

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Letter	[Letter] [1 PAGE RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 09/09/2025 JLS] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick Fitzgerald	1	07/16/2002	
002	Memorandum	Memorandum for Lauren Vestewig [with attachments] [14 PAGES RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 09/09/2025 JLS] - To: Lauren Vestewig - From: Brett Kavanaugh	14	05/01/2002	
003	Letter	[Letter] [1 PAGE RELEASED IN PART FOR (b)(6) ON PRA RE-REVIEW 09/09/2025 JLS] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick J. Fitzgerald	1	07/16/2002	b6;
004	Letter	[Letter] [1 PAGE RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 09/09/2025 JLS] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick J. Fitzgerald	1	07/22/2002	

COLLECTION TITLE:

Counsel's Office, White House

SERIES:

Kavanaugh, Brett - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

Northern District of Illinois

FRC ID:

9696

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

Deed of Gift Restrictions

- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Records Not Subject to FOIA

Court Sealed - The document is withheld under a court seal and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

2017-0345-F

2014-0108-F

2018-0016-P

2018-0016-P

2025-0158-F

2

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
005	Email	[Email] [2 PAGES RELEASED IN WHOLE ON PRA RE-REVIEW 09/09/2025 JLS] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Jay P. Lefkowitz	2	07/16/2002	

COLLECTION TITLE:

Counsel's Office, White House

SERIES:

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FOLDER TITLE:

Northern District of Illinois

FRC ID:

9696

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SUPERSEDED

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Letter	[Letter] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick Fitzgerald	1	07/16/2002	P5;
002	Memorandum	Memorandum for Lauren Vestewig [with attachments] - To: Lauren Vestewig - From: Brett Kavanaugh	14	05/01/2002	P5;
003	Letter	[Letter] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick J. Fitzgerald	1	07/16/2002	P5; P6/b6;
004	Letter	[Letter] - To: Brett Kavanaugh - From: Patrick J. Fitzgerald	1	07/22/2002	P5;
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SERIES:

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FOLDER TITLE:

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U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Northern District of IllinoisDaniel W. Gillogly
Assistant United States AttorneyDirksen Federal Building
219 South Dearborn Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604Direct line: (312) 886-1328
Fax: (312) 353-4324
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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER PAGE

DATE:

7/16/02

FROM:

DANIEL W. GILLOGLY

TO:

Brett KavanaughNumber of Pages: 1 (Excluding Cover Page)

CONTENTS:

Letter to 7/16/02

DESTINATION FAX #:

(202) 456-1647

DESTINATION PHONE #:

Note: If you do not receive the total number of pages indicated, please call Mr. Gillogly or his secretary ASAP.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED.
It may contain privileged, confidential, attorney work product, or trade secret information that is exempt from disclosure under applicable laws. If you are **NOT** the intended recipient, or an employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message (and all copies) to us by mail at the above address. We will reimburse you for postage. Thank you

**U.S. Department of Justice***United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois**Daniel W. Gillogly
Assistant United States Attorney**Dirksen Federal Building
219 South Dearborn Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604**Direct line: (312) 886-1328
Fax: (312) 353-4324
E-mail: dan.gillogly@usdoj.gov*

July 16, 2002

BY U.S. MAIL and FACSIMILE TO (202) 456-1647**Brett Kavanaugh
Associate Counsel
Office of the Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.****Re: Unauthorized Disclosure Investigation****Dear Brett:**

Please accept this letter as confirmation of our request that your office arrange for interviews of the following persons: Jay Lefkowitz, Claire Buchan, Dan Bartlett, Richard Clarke and the chief of the National Security Council press office.

We will be in Washington on the following dates and, subject to competing scheduling discussed below, are available as follows:

July 24 (all day) and July 25 (up to 1:15 p.m.);
July 29 - 31 (anytime on these days);
August 12-13 (anytime on these days).

As you know, we are trying to arrange interviews elsewhere during these times and should interviews be scheduled there, I will let you know promptly so we can avoid conflicts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

**PATRICK J. FITZGERALD
United States Attorney**

By:

**DANIEL W. GILLOGLY
Assistant United States Attorney**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 1, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR LAUREN VESTEWIG
FROM: BRETT M. KAVANAUGH **BK**
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

In furtherance of its criminal investigation, the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois has prepared the attached 13-page questionnaire regarding disclosure of information related to the Holy Land Foundation, Global Relief Foundation, and Benevolence International Foundation.

By Thursday, May 9, 2002, you must complete and return the questionnaire. The United States Attorney's Office has asked that you send the completed questionnaire directly to:

Supervisory Special Agent Robert J. Kowalski
Federal Bureau of Investigation
219 South Dearborn Street, 9th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 431-1333

Please note that the United States Attorney's Office has informed us that it will use and disseminate personal information (such as home phone numbers) only as necessary in the course of its investigation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 456-7984.

Kavanaugh

Declaration under Penalty of Perjury

I, (please print full name), hereby make the following declaration under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746. I understand that this declaration has been requested as part of a criminal inquiry being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois into the alleged unauthorized disclosure of information concerning preparations to freeze assets of the Holy Land Foundation, the Global Relief Foundation and the Benevolence International Foundation and the issuance of "Blocking Orders" (also known as "Blocking Notices") by the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC), Department of the Treasury. I understand that I am not obliged to provide any information as a condition of my employment, and may decline to provide any information if I so choose without adverse consequence to my employment.

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

I am presently employed in the following capacity: _____

_____. During the period from September 1, 2001 until

_____, I was employed in the following capacity: _____

_____. [Attach additional sheets as necessary.]

October 1 ↔ Global Relief and BIF [FROZEN]
December 4 ↔ Holy Land [~~HOOLAND~~ BLOCKING ORDER + SEARCH]
December 14 ↔ Global Relief [BLOCKING ORDER + SEARCH]

In November and December 2001 the following information was pertinent:

Work address

Work telephone(s)

Work fax number(s)

Work e-mail address(es)

Work Cellular telephone number(s)

Work pager number

Home address

Home telephone number(s)

Cellular telephone number(s) (personal)

Personal pager number(s)

Personal fax number(s)

Personal e-mail address(es)

II. INFORMATION REQUESTED

1. Prior to October 1, 2001, did you have any information from whatever source that OFAC (or any government agency) was considering freezing (or was making preparations to freeze) the assets of either the Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation?
2. When and how did you learn this information?
3. Prior to December 4, 2001, did you have any information from whatever source that OFAC (or any government agency) intended to issue a "Blocking Order" against, or to conduct a search of, the Holy Land Foundation?
4. When, and how you learn of the Blocking Order or the search?

5. Prior to December 14, 2001, did you have any information from whatever source that OFAC (or any government agency) intended to issue a "Blocking Order" against, or to conduct a search of, Global Relief Foundation?
6. When, and from whom did you learn of this Blocking Order or search?
7. Did your secretary or other members of your support staff have access to any of this information?
 - a) If yes provide all such individuals' names.
8. Prior to October 1, 2001 did you provide any information concerning the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to consider placing Global Relief Foundation and/or Benevolence International Foundation on the list of entities whose assets were to be frozen to:
 - a) anyone outside the government?
 - b) anyone you then or later understood was affiliated with the press?

9. Prior to December 4, 2001 did you provide any information concerning the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Holy Land Foundation to:
- a) anyone outside the government?
 - b) anyone you understood was affiliated with the press?
10. Prior to December 14, 2001 did you provide any information concerning the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Global Relief Foundation to:
- a) anyone outside the government?
 - b) anyone you understood was affiliated with the press?
11. If your answer to question 8, 9 or 10 is "yes," please answer the following as to each of the questions you answered "yes:"
- a) What information did you provide to persons outside the government including, but not limited to, persons affiliated with the press?
 - b) To whom did you provide this information?

- c) When did you provide this information?
 - d) How was the information provided?
 - i) If by telephone or facsimile, when and from what number was the call placed?
 - ii) If by e-mail, when and from what computer and e-mail address was the information sent, and what was the e-mail address of the recipient?
 - e) Why did you provide this information?
12. At any time, did you provide any information that OFAC (or any other government agency) was considering placing Global Relief Foundation and/or Benevolence International Foundation on the list of entities whose assets were to be frozen or concerning either of these Blocking Orders or searches to anyone you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times newspaper?
13. If your answer to question 12 is "yes," please answer the following questions:
- a) What information did you provide?
 - b) Were you authorized by your agency or any person in your agency to provide such information?

- c) If so, please identify the person who authorized you to provide information.
 - d) To whom did you provide this information?
 - e) When did you provide this information?
 - f) How was the information provided?
 - i. If by telephone or facsimile, when and from what number was the call placed?
 - ii. If by e-mail, when and from what computer and e-mail address was the information sent, and what was the e-mail address of the recipient?
 - g) Why did you provide this information?
14. Do you know, or have you heard, that anyone in government (in any capacity) provided information to persons outside the government concerning:
- a) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to consider placing Global Relief Foundation and/or Benevolence International Foundation on the list of entities whose assets were to be frozen?

b) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Holy Land Foundation? or

c) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Global Relief Foundation?

15. If the answer to Question 14 a), b) or c) is "yes," please describe what you know or heard.

16. In September, November or December 2001, did you communicate in any manner with any person you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times concerning any proposed governmental action?

a) If the answer to Question 16 is "yes," please list the names of all such persons you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times.

17. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Judith Miller in any manner within the past six months?

18. If your answer to question 17 is "yes," please answer the following questions:

- a) How long have you known Judith Miller?
- b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Judith Miller?
- c) How have you communicated with Judith Miller?
- d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Judith Miller?
- e) Did you provide Judith Miller with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
- f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
- g) If you provided information to Judith Miller, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the date(s) of publication.

19. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Kurt Eichenwald in any manner within the past six months?

20. If your answer to question 19 is "yes," please answer the following questions:

- a) How long have you known Kurt Eichenwald?
- b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Kurt Eichenwald?
- c) How have you communicated with Kurt Eichenwald?
- d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Kurt Eichenwald?
- e) Did you provide Kurt Eichenwald with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
- f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
- g) If you provided information to Kurt Eichenwald, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the dates(s) of publication.

21. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Philip Shenon in any manner within the past six months?

22. If your answer to question 21 is "yes," please answer the following questions:

- a) How long have you known Philip Shenon?
- b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Philip Shenon?
- c) How have you communicated with Philip Shenon?
- d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Philip Shenon?
- e) Did you provide Philip Shenon with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
- f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
- g) If you provided information to Philip Shenon, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the date(s) of publication.

23. During the time periods: September 26-30, 2001, November 28-December 3, 2001, or December 10-15, 2001, did you travel away from the city where your office is located (for either official or personal business)?
24. If the answer to any part of Question 23 is "yes," please describe the date(s) of all travel and all destinations, including where you stayed and any telephone numbers used while traveling.
25. Do you have any other information not described above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to October 1, 2001 of any preparations of OFAC (or any other government agency) to freeze the assets of (or to consider freezing the assets of) Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation?
- i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:
26. Do you have any information not provided above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to December 4, 2001 of the intent of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue Blocking Orders against, or to conduct searches of, the Holy Land Foundation?
- i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:

27. Do you have any other information not described above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to December 14, 2001 of the intent of OFAC to issue Blocking Orders against the Global Relief Foundation?

i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:

28. Please provide any additional information you believe would assist us in completing this inquiry. If you have no additional information, please answer "none."

[If necessary, please use additional sheets]

29. In answering the above questions, have you withheld any information because you believe it to be classified within the meaning of Executive Order 12958?
30. If requested, are you willing to submit to a voluntary polygraph examination that will focus on your answers to these questions and other questions related to this investigation?
31. I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the foregoing, consisting of these 13 and _____ additional pages, is true and correct and that I have provided all information voluntarily and without any duress or coercion of any sort. I further understand that this information is important to an investigation of criminal wrongdoing that occurred in the Northern District of Illinois.

(Signature)

Executed in the city and state or district of _____ on _____, 2002.



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois

(b)(6)

Daniel W. Gillogly
Assistant United States Attorney

Dirksen Federal Building
219 South Dearborn Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Direct line: (312) 886-1328
Fax: (312) 353-4324
E-mail: dan.gillogly@usdoj.gov

July 16, 2002

BY U.S. MAIL and FACSIMILE TO (202) 456-1647

Brett Kavanaugh
Associate Counsel
Office of the Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

COPY

Re: Unauthorized Disclosure Investigation

Dear Brett:

Monday any time 10:00 - midnight
Tuesday morning until 10:00 - 3:15

Wed. at 5:00

Please accept this letter as confirmation of our request that your office arrange for interviews of the following persons: Jay Lefkowitz, Claire Buchanan, Dan Bartlett, Richard Clarke and the chief of the National Security Council press office.

We will be in Washington on the following dates and, subject to competing scheduling discussed below, are available as follows:

July 24 (all day) and July 25 (up to 1:15 p.m.);

July 29 - 31 (anytime on these days);

August 12-13 (anytime on these days).

As you know, we are trying to arrange interviews elsewhere during these times and should interviews be scheduled there, I will let you know promptly so we can avoid conflicts.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Jay 4:30
Claire

Jay → 6:00

Dan → 7:00

Very truly yours,

PATRICK J. FITZGERALD
United States Attorney

By:

DANIEL W. GILLOGLY
Assistant United States Attorney

4:00 → Jay
5:00 → Claire
6:00 → Dan

Brad Wiegman

Dick Clarke
Sean McCormack

To Dan / Claire / Jay

① Read 4 articles

10-1-01 Miller + Eide + Malo

12-4-01 Miller

12-5-01 Saper + Miller

12-15-01 Shanon

② Tell me if any concern

**U.S. Department of Justice***United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois*

*Daniel W. Gillogly
Assistant United States Attorney*

*Dirksen Federal Building
219 South Dearborn Street, 5th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604*

*Direct line: (312) 886-1328
Fax: (312) 353-4324
E-mail: dan.gillogly@usdoj.gov*

July 22, 2002

BY U.S. MAIL and FACSIMILE TO (202) 456-5104

Brett Kavanaugh
Associate Counsel
Office of the Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Re: Unauthorized Disclosure Investigation

Dear Brett:

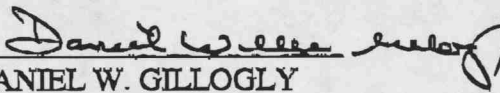
As we discussed, enclosed is a copy of our July 16 letter. We are available at 4:00 (or so) on Wednesday, July 24 and at 11:15 until 1:15 on Thursday, July 25. Also, please do not schedule any appointments for July 31, 2002.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

PATRICK J. FITZGERALD
United States Attorney

By:


DANIEL W. GILLOGLY
Assistant United States Attorney

encl.

Declaration under Penalty of Perjury

I, (please print full name), hereby make the following declaration under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746. I understand that this declaration has been requested as part of a criminal inquiry being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois into the alleged unauthorized disclosure of information concerning preparations to freeze assets of the Holy Land Foundation, the Global Relief Foundation and the Benevolence International Foundation and the issuance of "Blocking Orders" (also known as "Blocking Notices") by the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC), Department of the Treasury. I understand that I am not obliged to provide any information as a condition of my employment, and may decline to provide any information if I so choose without adverse consequence to my employment.

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

I am presently employed in the following capacity: _____
_____. During the period from September 1, 2001 until
_____, I was employed in the following capacity: _____
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In November and December 2001 the following information was pertinent:

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Work fax number(s)

Work e-mail address(es)

Work Cellular telephone number(s)

Work pager number

Home address

Home telephone number(s)

Cellular telephone number(s) (personal)

Personal pager number(s)

Personal fax number(s)

Personal e-mail address(es)

II. INFORMATION REQUESTED

1. Prior to October 1, 2001, did you have any information from whatever source that OFAC (or any government agency) was considering freezing (or was making preparations to freeze) the assets of either the Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation?
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11. If your answer to question 8, 9 or 10 is "yes," please answer the following as to each of the questions you answered "yes:"
- a) What information did you provide to persons outside the government including, but not limited to, persons affiliated with the press?
 - b) To whom did you provide this information?

- c) When did you provide this information?
 - d) How was the information provided?
 - i) If by telephone or facsimile, when and from what number was the call placed?
 - ii) If by e-mail, when and from what computer and e-mail address was the information sent, and what was the e-mail address of the recipient?
 - e) Why did you provide this information?
12. At any time, did you provide any information that OFAC (or any other government agency) was considering placing Global Relief Foundation and/or Benevolence International Foundation on the list of entities whose assets were to be frozen or concerning either of these Blocking Orders or searches to anyone you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times newspaper?
13. If your answer to question 12 is "yes," please answer the following questions:
- a) What information did you provide?
 - b) Were you authorized by your agency or any person in your agency to provide such information?

- c) If so, please identify the person who authorized you to provide information.
 - d) To whom did you provide this information?
 - e) When did you provide this information?
 - f) How was the information provided?
 - i. If by telephone or facsimile, when and from what number was the call placed?
 - ii. If by e-mail, when and from what computer and e-mail address was the information sent, and what was the e-mail address of the recipient?
 - g) Why did you provide this information?
14. Do you know, or have you heard, that anyone in government (in any capacity) provided information to persons outside the government concerning:
- a) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to consider placing Global Relief Foundation and/or Benevolence International Foundation on the list of entities whose assets were to be frozen?

- b) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Holy Land Foundation? or
 - c) the plans of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue a Blocking Order against, or to conduct a search of, the Global Relief Foundation?
15. If the answer to Question 14 a), b) or c) is "yes," please describe what you know or heard.
16. In September, November or December 2001, did you communicate in any manner with any person you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times concerning any proposed governmental action?
- a) If the answer to Question 16 is "yes," please list the names of all such persons you understood to be affiliated with the New York Times.
17. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Judith Miller in any manner within the past six months?

18. If your answer to question 17 is "yes," please answer the following questions:
- a) How long have you known Judith Miller?
 - b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Judith Miller?
 - c) How have you communicated with Judith Miller?
 - d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Judith Miller?
 - e) Did you provide Judith Miller with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
 - f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
 - g) If you provided information to Judith Miller, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the date(s) of publication.
19. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Kurt Eichenwald in any manner within the past six months?

20. If your answer to question 19 is "yes," please answer the following questions:

- a) How long have you known Kurt Eichenwald?
- b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Kurt Eichenwald?
- c) How have you communicated with Kurt Eichenwald?
- d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Kurt Eichenwald?
- e) Did you provide Kurt Eichenwald with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
- f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
- g) If you provided information to Kurt Eichenwald, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the dates(s) of publication.

21. Have you communicated directly or indirectly with Philip Shenon in any manner within the past six months?

22. If your answer to question 21 is "yes," please answer the following questions:

- a) How long have you known Philip Shenon?
- b) On what date(s) did you communicate with Philip Shenon?
- c) How have you communicated with Philip Shenon?
- d) From what telephone number(s) did you contact Philip Shenon?
- e) Did you provide Philip Shenon with any information related in any way to any preparation by OFAC (or any government agency) to freeze the assets of, or to consider freezing the assets of, or to conduct searches of Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation or the Holy Land Foundation, or the OFAC Blocking Orders against either the Holy Land Foundation or the Global Relief Foundation?
- f) Describe all information you provided and the dates(s) on which you provided it.
- g) If you provided information to Philip Shenon, were you ever quoted or otherwise cited by name, description or anonymously in any subsequent article? If "yes," please describe all articles, including the date(s) of publication.

23. During the time periods: September 26-30, 2001, November 28-December 3, 2001, or December 10-15, 2001, did you travel away from the city where your office is located (for either official or personal business)?

24. If the answer to any part of Question 23 is "yes," please describe the date(s) of all travel and all destinations, including where you stayed and any telephone numbers used while traveling.

25. Do you have any other information not described above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to October 1, 2001 of any preparations of OFAC (or any other government agency) to freeze the assets of (or to consider freezing the assets of) Global Relief Foundation or the Benevolence International Foundation?

i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:

26. Do you have any information not provided above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to December 4, 2001 of the intent of OFAC (or any government agency) to issue Blocking Orders against, or to conduct searches of, the Holy Land Foundation?

i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:

27. Do you have any other information not described above concerning the disclosure outside of the government prior to December 14, 2001 of the intent of OFAC to issue Blocking Orders against the Global Relief Foundation?

i) If the answer is "yes," please describe:

28. Please provide any additional information you believe would assist us in completing this inquiry. If you have no additional information, please answer "none."

[If necessary, please use additional sheets]

29. In answering the above questions, have you withheld any information because you believe it to be classified within the meaning of Executive Order 12958?

30. If requested, are you willing to submit to a voluntary polygraph examination that will focus on your answers to these questions and other questions related to this investigation?

31. I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in the foregoing, consisting of these 13 and _____ additional pages, is true and correct and that I have provided all information voluntarily and without any duress or coercion of any sort. I further understand that this information is important to an investigation of criminal wrongdoing that occurred in the Northern District of Illinois.

(Signature)

Executed in the city and state or district of _____ on _____, 2002.

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Terms: "global relief" and date aft (9-29-2001) and (eichenwald or shenon or miller) ([Edit Search](#))

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The New York Times, October 1, 2001

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October 1, 2001, Monday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 1; Column 3; National Desk

LENGTH: 1169 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE INVESTIGATION;
U.S. SET TO WIDEN FINANCIAL ASSAULT

BYLINE: By JUDITH **MILLER** with KURT **EICHENWALD**

BODY:

Widening the financial assault on Osama bin Laden, administration officials are preparing to freeze the assets of about two dozen more charities and other organizations that are suspected of providing money and support to his terrorist operations, government officials said yesterday.

Officials tracking Mr. bin Laden's Al Qaeda network say they have found a sophisticated financial infrastructure that stretches from the United Arab Emirates to Europe to Indonesia, and uses mechanisms as varied as charitable organizations, manufacturing companies and credit card fraud to raise money and move it around the globe. Investigators say one focus of their hunt is Mustafa Ahmad, who they contend helped arrange the financing of the Sept. 11 attacks and plays a broader role in the finances of Mr. bin Laden's group. Federal agents have evidence that money was wired between Mr. Ahmad and Mohamed Atta, identified as a leading figure in the plot, in the days before the attacks.

Two other hijacking suspects wired Mr. Ahmad more than \$10,000 just hours before their deaths, investigative documents show.

The authorities in the United Arab Emirates have said Mr. Ahmad, who had been visiting the country on a Saudi Arabian passport, left for Pakistan that day.

Federal officials say their effort to choke off Mr. bin Laden's money is an important front in the war on terrorism. Last week, the Bush administration froze the assets of 27 individuals and organizations linked to Mr. bin Laden.

The new list of suspect organizations, now under review by a group of officials led by Treasury Department representatives, includes charities in Saudi Arabia and Chicago, an Arab bank and at least three "hawalas," the informal money-lending networks common in the Arab world. The list is expected to be announced within two weeks.

Privately, Treasury Department officials are urging other governments to freeze assets in the countries that are linked to Mr. bin Laden. "That is the key to this entire effort," one administration official said.

In addition, officials said they were investigating more than 200 other financial entities suspected of aiding or being used by Mr. Bin Laden.

The list of entities is considered delicate, officials said, because the administration wants to prevent suspected individuals and institutions from moving their assets to safety before the targets are officially unveiled. When officials announced the list of organizations last week, they knew few had assets in this country, but an official said some assets overseas had been moved to safety.

The administration is taking aim at organizations with links to Mr. bin Laden's operations. But senior officials decided at a meeting late last week that to monitor and control Al Qaeda's financial assets, the United States and its allies would have to track the broader financial networks of Hamas, Hezbollah and other terrorist groups that Mr. bin Laden occasionally taps for his activities.

Investigators have found traces of money they contend are connected to Mr. bin Laden's activities in a variety of entities. There is evidence that representatives of terrorist groups affiliated with the terror network have trained operatives in the United States to raise money by running credit card scams and food stamp fraud. Also, government officials say, terrorist groups have used wealthy commercial ventures as fronts for moving money, as well as people, around the world.

American officials have long suspected that worldwide charitable organizations have provided critical financial or logistical support to a number of international terrorist attacks. But the government has found it difficult to strike at them. Most of the groups, especially those affiliated with Arab governments, one official said, support legitimate relief efforts and terrorist activities. Sometimes, he added, only a small number of officials in the charity are involved in terrorism. But the Sept. 11 attacks have changed the United States' stance toward those groups.

One organization that officials have strongly recommended including on the list being circulated within the administration is the Benevolence International Foundation. The group has portrayed itself as a purely humanitarian organization. The Saudi-based group, with offices in Waterloo, Ontario, and in Palos Hills, Ill., raised almost \$2.2 million in the United States last year, according to its financial statements.

The group says it is dedicated to helping those harmed by war or natural disaster, and "is currently on the ground in Manhattan trying to determine how best BIF can assist aid and relief efforts to the victims" of the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center.

But statements by the organization's representatives, as well as videos and written information distributed by it, repeatedly glorify martyrdom by Muslims in pursuit of jihad, or holy war, said Steve Emerson, a writer and commentator on terrorism who has long pressed Washington to crack down on this charity and other Islamic nonprofit groups that he says support terrorism.

One video circulated by the group, Mr. Emerson says, features an interview with a father of an Arab-Afghan holy warrior who died in Zenica, Bosnia, near the regional headquarters of Benevolence International.

"I was blessed with his martyrdom," the father says, according to a translation provided by Mr. Emerson. "Our history is glorious and our religion is mighty."

According to one of the group's newsletters last year, seven of the charity's officers were killed in battle last year in Chechnya and Bosnia.

A telephone message left yesterday at Benevolence International's office in Palos Hills was not answered.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to the United States, said in an interview for a New York Times/"Frontline" documentary that giving money to charity was required by Islam and that Riyadh had no evidence that money from any Saudi-based charity went to Al Qaeda. He also said Saudi efforts to trace suspect money went from the kingdom to Europe, and in many cases, to the United States, where the trail ended.

Administration officials are also recommending that an American charity be included on the new list -- the **Global Relief** Foundation, which provides emergency relief, medical aid and engages in other humanitarian efforts around the world.

Global Relief, based in Bridgeview, Ill., long a hub of militant Islamic activity, is also making an appeal on its Web site for victims of the catastrophes at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, though it does not refer to them as terrorist attacks.

Global Relief was originally included two years ago on a list circulated by the Clinton administration of 30 organizations with suspected ties to terrorism. But in an interview last year Stanley Cohen, a lawyer for **Global Relief**, called the investigations of the foundation "another of the government's pathetic attempts to sully committed Islamic organizations." <http://www.nytimes.com>

GRAPHIC: Chart: "The Investigation So Far"

The worldwide investigation has identified 19 hijackers who crashed the four jets on Sept. 11 and uncovered much about their preparations and backgrounds. But while 350 people have been detained and 400 more are sought for questioning, the United States has not identified accomplices or networks linking the attack to Osama bin Laden, the Saudi hiding in Afghanistan whom President Bush has called the prime suspect.

The Suspect

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban, after insisting for weeks it did not know Mr. bin Laden's whereabouts, acknowledged it was hiding him for his own safety. The Taliban has demanded evidence of his guilt as a basis for negotiations, but Washington says it will not negotiate. Reports said that American and British special forces teams were already in Afghanistan searching for him.

The Network

Germany announced the arrests of a Turk and two Yemenis in Wiesbaden as suspects in plots by Islamic terrorists to attack targets in Germany. No link to the hijackers was found, but connections with a terrorist suspect in Hamburg were uncovered, and a search of one suspect's apartment turned up weapons, fake identity papers, maps of German cities and air tickets to Pakistan. Germany has stepped up security, and Chancellor Gerhard Schroder said he did not oppose regular questioning of foreigners seeking German citizenship.

The Money Trail

Federal investigators are preparing to freeze the assets of about two dozen charities, credit card operations, banks and other institutions worldwide that may have been money conduits between Mr. bin Laden and his Al Qaeda terrorist network, and are looking into 200 organizations that may have been involved. (pg. B5)

Map of Germany highlighting Hamburg and Weisbaden. (pg. B5)

LOAD-DATE: October 1, 2001

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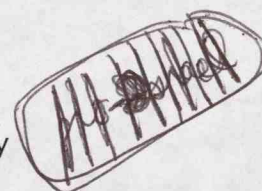
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The New York Times, December 4, 2001

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December 4, 2001, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 9; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 769 words

HEADLINE: U.S. to Block Assets It Says Help Finance Hamas Killers

BYLINE: By JUDITH MILLER

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 3

BODY:

Responding to the weekend's suicide bombings in Israel, President Bush is to announce on Tuesday the freezing of assets of a leading Islamic foundation in the United States and two other financial groups. The groups help finance the militant Palestinian organization Hamas, administration officials said.

The officials and counterterrorism experts said the freeze would apply to the assets of the **Holy Land Foundation** for Relief and Development, a foundation based in Richardson, Tex., that raised \$13 million last year and that says it is the largest Muslim charity in the United States. The other two financial groups are Al Aqsa International Bank, based in the Palestinian-controlled region, and the Beit El-Mal Holdings Company, an investment group in the West Bank and Gaza.

One official said that although the administration had been planning for some time to crack down on groups that handle accounts for Hamas and provide financial support, the suicide bombings, which killed 25 people, prompted the White House to accelerate its action. Hamas, which is already on the State Department terrorist list, has taken responsibility for the attacks.

The planned freezing of assets would be the third such action since October. Early last month, the administration broadened the campaign to seize terrorists' assets beyond groups with links to Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda by imposing stringent financial sanctions on Hamas, Hezbollah and 20 other groups. But few if any of those groups had assets in the United States.

In acting against the **Holy Land Foundation**, one terrorism expert said, the administration is showing that it is ready to act against influential Muslim groups.

A spokesman for the **Holy Land Foundation** denied tonight that the charity is a front for Hamas or that the foundation has tried to help the militants by providing assistance to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers. "Our foundation helps people in need," said Dalal Mohammed, the spokeswoman. "We don't do a test on whether families are in a criminal situation."

Ms. Mohammed said the foundation, which also has offices in Newark and Gaza, has had no



recent contact with the administration.

Spokesmen for Al Aqsa and Beit El-Mal Holdings could not be reached.

Since Sept. 11 pro-Israeli lobbyists and some members of Congress have pressed President Bush to combat terrorism more broadly.

At the same time Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations have urged the administration to concentrate more narrowly on Mr. bin Laden's financial network. They warn that toughening financial penalties on Hamas and other Arab groups might undermine efforts to build a coalition to support the war in Afghanistan and the political and financial campaign against terrorism.

The decision to accelerate plans to act against agencies in the United States and abroad that are seen as Hamas financial supporters reflects the administration's determination to take more than symbolic action to cut off funds for such groups, one official said. According to government documents, Washington has been investigating the **Holy Land Foundation** since 1996.

Israel, contending that the **Holy Land foundation** was a front for Hamas, closed it and four other charities in May 1997. Two years ago the family of an American killed in a terrorist attack in Israel filed a civil suit against Holy Land, seeking monetary damages in what the suit contended was the group's support of Hamas-inspired terrorism.

The United States began tangling with the foundation's fund-raising in August 2000, when the State Department asked the Agency for International Development to withdraw its registration from the foundation, saying it had ties to Hamas. The registration made Holy Land eligible for relief goods through A.I.D.

It is not known whether Al Aqsa and Beil El-Mal have assets in the United States.

Al Aqsa International Bank was founded in 1997 with \$20 million in capital, but did not start operating until September 1999. The bank is owned by the Jordanian Islamic Bank and by Beit El-Mal ("The Money House"), a Palestinian company, among other investors. A terrorism expert in Washington said that Al Aqsa bank and Beit El-Mal have overlapping boards and that most Beit El-Mal stockholders also hold stock in Al Aqsa.

Israel outlawed Beit El-Mal in May 1998, saying it was connected to Hamas. According to an indictment filed in Israel in 1997 in a terrorism case, Beit El-Mal, which operated in the West Bank and in Israel, was channeling money from "hostile elements to the military wing of Hamas."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, December 5, 2001

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December 5, 2001, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 8; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 741 words

HEADLINE: MIDEAST FLARE-UP: THE GRIP TIGHTENS;
Bush Freezes Assets of Biggest U.S. Muslim Charity, Calling It a Deadly Terror Group

BYLINE: By DAVID E. SANGER and JUDITH MILLER

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 4

BODY:

President Bush significantly broadened his counterattack on terrorist groups today, freezing the assets of the largest Muslim charity in the United States. Mr. Bush accused the charity of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that took responsibility for three suicide bombings in Israel over the weekend.

Mr. Bush's announcement was a strong demonstration of solidarity with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel, who has urged that Hamas be treated with the same severity as Al Qaeda's terrorist network. White House officials said they had planned to move against the charity and two banks that helped finance Hamas later this month, but sped up the action after the bombings, which killed 25 people and wounded almost 200, many of them teenagers.

Treasury officials said the charity, the **Holy Land** Foundation for Relief and Development, based in Richardson, Tex., had been under investigation since 1993.

In a statement the charity denied allegations that it provides financial support to terrorists. It said "the decision by the U.S. government to seize the charitable donations of Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan is an affront to millions of Muslim Americans."

A senior official said the administration had delayed acting for fear of harming the F.B.I. investigation of the charity. Search warrants were executed today when federal officials seized documents at the charity headquarters and other offices.

International political considerations were also in play, other administration officials said. The White House debated whether moving against Arab extremist groups could weaken the coalition Mr. Bush has assembled in the war on Afghanistan. "The bombings changed the politics of this considerably," a senior administration official said.

Speaking in the Rose Garden this morning, Mr. Bush appeared to side with Mr. Sharon in his characterization of Hamas. "Hamas is one of the deadliest terror organizations in the world today," he said, adding that it "has obtained much of the money it pays for murder abroad right here in the United States."

The statement was something of a turnaround for the administration. Its first list of terrorist groups subject to American action, released days after the Sept. 11 attacks, made no reference to Hamas. A second list released in October called Hamas and some 20 other militant groups terrorist organizations, but said few had assets in the United States.

It is difficult to assess how effective the administration's new campaign will be in slowing Hamas. Officials said the group relied on American charities that solicit funds in many mosques around the country for tens of millions of dollars each year. Hamas has long said that the money goes to social causes, easing the suffering of Palestinians. The Treasury and F.B.I. say they have evidence the money is siphoned to the organization's terrorist arm.

The State Department says that Hamas also receives some funding from Iran, but even more from wealthy patrons in Saudi Arabia and Palestinian expatriates in the gulf. The success of the Bush administration's crackdown will depend largely on its ability to persuade those countries to follow suit.

Mr. Bush and Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said today that they believe many Muslims who contributed to the **Holy Land** Foundation did not know where their money was going. "Innocent donors who thought they were helping someone in need deserve protection from these scam artists," Mr. O'Neill said at the White House. The Treasury also announced action against the Al Aqsa Bank and the Beit al Mal Holdings Company, a bank that it described as "direct arms of Hamas."

So far, a half dozen banks in the United States have frozen \$1.9 million of the **Holy Land** Foundation's assets, Treasury officials said today.

In Richardson, F.B.I. agents and local police officers stood guard outside the **Holy Land** Foundation offices as movers removed items such as file cabinets, office furniture and computers in accordance with President Bush's order.

Movers using a tractor-trailer arrived with the seizure notice at about 8 a.m. and worked into the night.

Steven Emerson, an expert in Islamic terror networks, said that the United States knew as early as 1993 that Hamas leaders were "meeting in America and using **Holy Land** Foundation as a conduit to raise money for terrorism, recruit support, and undermine the U.S.-sponsored peace process." <http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, December 15, 2001

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December 15, 2001, Saturday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 6; Column 1; National Desk

LENGTH: 688 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE MONEY TRAIL;
F.B.I. Raids 2 of the Biggest Muslim Charities; Assets of One Are Seized

BYLINE: By PHILIP SHENON

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 14

BODY:

F.B.I. agents raided the offices of two of the nation's largest Muslim charities today in what Bush administration officials described as a broadening of its campaign to shut a financial pipeline to terrorist groups overseas.

The government announced few details about the raids on the charities, the **Global Relief Foundation** and the Benevolence International Foundation, both of Illinois, and refused to say what terrorist groups might be linked to them. The Federal Bureau of Investigation would not say what information it seized. Last week, federal law enforcement agents froze the assets and searched the office of another large Muslim charity, the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, in Richardson, Tex. In that case, the government detailed its allegations, accusing the foundation of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that has taken responsibility for a series of recent suicide bombings in Israel.

Global Relief and Benevolence International have repeatedly denied links to terrorism. They have insisted that the millions of dollars in contributions that they receive each year are used for vital development and emergency-aid projects around the world, focused on nations with large Muslim populations.

The Treasury Department said after the raids that it had frozen the assets of **Global Relief**, in Bridgeview, a Chicago suburb. A spokesman for the department, Tony Fratto, said in Washington, "There was coordinated action to block the assets, because this group is suspected of funding terrorist activities."

Asked what terrorist groups might have received money from **Global Relief**, Mr. Fratto would not answer directly, saying, "This extraordinary action was taken because it's relevant to the health and safety of the American public."

He would not say whether similar action would be taken against Benevolence International, in Palos Hills, also outside Chicago.

A lawyer for **Global Relief**, Roger Simmons, said that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Treasury Department had searched the charity's offices this afternoon, as well as the home of its executive director, but that the agents refused to describe the

reasons for the search.

He said freezing the assets would affect \$500,000 in donations in the United States and \$100,000 held in Pakistan. **Global Relief** had total donations last year of \$5.2 million.

"We have nothing to hide," Mr. Simmons said, describing **Global Relief** as a "truly humanitarian" organization that has helped save lives in several Muslim nations, including Pakistan and Afghanistan. He noted that **Global Relief** officials had condemned the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in public statements.

"I can only give theories," he said. "But it appears that these people are being investigated because they are a) Islamic, b) Islamic charities and c) delivering relief in areas where there are a lot of troubles going on."

He also accused the government of raiding the group's offices and freezing its assets as a favor to The New York Times and other large news organizations that have recently been sued by **Global Relief** for defamation. "It appears to be helping out The New York Times," he said.

Mr. Fratto of the Treasury Department said the action "had nothing to do with the independent work of the American media."

In a separate statement, **Global Relief** said freezing its assets would halt deliveries of medicine, food and other aid and "risk the slow starvation and gruesome death in parts of the Muslim world that rely on such badly needed aid."

The statement noted the timing of the move, at the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, "when Muslim-Americans are most generous in opening up their pocketbooks to help those in need."

Spokesmen for Benevolence International did not return calls. On its Web site, benevolence.org, the charity says it has aid projects in several Muslim nations, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Pakistan. The site says Benevolence International was among "the first humanitarian agencies to respond to the terrorist attacks" on Sept. 11 with offers of assistance. <http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, October 1, 2001

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October 1, 2001, Monday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 1; Column 3; National Desk

LENGTH: 1169 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE INVESTIGATION;
U.S. SET TO WIDEN FINANCIAL ASSAULT

BYLINE: By JUDITH **MILLER** with KURT **EICHENWALD**

BODY:

Widening the financial assault on Osama bin Laden, administration officials are preparing to freeze the assets of about two dozen more charities and other organizations that are suspected of providing money and support to his terrorist operations, government officials said yesterday.

Officials tracking Mr. bin Laden's Al Qaeda network say they have found a sophisticated financial infrastructure that stretches from the United Arab Emirates to Europe to Indonesia, and uses mechanisms as varied as charitable organizations, manufacturing companies and credit card fraud to raise money and move it around the globe. Investigators say one focus of their hunt is Mustafa Ahmad, who they contend helped arrange the financing of the Sept. 11 attacks and plays a broader role in the finances of Mr. bin Laden's group. Federal agents have evidence that money was wired between Mr. Ahmad and Mohamed Atta, identified as a leading figure in the plot, in the days before the attacks.

Two other hijacking suspects wired Mr. Ahmad more than \$10,000 just hours before their deaths, investigative documents show.

The authorities in the United Arab Emirates have said Mr. Ahmad, who had been visiting the country on a Saudi Arabian passport, left for Pakistan that day.

Federal officials say their effort to choke off Mr. bin Laden's money is an important front in the war on terrorism. Last week, the Bush administration froze the assets of 27 individuals and organizations linked to Mr. bin Laden.

The new list of suspect organizations, now under review by a group of officials led by Treasury Department representatives, includes charities in Saudi Arabia and Chicago, an Arab bank and at least three "hawalas," the informal money-lending networks common in the Arab world. The list is expected to be announced within two weeks.

Privately, Treasury Department officials are urging other governments to freeze assets in the countries that are linked to Mr. bin Laden. "That is the key to this entire effort," one administration official said.

In addition, officials said they were investigating more than 200 other financial entities suspected of aiding or being used by Mr. Bin Laden.

The list of entities is considered delicate, officials said, because the administration wants to prevent suspected individuals and institutions from moving their assets to safety before the targets are officially unveiled. When officials announced the list of organizations last week, they knew few had assets in this country, but an official said some assets overseas had been moved to safety.

The administration is taking aim at organizations with links to Mr. bin Laden's operations. But senior officials decided at a meeting late last week that to monitor and control Al Qaeda's financial assets, the United States and its allies would have to track the broader financial networks of Hamas, Hezbollah and other terrorist groups that Mr. bin Laden occasionally taps for his activities.

Investigators have found traces of money they contend are connected to Mr. bin Laden's activities in a variety of entities. There is evidence that representatives of terrorist groups affiliated with the terror network have trained operatives in the United States to raise money by running credit card scams and food stamp fraud. Also, government officials say, terrorist groups have used wealthy commercial ventures as fronts for moving money, as well as people, around the world.

American officials have long suspected that worldwide charitable organizations have provided critical financial or logistical support to a number of international terrorist attacks. But the government has found it difficult to strike at them. Most of the groups, especially those affiliated with Arab governments, one official said, support legitimate relief efforts and terrorist activities. Sometimes, he added, only a small number of officials in the charity are involved in terrorism. But the Sept. 11 attacks have changed the United States' stance toward those groups.

One organization that officials have strongly recommended including on the list being circulated within the administration is the Benevolence International Foundation. The group has portrayed itself as a purely humanitarian organization. The Saudi-based group, with offices in Waterloo, Ontario, and in Palos Hills, Ill., raised almost \$2.2 million in the United States last year, according to its financial statements.

The group says it is dedicated to helping those harmed by war or natural disaster, and "is currently on the ground in Manhattan trying to determine how best BIF can assist aid and relief efforts to the victims" of the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center.

But statements by the organization's representatives, as well as videos and written information distributed by it, repeatedly glorify martyrdom by Muslims in pursuit of jihad, or holy war, said Steve Emerson, a writer and commentator on terrorism who has long pressed Washington to crack down on this charity and other Islamic nonprofit groups that he says support terrorism.

One video circulated by the group, Mr. Emerson says, features an interview with a father of an Arab-Afghan holy warrior who died in Zenica, Bosnia, near the regional headquarters of Benevolence International.

"I was blessed with his martyrdom," the father says, according to a translation provided by Mr. Emerson. "Our history is glorious and our religion is mighty."

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A telephone message left yesterday at Benevolence International's office in Palos Hills was not answered.

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to the United States, said in an interview for a New York Times/"Frontline" documentary that giving money to charity was required by Islam and that Riyadh had no evidence that money from any Saudi-based charity went to Al Qaeda. He also said Saudi efforts to trace suspect money went from the kingdom to Europe, and in many cases, to the United States, where the trail ended.

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Global Relief, based in Bridgeview, Ill., long a hub of militant Islamic activity, is also making an appeal on its Web site for victims of the catastrophes at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, though it does not refer to them as terrorist attacks.

Global Relief was originally included two years ago on a list circulated by the Clinton administration of 30 organizations with suspected ties to terrorism. But in an interview last year Stanley Cohen, a lawyer for **Global Relief**, called the investigations of the foundation "another of the government's pathetic attempts to sully committed Islamic organizations."
<http://www.nytimes.com>

GRAPHIC: Chart: "The Investigation So Far"

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The Suspect

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban, after insisting for weeks it did not know Mr. bin Laden's whereabouts, acknowledged it was hiding him for his own safety. The Taliban has demanded evidence of his guilt as a basis for negotiations, but Washington says it will not negotiate. Reports said that American and British special forces teams were already in Afghanistan searching for him.

The Network

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The Money Trail

Federal investigators are preparing to freeze the assets of about two dozen charities, credit card operations, banks and other institutions worldwide that may have been money conduits between Mr. bin Laden and his Al Qaeda terrorist network, and are looking into 200 organizations that may have been involved. (pg. B5)

Map of Germany highlighting Hamburg and Weisbaden. (pg. B5)

LOAD-DATE: October 1, 2001

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The New York Times, December 4, 2001

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December 4, 2001, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 9; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 769 words

HEADLINE: U.S. to Block Assets It Says Help Finance Hamas Killers

BYLINE: By JUDITH MILLER

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 3

BODY:

Responding to the weekend's suicide bombings in Israel, President Bush is to announce on Tuesday the freezing of assets of a leading Islamic foundation in the United States and two other financial groups. The groups help finance the militant Palestinian organization Hamas, administration officials said.

The officials and counterterrorism experts said the freeze would apply to the assets of the **Holy Land Foundation** for Relief and Development, a foundation based in Richardson, Tex., that raised \$13 million last year and that says it is the largest Muslim charity in the United States. The other two financial groups are Al Aqsa International Bank, based in the Palestinian-controlled region, and the Beit El-Mal Holdings Company, an investment group in the West Bank and Gaza.

One official said that although the administration had been planning for some time to crack down on groups that handle accounts for Hamas and provide financial support, the suicide bombings, which killed 25 people, prompted the White House to accelerate its action. Hamas, which is already on the State Department terrorist list, has taken responsibility for the attacks.

The planned freezing of assets would be the third such action since October. Early last month, the administration broadened the campaign to seize terrorists' assets beyond groups with links to Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda by imposing stringent financial sanctions on Hamas, Hezbollah and 20 other groups. But few if any of those groups had assets in the United States.

In acting against the **Holy Land Foundation**, one terrorism expert said, the administration is showing that it is ready to act against influential Muslim groups.

A spokesman for the **Holy Land Foundation** denied tonight that the charity is a front for Hamas or that the foundation has tried to help the militants by providing assistance to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers. "Our foundation helps people in need," said Dalal Mohammed, the spokeswoman. "We don't do a test on whether families are in a criminal situation."

Ms. Mohammed said the foundation, which also has offices in Newark and Gaza, has had no

recent contact with the administration.

Spokesmen for Al Aqsa and Beit El-Mal Holdings could not be reached.

Since Sept. 11 pro-Israeli lobbyists and some members of Congress have pressed President Bush to combat terrorism more broadly.

At the same time Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations have urged the administration to concentrate more narrowly on Mr. bin Laden's financial network. They warn that toughening financial penalties on Hamas and other Arab groups might undermine efforts to build a coalition to support the war in Afghanistan and the political and financial campaign against terrorism.

The decision to accelerate plans to act against agencies in the United States and abroad that are seen as Hamas financial supporters reflects the administration's determination to take more than symbolic action to cut off funds for such groups, one official said. According to government documents, Washington has been investigating the **Holy Land Foundation** since 1996.

Israel, contending that the **Holy Land foundation** was a front for Hamas, closed it and four other charities in May 1997. Two years ago the family of an American killed in a terrorist attack in Israel filed a civil suit against Holy Land, seeking monetary damages in what the suit contended was the group's support of Hamas-inspired terrorism.

The United States began tangling with the foundation's fund-raising in August 2000, when the State Department asked the Agency for International Development to withdraw its registration from the foundation, saying it had ties to Hamas. The registration made Holy Land eligible for relief goods through A.I.D.

It is not known whether Al Aqsa and Beil El-Mal have assets in the United States.

Al Aqsa International Bank was founded in 1997 with \$20 million in capital, but did not start operating until September 1999. The bank is owned by the Jordanian Islamic Bank and by Beit El-Mal ("The Money House"), a Palestinian company, among other investors. A terrorism expert in Washington said that Al Aqsa bank and Beit El-Mal have overlapping boards and that most Beit El-Mal stockholders also hold stock in Al Aqsa.

Israel outlawed Beit El-Mal in May 1998, saying it was connected to Hamas. According to an indictment filed in Israel in 1997 in a terrorism case, Beit El-Mal, which operated in the West Bank and in Israel, was channeling money from "hostile elements to the military wing of Hamas."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

LOAD-DATE: December 4, 2001

Source: [All Sources](#) > [News](#) > [News Group File, Most Recent Two Years](#) 

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The New York Times, December 5, 2001

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December 5, 2001, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 8; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 741 words

HEADLINE: MIDEAST FLARE-UP: THE GRIP TIGHTENS;
Bush Freezes Assets of Biggest U.S. Muslim Charity, Calling It a Deadly Terror Group

BYLINE: By DAVID E. SANGER and JUDITH **MILLER**

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 4

BODY:

President Bush significantly broadened his counterattack on terrorist groups today, freezing the assets of the largest Muslim charity in the United States. Mr. Bush accused the charity of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that took responsibility for three suicide bombings in Israel over the weekend.

Mr. Bush's announcement was a strong demonstration of solidarity with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel, who has urged that Hamas be treated with the same severity as Al Qaeda's terrorist network. White House officials said they had planned to move against the charity and two banks that helped finance Hamas later this month, but sped up the action after the bombings, which killed 25 people and wounded almost 200, many of them teenagers.

Treasury officials said the charity, the **Holy Land** Foundation for Relief and Development, based in Richardson, Tex., had been under investigation since 1993.

In a statement the charity denied allegations that it provides financial support to terrorists. It said "the decision by the U.S. government to seize the charitable donations of Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan is an affront to millions of Muslim Americans."

A senior official said the administration had delayed acting for fear of harming the F.B.I. investigation of the charity. Search warrants were executed today when federal officials seized documents at the charity headquarters and other offices.

International political considerations were also in play, other administration officials said. The White House debated whether moving against Arab extremist groups could weaken the coalition Mr. Bush has assembled in the war on Afghanistan. "The bombings changed the politics of this considerably," a senior administration official said.

Speaking in the Rose Garden this morning, Mr. Bush appeared to side with Mr. Sharon in his characterization of Hamas. "Hamas is one of the deadliest terror organizations in the world today," he said, adding that it "has obtained much of the money it pays for murder abroad right here in the United States."

The statement was something of a turnaround for the administration. Its first list of terrorist groups subject to American action, released days after the Sept. 11 attacks, made no reference to Hamas. A second list released in October called Hamas and some 20 other militant groups terrorist organizations, but said few had assets in the United States.

It is difficult to assess how effective the administration's new campaign will be in slowing Hamas. Officials said the group relied on American charities that solicit funds in many mosques around the country for tens of millions of dollars each year. Hamas has long said that the money goes to social causes, easing the suffering of Palestinians. The Treasury and F.B.I. say they have evidence the money is siphoned to the organization's terrorist arm.

The State Department says that Hamas also receives some funding from Iran, but even more from wealthy patrons in Saudi Arabia and Palestinian expatriates in the gulf. The success of the Bush administration's crackdown will depend largely on its ability to persuade those countries to follow suit.

Mr. Bush and Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said today that they believe many Muslims who contributed to the **Holy Land** Foundation did not know where their money was going. "Innocent donors who thought they were helping someone in need deserve protection from these scam artists," Mr. O'Neill said at the White House. The Treasury also announced action against the Al Aqsa Bank and the Beit al Mal Holdings Company, a bank that it described as "direct arms of Hamas."

So far, a half dozen banks in the United States have frozen \$1.9 million of the **Holy Land** Foundation's assets, Treasury officials said today.

In Richardson, F.B.I. agents and local police officers stood guard outside the **Holy Land** Foundation offices as movers removed items such as file cabinets, office furniture and computers in accordance with President Bush's order.

Movers using a tractor-trailer arrived with the seizure notice at about 8 a.m. and worked into the night.

Steven Emerson, an expert in Islamic terror networks, said that the United States knew as early as 1993 that Hamas leaders were "meeting in America and using **Holy Land** Foundation as a conduit to raise money for terrorism, recruit support, and undermine the U.S.-sponsored peace process." <http://www.nytimes.com>

LOAD-DATE: December 5, 2001

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The New York Times, December 15, 2001

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December 15, 2001, Saturday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 6; Column 1; National Desk

LENGTH: 688 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE MONEY TRAIL;
F.B.I. Raids 2 of the Biggest Muslim Charities; Assets of One Are Seized

BYLINE: By PHILIP **SHENON**

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 14

BODY:

F.B.I. agents raided the offices of two of the nation's largest Muslim charities today in what Bush administration officials described as a broadening of its campaign to shut a financial pipeline to terrorist groups overseas.

The government announced few details about the raids on the charities, the **Global Relief** Foundation and the Benevolence International Foundation, both of Illinois, and refused to say what terrorist groups might be linked to them. The Federal Bureau of Investigation would not say what information it seized. Last week, federal law enforcement agents froze the assets and searched the office of another large Muslim charity, the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, in Richardson, Tex. In that case, the government detailed its allegations, accusing the foundation of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that has taken responsibility for a series of recent suicide bombings in Israel.

Global Relief and Benevolence International have repeatedly denied links to terrorism. They have insisted that the millions of dollars in contributions that they receive each year are used for vital development and emergency-aid projects around the world, focused on nations with large Muslim populations.

The Treasury Department said after the raids that it had frozen the assets of **Global Relief**, in Bridgeview, a Chicago suburb. A spokesman for the department, Tony Fratto, said in Washington, "There was coordinated action to block the assets, because this group is suspected of funding terrorist activities."

Asked what terrorist groups might have received money from **Global Relief**, Mr. Fratto would not answer directly, saying, "This extraordinary action was taken because it's relevant to the health and safety of the American public."

He would not say whether similar action would be taken against Benevolence International, in Palos Hills, also outside Chicago.

A lawyer for **Global Relief**, Roger Simmons, said that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Treasury Department had searched the charity's offices this afternoon, as well as the home of its executive director, but that the agents refused to describe the

reasons for the search.

He said freezing the assets would affect \$500,000 in donations in the United States and \$100,000 held in Pakistan. **Global Relief** had total donations last year of \$5.2 million.

"We have nothing to hide," Mr. Simmons said, describing **Global Relief** as a "truly humanitarian" organization that has helped save lives in several Muslim nations, including Pakistan and Afghanistan. He noted that **Global Relief** officials had condemned the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in public statements.

"I can only give theories," he said. "But it appears that these people are being investigated because they are a) Islamic, b) Islamic charities and c) delivering relief in areas where there are a lot of troubles going on."

He also accused the government of raiding the group's offices and freezing its assets as a favor to The New York Times and other large news organizations that have recently been sued by **Global Relief** for defamation. "It appears to be helping out The New York Times," he said.

Mr. Fratto of the Treasury Department said the action "had nothing to do with the independent work of the American media."

In a separate statement, **Global Relief** said freezing its assets would halt deliveries of medicine, food and other aid and "risk the slow starvation and gruesome death in parts of the Muslim world that rely on such badly needed aid."

The statement noted the timing of the move, at the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, "when Muslim-Americans are most generous in opening up their pocketbooks to help those in need."

Spokesmen for Benevolence International did not return calls. On its Web site, benevolence.org, the charity says it has aid projects in several Muslim nations, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Pakistan. The site says Benevolence International was among "the first humanitarian agencies to respond to the terrorist attacks" on Sept. 11 with offers of assistance. <http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, October 1, 2001

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October 1, 2001, Monday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 1; Column 3; National Desk

LENGTH: 1169 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE INVESTIGATION;
U.S. SET TO WIDEN FINANCIAL ASSAULT

BYLINE: By JUDITH **MILLER** with KURT **EICHENWALD**

BODY:

Widening the financial assault on Osama bin Laden, administration officials are preparing to freeze the assets of about two dozen more charities and other organizations that are suspected of providing money and support to his terrorist operations, government officials said yesterday.

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Map of Germany highlighting Hamburg and Weisbaden. (pg. B5)

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The New York Times, December 4, 2001

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December 4, 2001, Tuesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 9; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 769 words

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The planned freezing of assets would be the third such action since October. Early last month, the administration broadened the campaign to seize terrorists' assets beyond groups with links to Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda by imposing stringent financial sanctions on Hamas, Hezbollah and 20 other groups. But few if any of those groups had assets in the United States.

In acting against the **Holy Land Foundation**, one terrorism expert said, the administration is showing that it is ready to act against influential Muslim groups.

A spokesman for the **Holy Land Foundation** denied tonight that the charity is a front for Hamas or that the foundation has tried to help the militants by providing assistance to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers. "Our foundation helps people in need," said Dalal Mohammed, the spokeswoman. "We don't do a test on whether families are in a criminal situation."

Ms. Mohammed said the foundation, which also has offices in Newark and Gaza, has had no

recent contact with the administration.

Spokesmen for Al Aqsa and Beit El-Mal Holdings could not be reached.

Since Sept. 11 pro-Israeli lobbyists and some members of Congress have pressed President Bush to combat terrorism more broadly.

At the same time Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations have urged the administration to concentrate more narrowly on Mr. bin Laden's financial network. They warn that toughening financial penalties on Hamas and other Arab groups might undermine efforts to build a coalition to support the war in Afghanistan and the political and financial campaign against terrorism.

The decision to accelerate plans to act against agencies in the United States and abroad that are seen as Hamas financial supporters reflects the administration's determination to take more than symbolic action to cut off funds for such groups, one official said. According to government documents, Washington has been investigating the **Holy Land Foundation** since 1996.

Israel, contending that the **Holy Land foundation** was a front for Hamas, closed it and four other charities in May 1997. Two years ago the family of an American killed in a terrorist attack in Israel filed a civil suit against Holy Land, seeking monetary damages in what the suit contended was the group's support of Hamas-inspired terrorism.

The United States began tangling with the foundation's fund-raising in August 2000, when the State Department asked the Agency for International Development to withdraw its registration from the foundation, saying it had ties to Hamas. The registration made Holy Land eligible for relief goods through A.I.D.

It is not known whether Al Aqsa and Beil El-Mal have assets in the United States.

Al Aqsa International Bank was founded in 1997 with \$20 million in capital, but did not start operating until September 1999. The bank is owned by the Jordanian Islamic Bank and by Beit El-Mal ("The Money House"), a Palestinian company, among other investors. A terrorism expert in Washington said that Al Aqsa bank and Beit El-Mal have overlapping boards and that most Beit El-Mal stockholders also hold stock in Al Aqsa.

Israel outlawed Beit El-Mal in May 1998, saying it was connected to Hamas. According to an indictment filed in Israel in 1997 in a terrorism case, Beit El-Mal, which operated in the West Bank and in Israel, was channeling money from "hostile elements to the military wing of Hamas."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, December 5, 2001

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December 5, 2001, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section A; Page 8; Column 1; Foreign Desk

LENGTH: 741 words

HEADLINE: MIDEAST FLARE-UP: THE GRIP TIGHTENS;
Bush Freezes Assets of Biggest U.S. Muslim Charity, Calling It a Deadly Terror Group

BYLINE: By DAVID E. SANGER and JUDITH **MILLER**

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 4

BODY:

President Bush significantly broadened his counterattack on terrorist groups today, freezing the assets of the largest Muslim charity in the United States. Mr. Bush accused the charity of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that took responsibility for three suicide bombings in Israel over the weekend.

Mr. Bush's announcement was a strong demonstration of solidarity with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel, who has urged that Hamas be treated with the same severity as Al Qaeda's terrorist network. White House officials said they had planned to move against the charity and two banks that helped finance Hamas later this month, but sped up the action after the bombings, which killed 25 people and wounded almost 200, many of them teenagers.

Treasury officials said the charity, the **Holy Land** Foundation for Relief and Development, based in Richardson, Tex., had been under investigation since 1993.

In a statement the charity denied allegations that it provides financial support to terrorists. It said "the decision by the U.S. government to seize the charitable donations of Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan is an affront to millions of Muslim Americans."

A senior official said the administration had delayed acting for fear of harming the F.B.I. investigation of the charity. Search warrants were executed today when federal officials seized documents at the charity headquarters and other offices.

International political considerations were also in play, other administration officials said. The White House debated whether moving against Arab extremist groups could weaken the coalition Mr. Bush has assembled in the war on Afghanistan. "The bombings changed the politics of this considerably," a senior administration official said.

Speaking in the Rose Garden this morning, Mr. Bush appeared to side with Mr. Sharon in his characterization of Hamas. "Hamas is one of the deadliest terror organizations in the world today," he said, adding that it "has obtained much of the money it pays for murder abroad right here in the United States."

The statement was something of a turnaround for the administration. Its first list of terrorist groups subject to American action, released days after the Sept. 11 attacks, made no reference to Hamas. A second list released in October called Hamas and some 20 other militant groups terrorist organizations, but said few had assets in the United States.

It is difficult to assess how effective the administration's new campaign will be in slowing Hamas. Officials said the group relied on American charities that solicit funds in many mosques around the country for tens of millions of dollars each year. Hamas has long said that the money goes to social causes, easing the suffering of Palestinians. The Treasury and F.B.I. say they have evidence the money is siphoned to the organization's terrorist arm.

The State Department says that Hamas also receives some funding from Iran, but even more from wealthy patrons in Saudi Arabia and Palestinian expatriates in the gulf. The success of the Bush administration's crackdown will depend largely on its ability to persuade those countries to follow suit.

Mr. Bush and Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill said today that they believe many Muslims who contributed to the **Holy Land** Foundation did not know where their money was going. "Innocent donors who thought they were helping someone in need deserve protection from these scam artists," Mr. O'Neill said at the White House. The Treasury also announced action against the Al Aqsa Bank and the Beit al Mal Holdings Company, a bank that it described as "direct arms of Hamas."

So far, a half dozen banks in the United States have frozen \$1.9 million of the **Holy Land** Foundation's assets, Treasury officials said today.

In Richardson, F.B.I. agents and local police officers stood guard outside the **Holy Land** Foundation offices as movers removed items such as file cabinets, office furniture and computers in accordance with President Bush's order.

Movers using a tractor-trailer arrived with the seizure notice at about 8 a.m. and worked into the night.

Steven Emerson, an expert in Islamic terror networks, said that the United States knew as early as 1993 that Hamas leaders were "meeting in America and using **Holy Land** Foundation as a conduit to raise money for terrorism, recruit support, and undermine the U.S.-sponsored peace process." <http://www.nytimes.com>

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The New York Times, December 15, 2001

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December 15, 2001, Saturday, Late Edition - Final

SECTION: Section B; Page 6; Column 1; National Desk

LENGTH: 688 words

HEADLINE: A NATION CHALLENGED: THE MONEY TRAIL;
F.B.I. Raids 2 of the Biggest Muslim Charities; Assets of One Are Seized

BYLINE: By PHILIP SHENON

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Dec. 14

BODY:

F.B.I. agents raided the offices of two of the nation's largest Muslim charities today in what Bush administration officials described as a broadening of its campaign to shut a financial pipeline to terrorist groups overseas.

The government announced few details about the raids on the charities, the **Global Relief** Foundation and the Benevolence International Foundation, both of Illinois, and refused to say what terrorist groups might be linked to them. The Federal Bureau of Investigation would not say what information it seized. Last week, federal law enforcement agents froze the assets and searched the office of another large Muslim charity, the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development, in Richardson, Tex. In that case, the government detailed its allegations, accusing the foundation of supporting Hamas, the Palestinian militant group that has taken responsibility for a series of recent suicide bombings in Israel.

Global Relief and Benevolence International have repeatedly denied links to terrorism. They have insisted that the millions of dollars in contributions that they receive each year are used for vital development and emergency-aid projects around the world, focused on nations with large Muslim populations.

The Treasury Department said after the raids that it had frozen the assets of **Global Relief**, in Bridgeview, a Chicago suburb. A spokesman for the department, Tony Fratto, said in Washington, "There was coordinated action to block the assets, because this group is suspected of funding terrorist activities."

Asked what terrorist groups might have received money from **Global Relief**, Mr. Fratto would not answer directly, saying, "This extraordinary action was taken because it's relevant to the health and safety of the American public."

He would not say whether similar action would be taken against Benevolence International, in Palos Hills, also outside Chicago.

A lawyer for **Global Relief**, Roger Simmons, said that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Treasury Department had searched the charity's offices this afternoon, as well as the home of its executive director, but that the agents refused to describe the

reasons for the search.

He said freezing the assets would affect \$500,000 in donations in the United States and \$100,000 held in Pakistan. **Global Relief** had total donations last year of \$5.2 million.

"We have nothing to hide," Mr. Simmons said, describing **Global Relief** as a "truly humanitarian" organization that has helped save lives in several Muslim nations, including Pakistan and Afghanistan. He noted that **Global Relief** officials had condemned the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in public statements.

"I can only give theories," he said. "But it appears that these people are being investigated because they are a) Islamic, b) Islamic charities and c) delivering relief in areas where there are a lot of troubles going on."

He also accused the government of raiding the group's offices and freezing its assets as a favor to The New York Times and other large news organizations that have recently been sued by **Global Relief** for defamation. "It appears to be helping out The New York Times," he said.

Mr. Fratto of the Treasury Department said the action "had nothing to do with the independent work of the American media."

In a separate statement, **Global Relief** said freezing its assets would halt deliveries of medicine, food and other aid and "risk the slow starvation and gruesome death in parts of the Muslim world that rely on such badly needed aid."

The statement noted the timing of the move, at the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, "when Muslim-Americans are most generous in opening up their pocketbooks to help those in need."

Spokesmen for Benevolence International did not return calls. On its Web site, benevolence.org, the charity says it has aid projects in several Muslim nations, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Pakistan. The site says Benevolence International was among "the first humanitarian agencies to respond to the terrorist attacks" on Sept. 11 with offers of assistance. <http://www.nytimes.com>

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 Jay P. Lefkowitz
07/16/2002 05:56:38 PM

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To: Brett M. Kavanaugh/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Outside validators

per our discussion.

----- Forwarded by Jay P. Lefkowitz/OPD/EOP on 07/16/2002 05:56 PM -----

 Jay P. Lefkowitz
09/24/2001 04:45:00 PM

*Myers
Stremason
validating W&L*

Record Type: Record

To: Joseph M. Myers/NSC/EOP@EOP

cc: anna m. perez/nsc/eop@eop, jennifer k. millerwise/who/eop@eop, michele.davis@do.treas.gov, michael r. fenzel/nsc/eop@eop

bcc: Records Management@EOP

Subject: Re: Outside validators 

I have been in touch with Rubin, Webster and Bremer and they are all awaiting guidance from Jennifer or Michele on media events. (I couldn't reach Eisenstadt)

I would be happy to call Krauthammer and Gigot, whom I know well, and brief them, if Elliot wants to split up the names.

Joseph M. Myers

 Joseph M. Myers
09/24/2001 04:10:46 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Anna M. Perez/NSC/EOP@EOP, Jennifer K. Millerwise/WHO/EOP@EOP

cc: Jay P. Lefkowitz/OMB/EOP@EOP, michele.davis@do.treas.gov, Michael R. Fenzel/NSC/EOP@EOP

Subject: Outside validators

This is what I know has happened thus far on the validators:

Larry Summers, former Treasury Secretary, was contacted by yours truly on Saturday night. As president of Harvard, he is reluctant to do a bunch of interviews, but he offered to speak to a wire service in support of the EO. He is prepared to give a couple of sentences designed to calm potential fears of foreign banks: "authority, prudently exercised, should not interfere with legitimate commerce . . . provide leverage, etc." I

confirmed with Larry last night, and faxed him the fact sheet and the Qs and As this morning. His office phone number is 617-495-1501.

Jonathan Winer, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State (INL), is fully briefed up and has already been on ABC radio supporting the effort. He is scheduled to testify before the Senate Banking Committee on Wednesday, where he will further support the EO and the follow-on process. Office phone 202-756-3300.

Our office has been in touch with Steve Emerson, a widely respected investigative reporter and expert on terrorism. Elliot Abrams offered to call him, as well, but I don't think it's necessary. He would be an excellent reference for any news outlet, and can be reached at 202-363-8602.

Will Wechsler, who used to handle this issue for NSC/TNT, would also be a good reference from the former administration. Will can be reached at 203-625-5018.

Bruce Riedel gave us several names, all of which I passed to Jay. I don't have contact info:

Ned Walker, former Asst. Sec State, generally pro-Arab, good for credibility.
Bob Oakley, former Amb. to Pakistan, served on the NSC staff under Reagan
Ed Djerjian, former Amb. to Syria, very credible
Robin Wright, LA Times, has written extensively on Islamic fundamentalism
Elaine Scalino, NY Times, ditto

Jay has, I believe, been in touch with Bob Rubin, Bill Webster, and Stu Eizenstat.

Elliot Abrams suggested touching base with the following columnists (kind of a long list, but he offered to make calls, provided he himself has an opportunity to be briefed up):

Charles Krauthamer, W. Post
Michael Kelly, W. Post
Paul Gigot, WSJ
George Will,
William Safire.

I believe Treasury was going to do a bit of calling, but I can't recall exactly who they contacted.