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DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS AND INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

ANN CLWYD, MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Mrs. Ann Clwyd was born in Denbigh (Wales) on March 21, 1937. She was educated at University College of North Wales, Bangor, and was active in student politics as Secretary of Students Union and an official of the National Union of Students.

After the university, she joined the BBC and worked as a studio manager in Cardiff and London. She started interviewing on numerous BBC programs and wrote and produced programs on subjects such as "Adult Illiteracy", "The Valleys of South Wales", "Loneliness" and "The Elderly". She later became Welsh correspondent of The Guardian and The Observer and combined newspaper journalism with broadcasting. She contributed regularly on radio and television in both English and Welsh. She has made films for the BBC in various parts of the world on: the environment, travel, and current affairs. She is also a regular member of the "Any Questions" panel current affairs program on the BBC. From 1975-76, she was an active member of the National Union of Journalists and Vice-Chairman of the Cardiff branch.

Mrs. Clwyd has had considerable political experience and fought two general elections for the Labor Party in Conservative-held seats. Each time she increased the Labor vote.

Her public service career includes the following positions:

- 1965: Member of the Cardiff and District Hospital Management House Committee and Executive Member of the Cardiff National Association for Mental Health.
- 1970-74: Appointed by Secretary of State to the Welsh Hospital Board, which has overall responsibility for all the hospitals in Wales.
- 1974: Appointed Cardiff Community Health Councillor.
- 1975: Appointed Vice-Chairman of the Welsh Arts Council and Member of the Arts Council of Great Britain.
Appointed by Lord Chancellor to Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales.

- 1977: Governor of University College, Aberystwyth.
- 1978: Member of the UNESCO Committee on Communications. Elected Chairman of the Cardiff Anti-Apartheid Committee.
- 1979: Elected to the European Parliament as Member for Mid- and West Wales. Elected to Executive Member of the Socialist Group of the European Parliament - largest political group in the European Parliament. Member of the Social Affairs and Employment Committee and also of the Consumer and Environment Committee of the European Parliament.
- 1980: European Parliament's Rapporteur on the "Disabled" in the ten European Community countries.

Mrs. Clwyd has written on politics, industry, health, and social services for two national British newspapers: "The Guardian" and "The Observer", and two well-known weeklies: "The Economist" and "The New Statesman". She writes a regular column for The Observer on the European Community.

Mrs. Clwyd lives in Cardiff and is married to Mr. Owen Roberts, a BBC Executive.

March 1982

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

TWICE FOUGHT SEATS FOR THE LABOUR PARTY: DENBIGH 1970 - LABOUR CAME SECOND IN A FOUR CORNERED FIGHT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS CONSTITUENCY (THE ONLY ONE IN BRITAIN WHERE LABOUR'S SHARE OF THE VOTE INCREASED THAT YEAR).

GLOUCESTER 1974: FOUGHT A TORY HELD SEAT.

1971-1979 WELSH CORRESPONDENT OF 'LABOUR WEEKLY'.

1971 EDITORIAL MEMBER OF GROUP OF 'RADICAL' THE PARTY NEWSPAPER FOR WALES.

1974 MEMBER OF LABOUR PARTY WORKING GROUP WHICH PUBLISHED 'PEOPLE AND THE MEDIA'.

TRADE UNION ACTIVITY

ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS (NUJ) VICE-CHAIRMAN CARDIFF BRANCH 1975-76. MEMBER OF THE T. G. W. U..

REGULAR LECTURER AT CO-OP WEEKEND SCHOOLS AND AT TRADES COUNCILS AND UNION BRANCHES.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

SHE HAS MADE THE HEALTH SERVICE HER SPECIAL INTEREST AND CONSIDERS IT TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT SOCIALIST REFORM. AS A JOURNALIST SHE HAS TAKEN A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE MINING INDUSTRY AND WROTE A MAJOR FEATURE ON PNEUMOCONIOSIS, ARGUING FOR BETTER COMPENSATION FOR MINERS. LATER THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINeworkERS ATTRIBUTED SOME OF THEIR SUCCESS IN OBTAINING BETTER COMPENSATION FOR THEIR MEMBERS. AS THE YOUNGEST MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE SHE VISITED THE USA AND CANADA TO COMPARE THE TWO HEALTH SYSTEMS.

PUBLIC SERVICE

1965 MEMBER OF CARDIFF AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT HOUSE COMMITTEE.

1965 EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF CARDIFF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND CHAIRMAN OF ITS CHARITY RAISING SHOP.

1970-

1974 APPOINTED BY SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE WELSH HOSPITAL BOARD, WHICH HAD OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE HOSPITALS IN WALES.

MEMBER OF SEVERAL SUB-COMMITTEES: FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES PSYCHIATRIC AND GERIATRIC, NURSING ADVISORY, CATERING ADVISORY.

CO-AUTHOR ON REPORT ON 'OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENTS'.

1974 APPOINTED CARDIFF COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILLOR.

1975 APPOINTED VICE-CHAIRMAN WELSH ARTS COUNCIL AND MEMBER OF THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN. CHAIRMAN OF FILM COMMITTEE, CHAIRMAN OF BUDGET GROUP OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES.

1975 APPOINTED BY LORD CHANCELLOR TO MENTAL HEALTH REVIEW TRIBUNAL FOR WALES.

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1977 GOVERNOR UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, ABERYSTWYTH.

1978 UNESCO COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS.

1978 ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF CARDIFF ANTI APARTHEID COMMITTEE.

1979 Elected to the EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS MEMBER FOR MID AND WEST WALES.

1979 ELECTED TO EXECUTIVE MEMBER SOCIALIST GROUP - LARGEST POLITICAL GROUP IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.

MEMBER OF THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE OF THE PARLIAMENT ALSO CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

1980 PARLIAMENT'S RAPPOREUR ON THE 'DISABLED' IN THE TEN EEC COUNTRIES.

ADDRESS: 1, LON WERDD, ST FAGANS, CARDIFF. TEL. (0222) 593492.

MRS CLWYD NOW WRITES A REGULAR COLUMN FOR 'THE OBSERVER' ON THE EEC. SHE IS A PANELLIST ON BBC'S 'QUESTION TIME' AND 'ANY QUESTIONS'.

SHE IS VER ACTIVE ON ISSUES WHICH AFFECT WOMEN.

I HOPE THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION WILL BE ADEQUATE. IF I CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER HELP, DO NOT HESITATE IN CONTACTING ME. (TEL. 01 222 0411/1719)

JANET ROYALL
BRITISH LABOUR GROUP

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