

Greenham Memorial Proposed



This year marks the tenth anniversary of the start of the march by people from Wales which led to women's peace camp at Greenham Common. A proposal had been launched to set up a commemorative sculpture to all the women who supported Greenham.

It is to be a simple, natural figure of a woman with a baby, on a plinth where women can sit, with a plaque with dates of the main events at Greenham.

The protest marches began when women decided to oppose the siting of US cruise missiles in Britain. Many marches followed, and women began to occupy the land at the entrance of the missile site. The movement grew to encompass solidarity actions with the miners in the region and to fund-raising for famine victims in Ethiopia.

On March 5, 1991, the last cruise missile left Greenham Common. The proposed sculpture would be a fitting memorial to the women who set off from Cardiff in 1981.

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The Egyptian Women's Health Book Collective (*)

The Egyptian Women's Health Book Collective, inspired by the publication of the Boston Women's Health Book Collective, "Our Bodies, Ourselves", decided to produce a health book for Egyptian and Arab Women. The initial group which gathered in May 1985 included 22 interested women from various areas of specialization. They decided that the book would be written in Arabic, would not be a translation of the English version of "Our Bodies, Ourselves", but an original version altogether. They divided the book into two parts: The first part adopted a life cycle approach to women's health from childhood to menopause; the second part dealt with particular issues such as work, nutrition, violence, traditional health care and social and psychological pressures on women.

Taking their time the collective outlined every detail of the book, starting with simplicity of the language, clarity of the information, validity of the illustrations, discussion of the controversial issues like rape, the right of patients to question medical treatments, and others, publication procedures.

The book was finally published in early 1991 and the Collective held a public seminar to discuss it in May of the same year. It was received enthusiastically by different women's groups and the public.

Upon the suggestion of an illiterate

woman at one of the Collective's seminars, the Collective is pursuing the idea of putting the information on tape and producing separate pamphlets that can be used in literacy classes. The Collective says it is receiving numerous requests from various Arab women's groups to buy the book, and some have asked for help in forming sister organizations.

Information taken from "The Egyptian Women's Health Book Collective" by Nadia Farah, in *The Middle East Report*, 1991. p. 16.



Kuwaiti Women are demanding for the right to vote

A coalition of Islamic and secular women's groups in Kuwait circulated and signed petitions demanding the right to vote. The elections are due in September 1992. Under current law only Kuwaiti men whose ancestors can be traced back to 1920 are eligible to vote. The new women's movement says some 100,000 Kuwaiti women as opposed to 90,000 men could qualify under the current law if women were allowed to vote.

From the *Women's Watch*, published by IRAW. July 1992. pg. 6.

A Woman in the Russian Cabinet

Ella Pamphilova is Russia's new minister for social protection who is proposing social welfare measures to help the disabled, pensioners and children. Apparently women in the new Russia are not part of her assignment.

From the *Women's Watch*, published by IRAW. July 1992. pg. 5.

Lebanese Female Deputy gets the Highest Number of Votes in the Country



Ms Nayla Moawad was elected to the Lebanese Parliament on August 23, 1992 with a sweeping majority of 90,000 votes, the highest received by any of the running candidates. The only female in the race for Northern Lebanon, she received the highest number of votes yet to be received by any of the candidates for the North or in the rest of the country.

Ms. Moawad was already serving as a deputy since 1990. She was appointed in place of her husband, the late President of the Republic, Renee Mouawad who was assassinated in November 1989.

She has been active on various levels of local development, notably in areas like the environment, women

and children in Lebanon. She was a member of the Lebanese Delegation to the Rio Summit, and will participate in the National Conference on Women and the Environment, which is being organized by our Institute in October of this year. Ms. Moawad is also dedicated to improving the legislative conditions of women, pressuring for Lebanon to ratify the convention for the Elimination of all form of Discrimination against women, human rights and the welfare of the child in Lebanon.

It is worth noting that these are the first elections to be held in Lebanon since 1972. The victory of Ms. Moawad with such flying colors is a promise for the women of this country.

The Other Women Candidates for Parliament in Lebanon

Ms. Maha Khoury ran among the candidates for Jbeil in Mount Lebanon. Due to the boycott of the elections in her district, by competing candidates and voters, she only received 41 votes, yet won the election in the absence of a competitor. Ms. Khoury is the second female deputy of the Lebanese Parliament.

Women candidates for the district of Beirut, the capital city were absent.

Ms. Bahia Hariri ran in the district of South Lebanon. Ms Hariri is the sister of Mr. Rafik Hariri, the Saudi Tycoon of Lebanese origin. The third woman to become a deputy in parliament Ms. Hariri won got approximately 48,000 votes.

The Parliamentary election of August 1992, the first in twenty years, brought three women to the new Lebanese parliament •