

ANN LA PORTA

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Juggling Career, Family, and Foreign Service Responsibilities Tried joining when FS accepting only secretaries Role of wife, mother, professional	
Djakarta, Indonesia In Djakarta taught English and edited USIS magazine No help on arrival in Djakarta Feels FS wife's responsibility to help other wives Even mix of friends among Indonesians, Americans, and diplomats	1967-1970
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Continued law study at University of Malaysia	1972-1975
Ankara, Turkey Voluntary legal secretary in Turkey	1976-1978
Wellington, New Zealand Legal jobs in Sumatra and New Zealand "You need to know you're worth something" Liaison with wives	1987-1991
Thoughts on Spouse Responsibilities Enjoyed entertaining and felt it went with the job Reciprocal work agreements encouraged FS wives to go abroad Expectations of all wives have changed Did not see Foreign Service as her career George Washington University policy helped her in law studies GWU accepted her University of Malaysia law course credits Did course work in Malaysian language Picked up news in class that helped her husband Resented entertaining for wife who refused Absence of senior wife places burden on others Some FSO's husbands uninterested in doing anything for FS One male dep. spouse at post Both partners promote the U.S. in different ways Wives working in the community reflect U.S. in positive ways Expectations for entertaining same as 25 years ago Representation could be done in other ways British women are paid for official entertaining Avoided Lady Bountiful role	

Terrorist Acts and Family Trauma

Japanese terrorists held Embassy Consul Secretary hostage in Malaysia

Helped families and got provisions to embassy staff

In small posts embassy groups take care of each other

In Medan a deranged army colonel held their son hostage in their home after asking for asylum

Helped set up systems in Washington for dealing with terrorism

Contributed to AAFSW study of families in crisis situations

FLO made video tapes dealing with children in stress