

Clinton trip reflects Asia's growing influence

Hillary Clinton is making her first overseas trip as Secretary of State to Asia, with the global economic crisis, climate change, and North Korea's nuclear ambitions topping her agenda. It is the first time Asia has been the initial trip for a secretary of state since the 1960s

Picture: Getty Images



1. FEB 16-18, JAPAN

- Clinton to reassure Japan that it remains Washington's closest ally in Asia

- Meets families of Japanese nationals kidnapped by North Korea in 1970s and 1980s – issue Japan wants addressed as part of any deal with North Korea to normalize relations with its neighbours and U.S.

- Signs deal to relocate 8,000 U.S. marines from island of **Okinawa** to U.S. Pacific territory of **Guam**

2. FEB 18-19, INDONESIA

- Stressing new U.S. willingness to engage with Southeast Asian nations, Clinton will announce she will attend **ASEAN** summit this summer – event Bush Administration often skipped

3. FEB 19-20, SOUTH KOREA

- Clinton expected to discuss how to revive six-country talks meant to lead to North Korea's nuclear disarmament

Clinton has offered Pyongyang normal relations, peace treaty and economic aid, but made clear it would have to abandon its nuclear programmes first

- Also expected to discuss South Korea-U.S. free trade pact, and Seoul's troop contribution to Afghanistan

4. FEB 20-22, CHINA

- Discussion of economic issues expected to focus on China's concerns about U.S. protectionism, and appreciation of yuan, which U.S. sees as undervalued

- Clinton to lay groundwork to work with China on climate change while visiting "clean" thermal plant in Beijing

- Clinton has said she will not shy away from talking about human rights issues

