

‘When my sister and I first came to New York from a small city, we used to amuse ourselves with a game we called Messages. I suppose we were trying, in a dim way, to get a grip on the great, bewildering world into which we had come. The idea was to pick two wildly dissimilar individuals - say a headhunter in the Solomon Islands and a cobbler in Rock Island, Illinois - and assume that one has to get a message to the other by word of mouth; then we would each silently figure out a plausible, or at least possible chain of persons through whom the message could go. The one who could make the shortest plausible chain of messengers won. The headhunter would speak to the headman of his village, who would speak to the trader who come to buy copra, who would speak to the Australian patrol officer when he next came through, who would tell the man who was next slated to go to Melbourne on leave, etc. Down at the other end, the cobbler would hear it from his priest, who got it from the mayor, who got it from a state senator, who got it from the governor, etc. We soon had these close-to-home messengers down to a routine for almost everyone we could conjure up, but we would get tangled in long chains at the middle until we began employing Mrs Roosevelt. Mrs Roosevelt made it suddenly possible to skip whole chains of intermediate connections. She knew the most unlikely people. The world shrank remarkably. It shrank us right out of our game, which became too cut and dried’ Jane Jacobs, 2003 “Dark Age Ahead” pp.134-5

Noordpoolgebied Arctis 3 Zuidpoolgebied Antarctis



CITIES AS SISTERS

SISTERS IN CITIES

1 Wereldkaart Staatkundige indeling - Wereldverkeer 2



‘Concurrent with the development of sister cities from 1950 onward has been a spectacular growth in international tourism and sport; the pen pal movement; the formation of a planetary community of radio hams; high-level scientific and cultural exchanges; numerous exchanges agreements among widely separated universities and the resultant study abroad programs; the Peace Corps and similar governmental and private programs based in affluent countries, such as the Experiment in International Living, Servas International, and Service Civil International and the efforts of the World Federalists, the Universal Esperanto Association, and likeminded organizations agitating for international amity, and those concerned with global environmental and social issues’ Wilbur Zelinsky, 1991 “Twinning of the World” p.5

