buoyed by Chinese oil company's lackluster first day of trading. C11**

"We did the right thing" by invading Haiti in 1994 and ousting the military leaders who had seized power, Albright said during a meeting with Globe editors and reporters. "Horrible things were happening, people had their faces ripped off, thousands were [fleeing] on rafts. But there is a genuine problem now."

Aristide was restored to the presidency by the 20,000-strong US invasion, and billions of dollars in American and international aid was spent restoring order and reviving the economy and political system.

But elections have been repeatedly postponed in the past 18 months by Aristide's successor and protege, Rene Preval, who dissolved parliament in January 1999 and announced he would rule by decree. The impoverished Caribbean nation now is in a state of political gridlock, and politically motivated violence is rising. A prominent journalist was assassinated Monday; thousands of elective offices are vacant.

"Aristide wants to get back [in office], no question," said Albright, who was in the Boston area to drum up support among business and technology leaders for the administration's proposal to normalize trade relations with China.



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO / TOM LANDERS

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright visited Agilent Technologies in Andover yesterday with (from left) Steve Rusckowski, senior vice president and general manager at Agilent, Governor Paul Cellucci, and Agilent vice president Jim Cyrier.

With Aristide's broad support inside Haiti, "he ought to allow there to be parliamentary elections, and then presidential elections. . . . We are trying to persuade him he is going about it in the wrong way."

Anthony Lake, the US special envoy to Haiti and former head of the National Security Council, met Aristide Wednesday in Miami, and a US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, characterized the talks between the two as "clear and direct. It was a good meeting." But the official declined to say whether Aristide made any promises regarding the timing of legislative elections.

"The electoral problems are procedural issues," said Michelle Karshan, a spokesman for Preval, in a telephone interview from Port-au-Prince. "That doesn't have to do with Aristide. That has to do with the capability of the electoral council and the international community."

She said the problems include making 4 million photo ID cards for voters and establishing electoral offices in areas of the coun-

try that don't have electricity, making computers and fax machines useless.

In the meeting at The Globe, and in a speech at Agilent Technologies in Andover, Albright also strongly advocated administration proposals before Congress for divorcing trade policy toward China from human-rights concerns and ending annual review of China's human-rights practices.

"This is a very important national security vote," Albright said, explaining that involving China in the World Trade Organization and other international bodies "is a way to have leverage over them without the US having to be the enforcer."

She said that while the administration has found attempts to link trade to human rights ineffective, "there is no doubt in my mind that the kind of information-technology goods that would be going into China" in a free-trading situation would encourage broader human rights and freedoms there.

*John Donnelly of the Globe's Washington bureau contributed to this report.*

# BOSTON HERALD®

## Business

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2000

### Albright says pact with China will help Mass.

By L. KIM TAN

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright toured a high-tech plant in Andover yesterday and later met with Bay State CEOs and human-rights activists in a bid to help save the Clinton administration's attempt to normalize trade relations with China.

With less than seven weeks to go before Congress votes on Clinton's bill to grant "permanent normal trade relations" status to China, the measure opposed by organized labor and others apparently is hanging on a swing of just a few votes in the House.

Yesterday, an optimistic sounding Albright appealed for those votes, saying unfettered trade with China would be a boon for American businesses — including many in Massachusetts. She also said it would help speed along democratic reforms in the world's most populous nation.

■ LOCKHEED  
MARTIN FINED  
FOR TIES TO  
CHINA. PAGE 29

On top of that, Albright said making current trade relations with Beijing permanent would contribute to stability in the Asian Pacific and encourage its leaders to play a constructive role in world affairs.

"All of these interests will be served if Congress makes the right decision now," she said during her visit to Agilent Technologies Health Care Solutions Group, which manufactures high-tech and medical equipment and has operations in China.

"All will be set back if PNTR is rejected," Albright said.

The White House's legislation is part of a deal it reached with Beijing last November in which it also agreed to support China's application to join the World Trade Organization, which sets many rules for international trade.

The deal would grant China the same access to the American economy now enjoyed by nearly all of the United States' trading partners — access Beijing must



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL FEIN

**IN THE HUB:** Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, center, met yesterday with human-rights activists at the Park Plaza. Joining her were Harold Koh, assistant secretary of state, and Ray Offenheiser.

renew annually. PNTR status would also help China's efforts to enter the World Trade Organization.

In exchange, China would fling the doors open to its vast markets, some of them still untapped, and lower its tariffs — potentially benefiting thousands of American businesses including the many financial-services companies and high-tech manufacturers concentrated in the Boston area, supporters have argued.

Albright said yesterday open trade with China would reduce tariffs on U.S. products from nearly 25 percent in 1997 to less than 10 percent by 2005.

Tariffs on Agilent's products, for example, would be slashed in half, she told her audience.

"The economic benefits (of granting China PNTR status) are compelling," she said.

Gov. Paul Cellucci, who accompanied Albright on her visit yesterday and spent last week in China, boosting Massachusetts products and services, noted that a "no" vote on PNTR could result in Beijing closing its markets to the U.S. in retaliation.

"If Congress seizes this opportunity, companies across the country, and here in Massachusetts, will benefit from open markets with enormous potential," he said in a statement.

"If Congress fails to act, the rest of the world will gladly trade with a China that is part of the World Trade Organization, while the United States will be left out."

Massachusetts' exports to China have risen steadily in recent years, topping \$366 million in 1999, according to Cellucci.

Following her visit in Andover, Albright met with the chief executives of several Massachusetts firms and later with officials of human-rights groups in Boston.

Absent, though, were labor leaders, who remain adamantly opposed to PNTR for China. They say China frequently breaks trade rules and abuses its workers.

Robert Haynes, president of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, said unions aren't backing off demands that lawmakers vote against the measure.

Among the all-Democrat Massachusetts congressional delegation, he said, all but five have indicated they would vote against the bill. The rest — Reps. Marty Meehan of Lowell, Richard E. Neal of Springfield and Edward J. Markey of Malden, and Sens. Edward M. Kennedy and John F. Kerry — have not indicated which way they would vote, he said.

"We're not opposed to trade," he said. "It's the permanent status that we're opposed to — we want some leverage with (China)."

# Reuters

April 6, 2000

**USA: Albright hunts for China trade deal support.**

By Leslie Gevirtz

04/06/2000

Reuters English News Service

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ANDOVER, Mass., April 6 (Reuters) - Secretary of State Madeleine Albright was on a sensitive diplomatic mission to Massachusetts on Thursday trying to get support for President Bill Clinton's bid to normalise trade relations with China.

If Congress approves the measure granting China Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR), then the United States "can have the benefits of the world trading organisation rules and the benefits of opening up the markets, and at the same time, make very clear that we will continue to press our case on human rights in other venues," she told reporters.

But the president is having problems mustering support for the bill within his Democratic Party. The Massachusetts congressional delegation is all Democratic and is unanimously opposed to the measure.

Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives agreed to vote on the issue in late May, in effect giving Clinton a deadline to shore up support for the bill among Democrats.

Albright began the day meeting workers at **Agilent** Technologies, the former Hewlett-Packard subsidiary that had \$251.6 million in orders from China in 1999.

The head of **Agilent**'s medical device division estimated that approval of the trade agreement, which is necessary for the United States to benefit from China's entrance to the World Trade Organisation, would mean a 15 to 20 percent increase in revenues in the next decade.

Before meeting with about a dozen other Massachusetts business leaders who have, or are considering opening operations in what is potentially the world's largest marketplace with 1.3 billion consumers, she said "between 1993 to 1998, Massachusetts doubled its exports to China. That trend will accelerate sharply if Congress approves PNTR for China."

Tipping her hat to the topic of China's human rights record, an issue that resonates with a number of the state's liberal voters, Albright told reporters before a meeting with human rights representatives in Boston, "The human rights agenda is one that we pursue across the board.

"In every bilateral meeting that any of us have with (the) Chinese we make very clear the essential aspect of human rights is core to our foreign policy ... We will never have a truly normal relation with China until they work out their problems with human rights and don't have the kinds of abuses that the State Department has noted in its annual report on the condition," she said.

But Albright had one glaring omission on her schedule in Massachusetts. She was not slated to meet with any labour union leaders. U.S. unions oppose permanent normal relations for China until it improves its human rights record and labour standards for its workers.

Saying she had already met with union leaders in Seattle and meets with them often in Washington, Albright said, "I'm not going to say that it's not a tough fit," to win union support for the measure.

"I think they need to understand better and we need to explain more the benefits of all this for the American worker," she said.