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FINAL

June 12, 1996

Rebuilding Churches Administrative and Legislative Proposals

Background

Over the past 18 months, 33 black churches throughout the South have been destroyed by suspected arson. Many of these churches serve important community functions in their jurisdictions. It is fully expected that many churches will face financing obstacles in their efforts to rebuild their facilities. Most of these churches are under-insured and will need access to multiple sources of capital and credit to proceed with rebuilding efforts.

The Administration is, therefore, seeking to engage the private sector -- banks, corporations, religious organizations -- in the rebuilding of these important civic institutions. To facilitate these efforts, the Administration is also seeking to invest federal resources where available and appropriate.

Challenge to the Private Sector

The Administration is reaching out to a wide variety of national, private sector institutions to help in the rebuilding effort.

Already, Habitat for Humanity International, a leader in the nonprofit housing world, has drawn upon their most valuable resource -- their volunteers -- to reach out to communities that have had churches damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. For 20 years, Habitat for Humanity International has been uniting people from all walks of life in its mission to eliminate substandard housing. Today, this organization, which has rallied hundreds of thousands of individuals to build nearly 50,000 homes worldwide, has committed to provide leadership and motivate volunteers to rebuild the churches that have been destroyed.

It is our understanding that the Alabama Association of Habitat for Humanity affiliates has already begun coordinating volunteers in rebuilding three of the five churches that were burned in Alabama. Habitat's founder and president, Millard Fuller will be in South Carolina to challenge volunteers throughout the country to help rebuild these churches. To do that, Habitat for Humanity has established a 1-800 number -- 1-800-HABITAT -- for volunteers who are interested in joining them in meeting the national call for assistance.

Challenge to Congress: Establish a CDBG Loan Guarantee Fund

The Administration will seek legislation to authorize a \$10 million loan guarantee fund under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The fund will be used to guarantee up to \$10 million in loans that will be made by private financial institutions to assist in the rebuilding of community institutions damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development would be given the authority to set the terms and conditions of such loan guarantees. Such terms and conditions would, at a minimum, be designed to ensure sound and prudent underwriting by private sector institutions.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Greeleyville, South Carolina)

For Immediate Release

June 12, 1996

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE DEDICATION OF MT. ZION AME CHURCH

Mt. Zion AME Church
Greeleyville, South Carolina

9:40 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much Bishop and Reverend Mackey. Let me begin by thanking you all for being here and making us all feel so welcome. And before I -- and thank you for that -- (laughter) -- before I go into my remarks, I want to present the Reverend Mackey a little placque I brought that is dedicated to the congregation of this church, Mt. Zion AME. It says, "We must come together as one America to rebuild our churches, restore hope and show the forces of hatred they cannot win." I hope you will put this up in your church, Reverend Mackey, and remember this day always. I'm honored to be here with you. (Applause.)

You know, first of all, let me say I'm honored to be here with so many distinguished Americans. I thank Senator Hollings, and Congressman Clyburn for coming down here with me today. I thank Congressman Inglis for being here. And our good friend, John Conyers, from Michigan, is either here or on his way here. Congressman Conyers, I thank him. I want to thank all the dignitaries who have come to join us -- Reverend Jesse Jackson for coming back home to South Carolina, and thank you for being here. And I want to thank Reverend Joseph Lowry, the very first person who wrote me to say that our national government needed to do more about these church burnings. Thank you, Reverend Lowry, for doing that. And I thank my old friend, Bishop James, for coming back here; and Reverend Joan Campbell, Mayor Riley, Mayor Koble, Mayor Kellahan, and others who are here.

And, of course, I want to thank the Mayor of Greeleyville, who met me at the airport and rode in with me and talked to me about this little community and its challenges and its promise. I thank the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury for coming down with me here today to demonstrate just how important we think it is to get to the bottom of these church burnings, and all of us are going to be working together on that. I thank my good friend, Millard Fuller, from Habitat for Humanity, for being here; and

-more-

Randall Osborne, the SCLC administrator. Reverend Mack Jones, the NCCC; Reverend Ed Johnson; R.A. Leonard (ph.); Reverend Patricia Lohman (ph.).

And I'd like to make a special recognition and ask him to raise his hand, the Reverend Larry Hill, of the Matthews Murkland Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, which burned just last week. Reverend Hill, would you raise your hand? Where are you, sir? Here he is. Let's give him a hand. Good to see you again, sir. Thank you. (Applause.)

First of all, I think it's important to note that we're celebrating a little something today. When the Pastor came here, he told me this church had 42 members, and now it has 200 members. (Applause.) This church is like Shadrach, Meshac and Aded'nego. They can burn the building down, but they couldn't burn the faith out. And so we celebrate the triumph of the faith of the members of this church. We celebrate those who have walked from the fire unharmed, girded by God's faith.

We see in the rebuilding of this church that the false idols of hatred and division did not win. The church that burned here, just down the road, was built a long time ago. And when I was driving down that little country road to look at that site, I told Reverend Mackey it was like going down memory lane for me. There's a little road like that off a little highway in southwest Arkansas where my great grandparents are buried in a country churchyard next to a church that is about exactly the same size that little church was. And I went down there just a few years ago to kind of revisit my past, and I felt like I was doing it all over again today.

Then when we came out here and I saw where this church is, I thought, you know, in just a few weeks this will be one of the few churches in America where everybody can have a fresh ear of corn on the way in or out of church -- (laughter) -- sort of strengthen their bodies as well as their faith as they go along.

You think about what happened 90 years ago when the other church was built, people might have expected things like a church bombing. That was time of Jim Crow, and there were evening lynchings in the South. It was a time of abject poverty, worse than anything we call poverty today. It was, 90 years ago, an expression of faith and courage for people to get together and build a church.

But it was the church that saved the people until the Civil Rights revolution came along. And it is, therefore, I think, doubly troubling to people -- some of whom are over here on this platform today who spent their entire lives working for equal

opportunity among our people, working for an end to the hatred that divided us for too long -- to see our native South engulfed in a rash of church burnings over the last year and a half. We have to say to all of you who have been afflicted by this, we know that we're not going back to those dark days, but we are now reminded that our job is not done. Dr. King once said, "What self-centered men have torn down, other centered men can build up." (Applause.)

The men and women of Mt. Zion have shown us the meaning of these words by refusing to be defeated and by building up this new church. Others have come together with you. The Pastor told me he got contributions from all over the world to help to rebuild this church. In just a few days we'll have a joyful noise coming out of this church. But today, just as you have come together, I want to ask the people of America to come together. I want to ask every citizen as we stand on this hallowed ground together, to help to rebuild our churches, to restore hope, to show the forces of hatred they cannot win.

I want to ask every citizen in America to say we are not going back, we are not slipping back to those dark days. Every time you hear somebody use race or religion as an instrument of division and hatred, speak up against it. Every time you hear somebody do that. (Applause.) If you have any inclination, any evidence of anything you have seen or heard that somebody else might be planning to do something like this, tell the local authorities and let's stop this before it gets started. If you know anything about any of the unsolved cases, come help us solve them. This is wrong.

The American people are the most religious church-going people of any great democracy. We cannot let someone come into our democratic home, the home of our faith, and start torching our houses of worship. It doesn't matter whether it's this Christian church or the mosque that was burned in South Carolina. People have a right to worship God any way they please. That's what the First Amendment of the Constitution is about. We cannot ever let this happen in our country again. (Applause.)

Long before President Lincoln said it, the Lord spoke to us in the Scripture and said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." It was always true. What a price we paid down here when we forgot it. What a benefit we have gained down here when we let it go. We cannot go back to those days.

But if you look all over the world you see how easy it is for people slowly, step by step, to fall into the patterns of blaming other people who are different from them for the difficulties of the moment. Now we know as we see these fires of racial and ethnic hatred sweeping the world, as we see Africans from different tribes slaughter each other, as we see the ethnic hatred that consumed

Bosnia, as we see it place after place all over the globe, we know how easy it is for the heart of human beings to be hardened against one another just because of superficial differences.

I pledge to you I will do everything I can to prosecute those responsible for the rash of church burnings -- (applause) -- to prevent future incidents, to help communities to rebuild. (Applause.) But Americans must lead the way, for this is first and foremost an affair of the heart. And our heart must be purged of any temptation to go back to the kinds of divisions that cost us so dearly, especially here in the southern part of our country.

For months, more than 200 federal agents have been working on these church burnings. There are now 33 active cases. We've closed 10 cases already through investigations, arrests and prosecutions. Let me say, again, how profoundly grateful I am for the work done by the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury and all those people who work with them. We will continue to probe these crimes. We will continue to use our top law enforcement officers. We will continue to see that these investigations meet a strict code of professional and personal conduct. I expect to get a report on this every week until the job is done. And I want you to help us finish the job. (Applause.)

I also want to say that we must keep this out of politics. This is about America. This is about what it means to be American. I want to say a special word of thanks to a Republican Congressman from Illinois, Henry Hyde; and a Democratic Congressman from Michigan John Conyers, who have together sponsored legislation that will make it easier for us to punish those who burn houses of worship. And I hope Congress will pass the legislation very, very quickly. (Applause.)

We also must work together to rebuild all these churches. We will work with Congress to give HUD the resources they need to guarantee loans by private lending institutions. And I want to applaud the business and community leaders who provide money and folks to assist in rebuilding these churches all across our country.

Already these burnings have sparked an outpouring of concern. The Alabama association of Habitat for Humanity is recruiting volunteers to rebuild several of the churches in Alabama. Today, Habitat for Humanity International has made a commitment to help all the communities that have lost churches in these arson attacks to rebuild. And I want to thank the founder of Habitat, Millard Fuller, who's here, for what his commitment is today. Thank you, sir. Thank you. (Applause.)

I applaud the National Council of Churches -- and I thank

--more--

Reverend Campbell for being here -- for their financial commitment to rebuilding. I thank Nations Bank for stepping up to the challenge and issuing a \$500,000 reward for the arrest of those responsible for church burnings. (Applause.)

But in the end, let me say again, we must recognize that this is everybody's problem. Every citizen, every minister and religious leader in this country should be speaking out against this violence. Every house of worship in America must be a sacred place -- not just Christian churches for those of us who are Christian, but our synagogues and our mosques. Any place where people gather to worship according to the dictates of their conscience should be protected from violence.

Reverend Billy Graham wanted to be here today and sent me these words for all of us to reflect on. He said, the problem between various ethnic groups is worldwide; it is a problem of the heart. It seems that much of the world is affected by this terrible disease, which should be called by its right name -- sin. (Applause.)

So I ask you today, my fellow Americans, to celebrate the triumph of the rebuilding of this church, to express gratitude for the fact that the huge vast majority of our people of all races deplore what has been done and revere the right of every American to worship God in his or her own way. But I ask you to reaffirm our responsibility to keep working, working together, not to ever let America fall back into those patterns of hatred and division, which can so easily consume any civilized people.

We have to sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has brought us, full of the hope that the present has brought us. Let's face the rising sun of this new day begun. But let us remember we have to march on until victory is won. (Applause.)

Thank you, and God bless you all. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

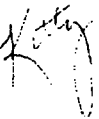
9:54 A.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 12, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KITTY HIGGINS 

SUBJECT: A Call to Action

In your speech you will restate your Administration's commitment to assist state and local communities in combatting church arson and rebuilding the churches that have been destroyed. You will report on:

1. Actions already taken--See Treasury/Justice fact sheets
2. More Protection
 - U.S. Marshals will now participate as full partners in the federal task forces, both local and national, that you announced last Saturday.
 - Treasury guidelines for protective measures churches can take, will be released this week (Treasury will distribute copies if ready)
3. Enforcement
 - U.S. Attorneys and supervising agents in charge from ATF and FBI will meet in Washington tomorrow (June 13). You will challenge them to:
 - Meet a strict "Code of Conduct" for investigating these arsons
 - Report to you through the AG and Secretary of the Treasury, early next week, on the need for additional resources
4. Rebuild--You will offer three challenges to aid rebuilding
 - Challenge the private sector--to come forward with money and people to rebuild. Habitat for Humanity and the National Council of Churches have already responded with volunteers in Alabama (Habitat) and money (Council). Nations Bank also has offered a \$500,00 reward.

- Challenge the States--to use their allocations of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through loan guarantees and other means to help local communities rebuild. HUD and Justice will provide guidance regarding church--state issues. HUD will reimburse states who use their funds with "recaptured" money. Legislative authority is needed.
- Challenge the Congress--to increase CDBG funding by \$10 million in case state and private resources are inadequate.

JUSTICE/TREASURY CHURCH FIRES TASK FORCE
 Southeast Church Fires Fact Sheet
 June 12, 1996

SINCE 1995

- In the Southeast there have been 43 fires at predominantly African American churches since January 1995
 - 6 have resulted in arrests (8 suspects)
 - 2 have resulted in federal prosecutions
 - Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Tennessee
 - Canaan AME Church, Tennessee
 - 8 were deemed to be accidental
- With well over 200 federal investigators -- working together with state and local authorities -- this is the largest current civil rights investigation and one of the largest criminal investigations of any kind. In a number of incidents, task forces have been established of federal, state and local authorities.
- Fires at African American churches in 9 Southeastern states

Alabama	Georgia
Louisiana	Mississippi
North Carolina	South Carolina
Tennessee	Texas
Virginia	

SINCE 1990

- Since 1990, 19 incidents of fires and desecrations at houses of worship have been prosecuted:
 - 8 have resulted in successful federal prosecutions and have been closed.
 - 5 incidents have resulted in successful prosecutions by local officials and the cases are closed.
 - Local charges have been filed in 6 other incidents.

RECENT ADMINISTRATION ACTIONS IN CHURCH FIRES INVESTIGATIONS

JUNE 11, 1996

What has happened.

President Clinton devoted his weekly radio address to the federal commitment to solving these church arsons. He discussed four actions which the administration has enacted.

- Treasury and Justice have formalized a high-level task force, chaired by Assistant Treasury Secretary James Johnson and Assistant Attorney General Deval Patrick. ATF Director John Magaw and FBI Director Louis Freeh also will serve on the Task Force. The President has asked the task force to report its progress to him.
- Federal law enforcement has developed materials to instruct churches on protecting their churches from arsonists. The materials will be delivered directly to churches in the Southeast by ATF agents, and also will be delivered through national church organizations. *federal*
- ATF has established a toll-free number to obtain information relating to these crimes. The number is 1-888-ATF-FIRE, and is currently operational.
- The Administration has announced its support of the Hyde-Conyers bill which will expedite federal prosecution of these crimes as civil rights violations. That bill is *was passed* ~~scheduled for mark-up~~ by the House Judiciary Committee today.
- A delegation of ministers whose churches have been burned and other concerned clergy were in Washington over the weekend. Some of the ministers were present during the President's radio address. The group met with Attorney General Reno on Sunday and with Treasury Secretary Rubin on Monday. Assistant Secretary Johnson and Assistant Attorney General Patrick were present during both meetings. The ministers' main theme at these meetings was the insensitivity of federal agents in conducting these investigations and a request for heightened federal concern to white supremacist actions.
- Assistant Secretary Johnson and Assistant Attorney General Patrick, along with representatives of the FBI and ATF, held a lengthy meeting with the ministers on Monday afternoon. Johnson and Patrick also attended a prayer service held by the ministers on Sunday evening.

Action Plan

- The Treasury/Justice Task Force will convene this afternoon to complete its plan of action for oversight of these investigations. On Thursday, the Task Force will bring to Washington every United States Attorney, and ATF and FBI Special Agent-in-Charge from the areas where these church fires have occurred, for consultations.

June 11, 1996

**Rebuilding Community Institutions
Questions and Answers**

What institutions will qualify for assistance under the Administration's proposals?

Qualifying institutions will be community institutions that have been damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism.

What are "community institutions"?

Community institutions are not for profit institutions similar to those qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Code that perform civic functions in their communities. They may or may not be religious institutions.

Is there precedent for this type of action (i.e. providing federal funds to religious institutions)?

Yes, there is precedent for this type of action. Congress appropriated \$39 million in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing in part to support the reconstruction of damaged churches. The key issue was the act of terrorism. In this regard, assistance was provided to all damaged buildings in the vicinity of the act.

HUD proposals would similarly make funding to all qualified community institutions that are damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism, including religious institutions.

FINAL

June 12, 1996

**Rebuilding Churches
Administrative and Legislative Proposals****Background**

Over the past 18 months, 33 black churches throughout the South have been destroyed by suspected arson. Many of these churches serve important community functions in their jurisdictions. It is fully expected that many churches will face financing obstacles in their efforts to rebuild their facilities. Most of these churches are under-insured and will need access to multiple sources of capital and credit to proceed with rebuilding efforts.

The Administration is, therefore, seeking to engage the private sector -- banks, corporations, religious organizations -- in the rebuilding of these important civic institutions. To facilitate these efforts, the Administration is also seeking to invest federal resources where available and appropriate.

Challenge to the Private Sector

The Administration is reaching out to a wide variety of national, private sector institutions to help in the rebuilding effort.

Already, Habitat for Humanity International, a leader in the nonprofit housing world, has drawn upon their most valuable resource -- their volunteers -- to reach out to communities that have had churches damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. For 20 years, Habitat for Humanity International has been uniting people from all walks of life in its mission to eliminate substandard housing. Today, this organization, which has rallied hundreds of thousands of individuals to build nearly 50,000 homes worldwide, has committed to provide leadership and motivate volunteers to rebuild the churches that have been destroyed.

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DRAFT - JUNE 17, 1996, 6:00 p.m.
(reflects comments from
Hale, Patrick, Johnson)

**PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH GOVERNORS
CONCERNING CHURCH FIRES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1996
1:30 P.M. TO 2:45 P.M.**

PROPOSED AGENDA

[POOL SPRAY AT TOP; NO REMARKS]

- I. Welcoming Remarks by the President [This would be the point at which the President could discuss or at least preview the private sector piece. The President can also challenge and exhort the states to develop a process parallel to federal efforts on prevention and rebuilding.]
- II. Welcoming Remarks by the Vice President [Marcia Hale is coordinating with OVP regarding participation by VPOTUS.]
- III. Presentations from the Responsible Agencies [Total time for this portion = 40 min] [Kitty Higgins is inviting the AG and the Secretaries; DOJ and Treasury have identified sub-Cabinet briefers.]

[Agencies should prepare appropriate charts and visual aids.]

- A. Enforcement Issues -- Department of Justice (Deval Patrick)
 - 1. National Task Force
 - 2. Local Task Forces and role of local law enforcement
 - 3. Status report

[Question: Are the states already represented on the Task Force at some level? If not, can we announce that states will be invited to send law enforcement representatives?]

Question: Can we announce that we are going to give states access to the federal data base on church fires?]

- B. Security/Prevention Issues -- Department of the Treasury (James Johnson) -- program resources available to assist states in security and prevention efforts
 - 1. education program -- written materials available to help churches identify risks
 - 2. risk assessment -- local police and U.S. Marshals
 - 3. issues raised by church leaders
- C. Rebuilding
 - 1. HUD -- loan guarantee program (Secretary Cisneros)

IV. Legislation

- A. Kennedy-Faircloth-Hyde-Conyers legislation -- we will sign as soon as it is presented
- B. Additional resources for enforcement
 - 1. Treasury supplemental
 - 2. DOJ reallocation
- C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding

V. The President embraces private sector rebuilding efforts

-- The arsonists cannot win; we will rebuild every church

VI. Open Discussion with Governors

VII. Concluding Remarks by the President

[Mike McCurry will brief press in press room, then Governors go to stake out.]

CHURCH FIRES MEETING WITH AGENCIES
JUNE 17, 1996

- Comments on agenda
- Preparation of materials
 - materials to support Marcia Hale's event memo to President — 3:00
 - materials to give to Governors at conference
- Legislation
 - HUD piece
 - Supplemental

- back sheets
- paragraphing
Sims

Dutton - Ky
Henderson - Md
Allen - Va
Sundquist - Tenn
Blaskey - S.C.
Hunt - N.C.
State Police Chief - Ark
Chiles - ? - Fla

DRAFT - JUNE 17, 1996, 8:00 p.m.
(reflects comments from
Hale, Patrick, Johnson)

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- A. Enforcement Issues -- Department of Justice (Deval Patrick)
 - 1. National Task Force
 - 2. Local Task Forces and role of local law enforcement [encourage states to participate in these task forces, which are headed up by a U.S. attorney; participation in task force affords access to task force data base on church fires]
 - 3. Status report
- B. Security/Prevention Issues -- Department of the Treasury (James Johnson) -- program resources available to assist states in security and prevention efforts
 - 1. education program -- written materials available to help churches identify risks
 - 2. risk assessment -- local police and U.S. Marshals
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 - A. Kennedy-Faircloth-Hyde-Conyers legislation -- we will sign as soon as it is presented
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 - C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding
- V. The President embraces private sector rebuilding efforts
 - The arsonists cannot win; we will rebuild every church
- VI. Open Discussion with Governors
- VII. Concluding Remarks by the President [exhort states to help protect churches -- e.g., neighborhood watches]

[Mike McCurry will brief press in press room, then Governors go to stake out.]

June 17, 1996

MEMORANDUM

To: Marcia Hale

From: Megan Williams

Re: Update on Southern Governors' Church Burnings meeting

The following Governors' attendance is confirmed for the meeting with the President on June 19, 1996 at 1:30pm:

Paul Patton, KY (D) - Will attend and bring AG, Ben Chandler (D)

Parris Glendening, MD (D) - Will attend and bring AG, Joseph Curran, Jr. (D)

George Allen, VA (R) - Will attend and bring AG, James Gilmore (R)

Don Sundquist, TN (R) - Will attend and bring AG, Charles Burson, (D)

David Beasley, SC (R) - Will attend, but would like to bring the head of the State's law enforcement who has been active in this area, and who is on their race relations committee, instead of their AG Charles Condon (R) who was supportive of the President on our recent trip to South Carolina

Jim Hunt, NC (D) - Will attend and probably bring AG, Michael Easley (D)

John Bailey, State Police Chief, (AR) -Is attending

We are still waiting for confirmation on the following Governors:

Lawton Chiles, FL (D) - Wants to attend, has a prior engagement that may or may not be able to be moved. They will let us know as soon as possible. If he can not attend they would still like to send Buddy McKay or their AG.

The following Governors are not able to attend the meeting Wednesday:

George Bush, Jr., TX (R) - Can not attend, prior engagement

Mel Carnahan (D) - Almost definitely not

Zell Miller, GA (D) - A definite no. Travelling back from Germany that day. Would really like to send someone in his place. Has asked to send someone else in his place

Gaston Caperton, WV (D) - Will not be attending

Frank Keating, OK (R) - Not coming, wants to send his Secretary of State

Tom Carper, DE (D) - Will not attend

Kirk Fordice, MS (R) - Not coming; has requested someone in his place

Mike Foster, LA (R) - Not coming

Governors Chiles, Miller, and Keating would all like to send an official in their place, while Governor Beasley would like to bring someone other than his Attorney General

Note: Church Burning Meeting at
6PM in Room 180

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR SYLVIA MATTHEWS, PAUL FISHMAN, SUSAN LISS,
BRUCE KATZ

COPIES TO: JOHN ANGELL, MARCIA HALE, KITTY HIGGINS,
MICHAEL WALDMAN, JACK LEW, STEVE NEUWIRTH,
DAWN CHIRWA

FROM: KATHLEEN M. WALLMAN *KW*

I was asked to prepare the attached draft agenda for the Governors' meeting on Wednesday. I would appreciate comments on this as soon as possible and would like to discuss it at our meeting with the agencies this afternoon. This draft has not been cleared inside the White House.

Attachment

g:\data\wallman\fire.mem

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CONCERNING CHURCH FIRES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1996
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[Agencies should prepare appropriate charts and visual aides.]

- A. Enforcement Issues
 - 1. Department of Justice (Deval Patrick)
 - 2. Department of the Treasury (James Johnson)

[Question: Are the states already represented on the Task Force at some level? If not, can we announce that states will be invited to send law enforcement representatives?

Question: Can we announce that we are going to give states access to the federal data base on church fires?]

- B. Prevention Issues -- Department of Justice -- program resources available to assist states in prevention efforts
 - 1. education program -- written materials available to help churches identify risks
 - [2. other resources available?]

- C. Rebuilding
 - 1. HUD -- loan guarantee program (Secretary Cisneros)
- IV. Legislation
 - A. Kennedy-Faircloth-Hyde-Conyers legislation -- we will sign as soon as it is presented
 - B. Additional resources for enforcement
 - 1. Treasury supplemental
 - 2. DOJ reprogramming
 - C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding
- V. The President embraces private sector rebuilding efforts
 - The arsonists cannot win; we will rebuild every church
- VI. Open Discussion with Governors
- VII. Concluding Remarks by the President
 - [President and/or Vice President brief press in press room, then Governors go to stake out.]

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 14, 1996

MEMORANDUM

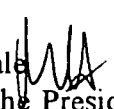
TO: Harold Ickes
Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Political Affairs

George Stephanopoulos
Senior Advisor to the President and
Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff for Policy

Kitty Higgins
Assistant to the President and
Cabinet Secretary

Don Baer
Assistant to the President and
Director of Communications

Doug Sosnik
Assistant to the President and
Director of Political Affairs

FROM: Marcia L. Hale 
Assistant to the President and
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

RE: Church burnings

For your information, attached are press releases from Governor James Hunt of North Carolina on the issue of African American church burnings.

Attachments

James B. Hunt Jr.
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: June 7, 1996

Contact: Kym Spell
Phone: (919) 733-5612

GOV. HUNT WILL OFFER A REWARD IN CHURCH FIRE

RALEIGH -- Gov. Jim Hunt decried last night's fire at a Charlotte Black church and pledged to prevent future attacks. Hunt will offer a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for Thursday's fire at the historic Matthews-Murkland Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, if officials rule the fire an arson.

"This is deplorable," Hunt said. "Everyone should be able to practice their religion free from fear, and I am deeply disturbed about these violent attacks on our churches. I want to find the persons responsible and hold them accountable for their attacks on our places of worship."

Gov. Hunt is looking at a number of ways the state can help, including strengthening penalties for church arsonists and coordinating federal, state and local law enforcement efforts to track information about bomb threats. The N.C. Human Relations Commission will also develop training programs to help church leaders learn more about security.

Last Saturday, May 25, an anonymous caller threatened to bomb the NAACP's State Conference in Durham. About two weeks ago, a caller threatened to bomb three Durham churches. In the last three weeks, bomb threats have also been called in to churches in Charlotte and Fair Bluff. No bombs were found.

Earlier this week Hunt called on the State Bureau of Investigation to join the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in looking into the crimes.

"I am committed to doing all we can to get to the bottom of this fire and the threats," Hunt said. "I want to find out who is responsible for assaults on one of our most precious freedoms -- religion. I am now consulting with the Attorney General's office to determine the next step as we work to find out who is responsible and stop these attacks."

On Monday Hunt met with the Rev. Curtis Gatewood, president of the Durham branch of the NAACP and several area ministers to discuss recent bomb threats against African-American churches and what can be done to catch those responsible. Also attending the meeting were Dr. William Thurston, associate pastor of First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church and professor of religion and philosophy at Shaw University and the Rev. Carl Kenney, pastor of Orange Grove Baptist Church and president of Durham Congregations in Action.

-30-

Governor's Press Office
State Capitol, Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919) 733-5612 • Toll Free 1-800-662-7005
FAX (919) 733-5166

Post-It® Fax Note	7871	Date	5-12-96	Page	1
To	Laura Davis	From	Steve Jones		
Co/Dept.	D.C. OFF.	Co.	Gov. Press Off.		
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #	702-624-5836	Fax #			



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: June 4, 1996

Contact: Angie Harris/Kimi Brooks
Phone: (919) 733-3612

GOV. HUNT MEETS WITH LOCAL MINORITY MINISTERS

Raleigh -- Gov. Jim Hunt met with the Rev. Curtis Gatewood, president of the Durham branch of the NAACP and several area ministers Monday to discuss recent bomb threats against African-American churches and what can be done to catch those responsible.

In the last three weeks, four bomb threats have been made against African-American churches in Charlotte, Durham and Fair Bluff and a meeting of the NAACP in Durham. Hunt has called on the State Bureau of Investigation to join the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in looking into the crimes.

"Freedom of religion is our most precious liberty. We cannot allow our citizens to be threatened in their houses of worship," Hunt said. "We must all work together to do everything we can to bring those guilty of these unspeakable crimes to justice."

Also attending the meeting were Dr. William Thurston, associate pastor of First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church and professor of religion and philosophy at Shaw University and the Rev. Carl Kinney, pastor of Orange Grove Baptist Church and president of Durham Congregations in Action.

Carolyn Coleman, special assistant to the Governor, Katie Dorsett, secretary of the Department of Administration, the Rev. Eddie Lawrence, director of the North Carolina Human Relations Commission and Durham businessman Ronnie Sturdivant also attended the meeting.

On Saturday, May 25, an anonymous caller threatened to bomb the NAACP's State Conference in Durham. About two weeks ago, a caller threatened to bomb three Durham churches. In the last three weeks, bomb threats have also been called in to churches in Charlotte and Fair Bluff. No bombs were found.

Gov. Hunt is looking at a number of ways the state can help, including strengthening penalties for church arsonists and coordinating federal, state and local law enforcement efforts to track information about bomb threats. The N.C. Human Relations Commission will also develop training programs to help church leaders learn more about security.

"We cannot -- we will not -- tolerate these acts," Hunt said. "Our churches are the foundation of our communities and we must safeguard the right of every North Carolinian to exercise their freedom of religion."

--30--

Governor's Press Office
State Capitol, Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919) 733-3612 • Toll Free 1-800-662-7003
FAX (919) 733-5166

Post-it Fax Note 7671		Dist	1
To	Harris/Kimi Brooks	From	Gov. Press
Co/Dept	advised	Co	Office
Phone #	733-3612	Phone #	
Fax #		Fax #	

UNJ

JUN 03 '96 11:01AM GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFC

P. 1/1

James B. Hunt Jr.
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: May 31, 1996

Contact: Angie Harris/Kim Brooks
Phone: (919) 733-5612

ATTN: NEWS DIRECTORS, EDITORS, REPORTERS:

The following is a statement from Gov. Jim Hunt about the recent bomb threats against minority churches in North Carolina:

"I am deeply disturbed by the reports of churches being the subject of bomb threats in Durham and other North Carolina cities. Our churches, synagogues and other places of worship are the very foundation of our communities.

"The right of every citizen to worship freely is protected by both the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of North Carolina. Any threat on a place of worship is a threat to every citizens' right to exercise their religion.

"Such acts are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. I have asked the state Bureau of Investigation to join with other law enforcement agencies to investigate these heinous acts and bring these criminals to justice.

"I commend the citizens of Durham and other cities across our state who have demonstrated unity, love and community support by worshipping together in the face of these horrendous threats. I ask all citizens to join with me in denouncing these acts of intimidation and violence. Together, we can send a strong message against such senseless actions."

--30--

Governor's Press Office
State Capitol, Raleigh, NC 27603-8001
(919) 733-5612 - Toll Free 1-800-662-7003
FAX (919) 733-5166

Church fire was set

Anger resounds from Charlotte to White House

By KEN GARFIELD and JACK HORAN
Staff Writers

Whoever burned down the former sanctuary of a black church in southeast Charlotte ignited outrage Friday that swept all the way to the White House.

While some 50 investigators sifted through ashes for clues to who destroyed the old worship home of Matthews Murkland Presbyterian, a united front of politicians, preachers and plain folks reacted with shock and resolve.

In Washington, President Clinton was told about Thursday night's arson fire that destroyed the wood-frame sanctuary on Old Providence Road near Rea Road. He'll discuss the rash of arson attacks on Southern black churches in a live radio address at 10:08 a.m. today.

Clinton will stress that a major investigation is under way by some 200 agents from the FBI and Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Stung by complaints from some civil rights figures that the fires are not being actively investigated, Attorney General Janet Reno will meet Sunday with civil rights leaders and some black ministers whose churches have been burned.

"All I can tell you right now is we are working very hard to get to the bottom of this," Clinton said Friday in Washington, referring to the estimated 30 fires at black churches in the South since early last year.

Federal authorities said they have found no racist conspiracy to connect the church fires. Investigators in Charlotte emphasized they've found nothing to link this fire to other church fires in the South.

Investigators say the Matthews Murkland blaze was

set at the right rear corner of the old wooden sanctuary, but they won't say what evidence they found among the ruins. Police say no witnesses reported seeing anyone near the church when the fire was set.

Though investigators have not said whether the Matthews Murkland arson was racially motivated, FBI special agent in charge John Morley led a team of five agents to the site looking for possible evidence of civil rights violations.

In Raleigh, Gov. Jim Hunt offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the Matthews Murkland fire. He also pledged to coordinate efforts to track information about bomb threats, and to help train church leaders in security.

In Charlotte, a city that lost its estimated 650 houses to ship and order...

The Charlotte Presbytery has set up a fund for Matthews Murkland, possibly to help replace the burned-out sanctuary, which was on the list of county historic landmarks. Contributors can write 8700 Executive Center Drive, Charlotte, NC 28212.

Beyond practical talk of added security and financial support, though, a helpless sense of loss rose Friday like smoke from the ruins of the 84-year-old sanctuary.

"It was a dirty thing," said church member Martha Jones, 61, who watched the 11 p.m. fire from her small house across the road from the church.

"This is history being burned down," said the Rev. Larry Hill, who came to Charlotte 19 months ago from Augusta, Ga., to lead the 150-member congregation. "We can no longer point to it and tell our kids this is where the church started."

"We are hurt and devastated," Hill said. "We intend to overcome this in a big way. We're not afraid."

Three hours after the fire erupted, Hill led some 30 church members in prayer. About 2 a.m. Friday, they bowed heads and sang "We Trust in the Lord."

Investigators on Friday said the blaze was set at the right rear

To: Marcia

From: D.
Bryant

NEWS CLIPS
6/10/96

CO
6/8/96

watch program to keep a closer eye on sanctuaries.

Independent of any county-wide effort, the Rev. Herbert Shackelford of Mount Olive Presbyterian said lay leaders of his predominantly black church will talk Monday about increasing security. "Before this," he said, "we weren't talking that way. Now we have to. I have my fears."

Matthews Murkland isn't the only black church in Charlotte to be victimized in recent months. Vandals last January shattered stained glass and did about \$20,000 worth of damage at Jonesville A.M.E. Zion. Last month at China Grove A.M.E. Zion, someone left a racist threat on the answering machine.

END



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

TELEFACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

TO:

Ricky Higgins
Cabinet Affairs

PHONE: _____

FAX:

456-72983

FROM:

Lisa Winston for Duval Patrick

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

FAX NUMBER: 202-514-0293

PHONE: 202- _____

COMMENTS: _____

NUMBER OF PAGES TRANSMITTED (INCLUDING THIS SHEET) _____

(max. 30 pages)

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TREASURY/JUSTICE CHURCH FIRES TASK FORCE**Church Fires Fact Sheet
June 11, 1996**

Number of ATF and FBI Investigators
Assigned to the Church Fires Task Force Over 200

Total Number of Church Fire Investigations
At Predominantly African American Churches
In the Southeast United States Since January 1995 43

Number of Active Church Fire Investigations
At Predominantly African American Churches
In the Southeast United States 33

[Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia,
South Carolina, Alabama, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia]

Number of Predominantly African
American Church Fires in the
Southeast United States That Have
Been Cleared As Accidental Fires Since
January 1995 8

Number of Investigations at Predominantly African American
Churches in the Southeast United States That Have Been Solved By
Arrest Since January 1995 6

Number of Persons Arrested 8

Number of Investigations Closed by Prosecutions Since
January 1995 2

JUN-11 1996 22:05 EXEC. SEC. TREASURY DEPT 202 622 0073 P.03

ATF CHURCH FIRES INVESTIGATIONS FACT SHEET

June 11, 1996

- ATF is currently investigating 24 fires that have occurred since January 1995 at African-American congregations in the Southeast (Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia).

[Additionally, the ATF is currently investigating 2 fires that occurred in Greenville, Texas this week; the FBI is continuing its investigation of an incident in North Carolina]
- We are 100% committed to solving these crimes. Whatever it takes, however long, and whomever is responsible.
- More than 100 ATF agents have participated on one or more of the multi-agency task forces investigating the fires. These agents cover the entire range of ATF's arson investigative resources, including Certified Fire Investigators (CFIs), National Response Teams (NRTs), Polygraph Examiners, Accelerant Detecting Canines, Auditors, and Forensic Chemists. The multi-agency task forces are also using ATF's lead-developing computer software ASCMe (Advanced Serial Case Management) system. More agents are being detailed to these investigations as the need arises.
- These investigations have resulted in the arrests of eight persons. Two of those arrested are acknowledged members of the Ku Klux Klan. ATF is working very closely with the FBI and state and local authorities and with the Department of Justice and the local United States Attorneys to pursue leads and successfully resolve all other investigations.
- Arson investigations are typically long-term projects. ATF's clearance rate for church arson cases since 1991 is 70%, while the clearance rate nationwide for arson cases is less than 25%. ATF and Treasury are committed to solving these crimes.
- Treasury is conscious of the need of the appearance of integrity in these investigations. Accordingly, none of the ATF agents who were referred for disciplinary inquiry or counseling because of their participation in the Good O' Boys Roundups continue to work on any of the church fire investigations.
- More than 20% of the ATF 100-plus agents who have participated in these cases are African American. ATF has done an exemplary job in diversifying its Special Agent ranks--today 10% of ATF's Special Agents are African American.

202 622 0073 P.04

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
ARSON AND EXPLOSIVES DIVISION
ARSON ENFORCEMENT BRANCH

DATE: JUNE 11, 1996

CHURCH FIRES FACT SHEET

NUMBER OF ACTIVE CHURCH FIRE INVESTIGATIONS AT
PREDOMINANTLY AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES IN THE
SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES, SINCE JANUARY 1995: 24
(SEE PAGE 3 - GREEN) IN 1995..... 5
IN 1996..... 19

FIRES BY STATE (INCLUDING THOSE SOLVED BY ARREST)

TENNESSEE	6	SOUTH CAROLINA	6
LOUISIANA	5	ALABAMA	5
MISSISSIPPI	3	NORTH CAROLINA	3
GEORGIA	1	VIRGINIA	1

NUMBER OF PREDOMINANTLY AFRICAN AMERICAN
CHURCH FIRE INVESTIGATIONS IN THE SOUTHEAST
UNITED STATES, SINCE JANUARY 1995, THAT HAVE
BEEN SOLVED BY ARREST: 6

NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED: 8
(SEE PAGE 2 - PINK)

NUMBER OF PREDOMINANTLY AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH
FIRES IN THE SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES THAT HAVE BEEN
CLEARED BY ATF CERTIFIED FIRE INVESTIGATORS AS
ACCIDENTAL FIRES, SINCE JANUARY 1995: 6
(SEE PAGE 2 - PINK)

NUMBER OF OPEN ATF CHURCH FIRE INVESTIGATIONS
NATIONWIDE SINCE JANUARY 1995 (ALL CHURCHES): 49
IN 1995..... 12
IN 1996..... 37

NUMBER OF ATF CHURCH FIRE INVESTIGATIONS
NATIONWIDE SINCE OCTOBER 1991 (ALL CHURCHES): 145

(PINK)
CHURCH FIRES FACT SHEET

-2-

CASES CLOSED BY ARREST
SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES - JANUARY 1995 TO PRESENT

DATE OF FIRE	NAME OF CHURCH	LOCATION	NAME OF ARRESTED-DATE
06-20-95	MT. ZION AME CHURCH	WILLIAMSBURG CO., SC	GARY COX - JUNE 95 TIM WELCH - JUNE 95
06-22-95	MACEDONIA BAPTIST	MANNING, SC	SAME AS ABOVE
08-15-95	ST. JOHN BAPTIST	LEXINGTON CO., SC	ROGER EMERSON - MAY 96 17 YEAR OLD MALE 17 YEAR OLD MALE
02-28-96	NEW LIBERTY BAPTIST	TYLER, ALABAMA	CHRIS DEER - MARCH 98
03-30-96	EL BETHAL CHURCH	SATARTIA, MS	ENOCH ADAMS -MARCH 96
06-06-96	MATTHEWS PRESBYTERIAN	CHARLOTTE, NC	13 YEAR OLD FEMALE - JUNE 1996

ACCIDENTAL FIRES
SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES - JANUARY 1995 TO PRESENT

DATE	NAME OF CHURCH	LOCATION OF CHURCH	CAUSE
12-11-95	* JERUSALEM BAPTIST	BOLIGEE, ALABAMA	ELECTRICAL
02-03-96	GRAYLAND BAPTIST	RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	ELECTRICAL
03-12-96	* MT. ROSE BAPTIST	PURDUE HILL, ALABAMA	ELECTRICAL
03-13-96	ST. JAMES CHURCH GOD	GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA	VAGRANTS
03-25-96	MISSIONARY BAPTIST	SELMA, ALABAMA	THUNDER STORM
03-25-96	KRONE BAPTIST CHURCH	RANKIN CO., MS	THUNDER STORM
04-07-96	ST. PAULS. PRIMITIVE BAP.	LAUDERDALE CO., MS	CIGARETTE
06-08-96	LEXINGTON PRESBYTERIAN	LEXINGTON, SC	THUNDER STORM

* - NOT A FULL ATF INVESTIGATION (C & O BY STATE INVESTIGATOR)

(GREEN)
CHURCH FIRES FACT SHEET

-3-

ACTIVE ATF CHURCH FIRE INVESTIGATIONS
AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES
SOUTHEAST UNITED STATES

JANUARY 1995 TO PRESENT

DATE	NAME OF CHURCH	LOCATION	ATF DIVISION
01-13-95	JOHNSON GROVE BAPTIST	BELLS, TN	NASHVILLE
01-13-95	MACEDONIA BAPTIST	DENMARK, TN	NASHVILLE
01-31-95	MT. CALVERY BAPTIST	HARDEMAN CO., TN	NASHVILLE
12-22-95	MT. ZION BAPTIST	BOLIGEE, AL	BIRMINGHAM
12-30-95	SALEM BAPTIST	GIBSON CO., TN	NASHVILLE
01-06-96	OHOVAH AME CHURCH	ORRUM, NC	CHARLOTTE
01-08-96	INNERCITY CHURCH	KNOXVILLE, TN	NASHVILLE
01-11-96	LITTLE MT. ZION BAPTIST	GREEN CO., AL	BIRMINGHAM
01-11-96	MT. ZOAR BAPTIST	GREEN CO., AL	BIRMINGHAM
02-01-96	CYPRESS GROVE BAPTIST	E. BATON ROUGE, LA	NEW ORLEANS
02-01-96	ST. PAULS FREE BAPTIST	E. BATON ROUGE, LA	NEW ORLEANS
02-01-96	SWEET HOME BAPTIST	E. BATON ROUGE, LA	NEW ORLEANS
02-01-96	THOMAS CHAPEL BEN. SOC.	E. BATON ROUGE, LA	NEW ORLEANS
02-21-96	GLORIOUS CHURCH OF GOD	RICHMOND, VA	WASHINGTON
03-05-96	ST. PAUL AME CHURCH	HATLEY, MS	BIRMINGHAM
03-20-96	NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST	RULESVILLE, MS	BIRMINGHAM
03-27-96	GAYS HILL BAPTIST	MILLEN, GA	ATLANTA
04-11-96	ST. CHARLES BAPTIST	PAINCOURTVILLE, LA	NEW ORLEANS
04-13-96	ROSEMARY BAPTIST	BARNWELL, SC	CHARLOTTE
04-26-96	EFFINGHAM BAPTIST	EFFINGHAM, SC	CHARLOTTE
05-14-96	MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST	TIGRETT, TN	NASHVILLE
05-23-96	MT. TABOR BAPTIST	CERRO GORDO, NC	CHARLOTTE
05-24-96	PLEASANT HILL BAPTIST	LUMBERTON, NC	CHARLOTTE
06-03-96	RIISING STAR BAPTIST	GREENSBORO, AL	BIRMINGHAM

TOTAL 24

NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE ACCIDENTAL FIRES OR CASES CLOSED BY ARREST



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: June 11

NUMBER OF PAGES (including this page) 5

To: Jack Lew

FROM: Bruce Katz

Vicki Radd

Ofc. #: John Schmidt

Ofc. #: 708-2713

Fax #: Steve Newirth

Fax #: 708-2476

Dawn Chirwa
Mike Small

COMMENTS: _____

Urgent

Attached are the challenges/
announcements - Qs and As on
the churches.

Anne -

direct all calls to
Bruce's home

703 - 486-0484.

Can reach Amy Lin
at home too

703 - 671-4191

CHURCH FIRES MEETING WITH AGENCIES
JUNE 17, 1996

- Comments on agenda
- Preparation of materials
 - materials to support Marcia Hale's event memo to President
 - materials to give to Governors at conference
- Legislation
 - HUD piece
 - Supplemental

Event Memo:

① Talking points on the Federal Response
- what each agency will say in their briefing

Governor's

want briefing material

2 pages

3:00 all needs to be put together

Kentucky

MD

VA

TN

SC

NC

AR State police chief

Maybe:

Chiles

If Governor is coming he may bring AG

\$12 million > POTUS - total money package

Governor asked to appoint someone to the Task Force
U.S. Marshalls available to do short-term w/ local police in threat
of a situation
→ support and encourage local task forces.

Press Office

DRAFT - JUNE 17, 1996, 6:00 p.m.
(reflects comments from
Hale, Patrick, Johnson)

**PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH GOVERNORS
CONCERNING CHURCH FIRES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1996
1:30 P.M. TO 2:45 P.M.**

PROPOSED AGENDA

AG
Rubin > opening-
pass it over
to brief

[POOL SPRAY AT TOP; NO REMARKS]

- I. Welcoming Remarks by the President [This would be the point at which the President could discuss or at least preview the private sector piece. The President can also challenge and exhort the states to develop a process parallel to federal efforts on prevention and rebuilding.]
- II. Welcoming Remarks by the Vice President [Marcia Hale is coordinating with OVP regarding participation by VPOTUS.]
- III. Presentations from the Responsible Agencies [Total time for this portion = 40 min] [Kitty Higgins is inviting the AG and the Secretaries; DOJ and Treasury have identified sub-Cabinet briefers.]

[Agencies should prepare appropriate charts and visual aids.]

- A. Enforcement Issues -- Department of Justice (Deval Patrick)
 1. National Task Force
 2. Local Task Forces and role of local law enforcement
 3. Status report

[Question: Are the states already represented on the Task Force at some level? If not, can we announce that states will be invited to send law enforcement representatives?]

Question: Can we announce that we are going to give states access to the federal data base on church fires?]

- B. Security/Prevention Issues -- Department of the Treasury (James Johnson) -- program resources available to assist states in security and prevention efforts
 - 1. education program -- written materials available to help churches identify risks
 - 2. risk assessment -- local police and U.S. Marshals
 - 3. issues raised by church leaders
- C. Rebuilding
 - 1. HUD -- loan guarantee program (Secretary Cisneros)
- IV. Legislation
 - A. Kennedy-Faircloth-Hyde-Conyers legislation -- we will sign as soon as it is presented
 - B. Additional resources for enforcement
 - 1. Treasury supplemental
 - 2. DOJ reallocation
 - C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding
- V. The President embraces private sector rebuilding efforts
 - The arsonists cannot win; we will rebuild every church
- VI. Open Discussion with Governors
- VII. Concluding Remarks by the President

[Mike McCurry will brief press in press room, then Governors go to stake out.]

Note: Church Burning Meeting at
6PM in Room 180

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR SYLVIA MATTHEWS, PAUL FISHMAN, SUSAN LISS,
BRUCE KATZ

COPIES TO: JOHN ANGELL, MARCIA HALE, KITTY HIGGINS,
MICHAEL WALDMAN, JACK LEW, STEVE NEUWIRTH,
DAWN CHIRWA

FROM: KATHLEEN M. WALLMAN *KW*

I was asked to prepare the attached draft agenda for the Governors' meeting on Wednesday. I would appreciate comments on this as soon as possible and would like to discuss it at our meeting with the agencies this afternoon. This draft has not been cleared inside the White House.

Attachment

g:\data\wallman\fire.mem

*Born
Liz*

AG YES
Rubin yes
Cisneros yes
Riley

DRAFT - JUNE 17, 1996

**PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH GOVERNORS
CONCERNING CHURCH FIRES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1996
1:30 P.M. TO 2:45 P.M.**

PROPOSED AGENDA

[POOL SPRAY AT TOP; NO REMARKS]

- I. Welcoming Remarks by the President [This would be the point at which the President could discuss or at least preview the private sector piece. The President can also challenge and exhort the states to develop a process parallel to federal efforts on prevention and rebuilding.]
- II. Welcoming Remarks by the Vice President [Marcia Hale is coordinating with OVP regarding participation by VPOTUS.]
- III. Presentations from the Responsible Agencies [Kitty Higgins is inviting the AG and the Secretaries; DOJ and Treasury have identified sub-Cabinet briefers.]

[Agencies should prepare appropriate charts and visual aides.]

- A. Enforcement Issues
 - 1. Department of Justice (Deval Patrick)
 - 2. Department of the Treasury (James Johnson)

[Question: Are the states already represented on the Task Force at some level? If not, can we announce that states will be invited to send law enforcement representatives?]

Question: Can we announce that we are going to give states access to the federal data base on church fires?]

- B. Prevention Issues -- Department of Justice -- program resources available to assist states in prevention efforts
 - 1. education program -- written materials available to help churches identify risks
 - [2. other resources available?]

- C. Rebuilding
 - 1. HUD -- loan guarantee program (Secretary Cisneros)

IV. Legislation

- A. Kennedy-Faircloth-Hyde-Conyers legislation -- we will sign as soon as it is presented

- B. Additional resources for enforcement

- 1. Treasury supplemental
 - 2. DOJ reprogramming

- C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding

V. The President embraces private sector rebuilding efforts

-- The arsonists cannot win; we will rebuild every church

VI. Open Discussion with Governors

VII. Concluding Remarks by the President

[President and/or Vice President brief press in press room, then Governors go to stake out.]

Reno

~~Dreyer~~

Bruce
Dreyer
ATF

Willishien
Clark
574-
5537

Johnson → commercial
tonight
ATF drive

Deputy Director Brad Buckles
Donny Carter

Deval wants ride on AF I
Jim Johnson also

Caryl Montgomery

514-4195

Linda McCaughlin

622-1906

Steve Colgate

814-3101

AF I

- Jim Johnson
- Deval Patrick
to brief press

Deval & Jim are staying behind to brief so they ~~I~~ want to fly back on AF I. I told Deval you or I would call him to let him know what had been worked out. (I haven't spoken to Jim). ~~Can~~ Can you please call me & let me know what happens? Thanks, Alexis will want to know about Deval.

Br.

- ① Kevin Moram
- ② Robin Leeds 703-305-2059
- ③ MARYBETH 690-6133
- ④ Ron Kechane 567-92
- ⑤ Tom Jones.
- Kim W. Adams
- Sharon

Amy Lee - called at WH 8:35pm

→ 6-7936

622-1906

Paper ready to hand-out

~~Handwritten notes:~~
~~AT Fast sheets~~

David ~~Duer~~ David Shier

Amy Lin

↳ Bruce will be

brief David tonight

301-907-6722

Address
for Michael
Fuller



call Ren - Cheryl

514-4195

~~6~~
~~514-4195~~

JUN 11 1996 15:58 FROM: SEC OF SECRETARY TO 94562983 P.02

June 11, 1996

Rebuilding Community Institutions Administrative and Legislative Proposals

Background

Over the past 18 months, 33 black churches throughout the South have been destroyed by suspected arson. Many of these churches serve important community functions in their jurisdictions. It is fully expected that many churches will face financing obstacles in their efforts to rebuild their facilities. Most of these churches are under-insured and will need access to multiple sources of capital and credit to proceed with rebuilding efforts.

The Administration is, therefore, seeking to engage the private sector -- banks, corporations, religious organizations -- in the rebuilding of these important civic institutions. To facilitate these efforts, the Administration is also seeking to invest federal resources where available and appropriate.

Challenge to the Private Sector

The Administration is reaching out to a wide variety of national, private sector institutions to help in the rebuilding effort.

The President will specifically call upon Habitat for Humanity International, a leader in the nonprofit housing world, to draw upon their most valuable resource -- their volunteers -- to reach out to communities that have had churches damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. For 20 years, Habitat for Humanity International has been uniting people from all walks of life in its mission to eliminate substandard housing. This organization, which has rallied hundreds of thousands of individuals to build nearly 50,000 homes worldwide, is in the best position to provide leadership and motivate volunteers to rebuild the churches that have been destroyed.

It is our understanding that the Alabama Association of Habitat for Humanity affiliates has already begun coordinating volunteers in rebuilding three of the five churches that were burned in Alabama. Habitat's founder and president, Millard Fuller will be in South Carolina to challenge volunteers throughout the country to help rebuild these churches. To do that, Habitat for Humanity has established a 1-800 number -- 1-800-HABITAT -- for volunteers who are interested in joining them in meeting the national call for assistance.

Challenge to States: Use Federal Funds

The Administration is urging State governments to explore using federal Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in the rebuilding of those facilities damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism.

States receive 30 percent of CDBG funds on a formula basis. These funds are targeted for use in small communities, areas where the bulk of the arson activity has occurred. Most states set aside funds for emergencies.

CDBG allows State recipients to use federal funds for a broad range of activities including demolition, clearance, removal, acquisition, rehabilitation and reconstruction. CDBG also allows recipients to use funds in a variety of ways: as grants, low-interest loans, interest-rate write downs on market loans and loan guarantees.

Within the next week, HUD will provide guidance to States on how CDBG funds can be used in a manner consistent with constitutional provisions.

The Administration will seek legislation to permit HUD to allocate existing recaptured CDBG funds to reimburse States participating in this effort. HUD will also expedite any waiver requests -- and will provide any technical support -- that may be necessary to carry out rebuilding efforts.

Challenge to Congress: Establish a CDBG Loan Guarantee Fund

There may be situations where state funding is insufficient or unavailable. The Administration, therefore, will seek legislation to increase the Community Development Block Grant program by \$10 million. The \$10 million would be used to guarantee loans made by private financial institutions to assist in the rebuilding of community institutions damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development would be given the authority to set the terms and conditions of such loan guarantees. Such terms and conditions would, at a minimum, be designed to ensure sound and prudent underwriting by private sector institutions.

June 11, 1996

**Rebuilding Community Institutions
Questions and Answers**

What institutions will qualify for assistance under the Administration's proposals?

Qualifying institutions will be community institutions that have been damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism.

What are "community institutions"?

Community institutions are not for profit institutions similar to those qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the Tax Code that perform civic functions in their communities. They may or may not be religious institutions.

Is there precedent for this type of action (i.e. providing federal funds to religious institutions)?

Yes, there is precedent for this type of action. Congress appropriated \$39 million in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing in part to support the reconstruction of damaged churches. The key issue was the act of terrorism. In this regard, assistance was provided to all damaged buildings in the vicinity of the act.

HUD proposals would similarly make funding to all qualified community institutions that are damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism, including religious institutions.

Terry Edmunds**Billy Graham
Evangelistic Association**

P.O. Box 9313, Minneapolis, MN 55440-9313, U.S.A.

**STATEMENT BY BILLY GRAHAM ON RECENT CHURCH ARSON FIRES
June 11, 1996**

The following statement was issued today by Evangelist Billy Graham, who is undergoing a series of tests at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, prior to the opening of his crusade in Minneapolis/St. Paul next week:

I have been grieved and saddened over the recent church burnings in the South, especially in my hometown of Charlotte, North Carolina. I have written a letter to the pastor there, sent a modest personal gift to help them rebuild and will assist in helping to raise money for other churches.

I applaud President Clinton and Senator Dole for their quick response to these tragedies -- at least in this one area we can be united. I am also grateful that leaders of both parties are speaking out against this type of terrorism and enacting legislation so quickly to facilitate prosecution of cases involving arson against houses of worship.

We don't yet know whether this is a conspiracy or copy-cat crime, but the problem between various ethnic groups is world wide -- It is a problem of the heart. As we have seen in Bosnia and Liberia, even among people of the same race, it seems that much of the world is affected by this terrible disease, which should be called by its right name, Sin.

I think some of the speeches that the Rev. Martin Luther King made a generation ago should be restudied for their application today. Only repentance and faith in God will lead to the non-violence that Martin Luther King preached. Only God can change the human heart.

SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT

FOR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1996

DRAFT

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER:

STEPHANIE STREETT

HOME: 202-332-5651

OFFICE: 202-456-2823

WHCA PAGER: 4033

CELL PHONE: 202-494-9855

TRIP COORDINATOR:

LUCIE NAPHIN

HOME: 202-328-8141

OFFICE: 202-456-5328

WHCA PAGER: 4076

PRESS DESK:

ANNE EDWARDS

HOME: 301-565-3101

OFFICE: 202-456-2921

WHCA PAGER: 4208

Reno New Church
8:00 AM

**SCHEDULE OF THE PRESIDENT
FOR
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1996
DRAFT**

ATF
2

City of Greeleyville - park in Greeleyville
Shuttle buses start running 6:45 am

tba

MORNING RUN

7:30 am

THE PRESIDENT departs hotel tba via motorcade en route Landing Zone at Charleston Airport
[drive time: 15 minutes]

7:45 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives Landing Zone at Charleston Airport

7:55 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Landing Zone at Charleston Airport via Marine One en route Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina
[flight time: 30 minutes]

8:25 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina

Greeters: Mayor Michael Mahoney
Kenneth Gardner, Superintendent of Schools
Glen Kennedy, Principal, CE Murray High School

8:35 am

THE PRESIDENT departs Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina via motorcade en route the site of the former Mr. Zion AME Church
[drive time: 5 minutes]

8:40 am

THE PRESIDENT arrives the site of the former Mt. Zion AME Church

8:45 am-

8:55 am

TOUR THE FORMER SITE OF THE MT. ZION AME CHURCH

FORMER SITE OF THE MT. ZION AME CHURCH

Staff Contact: Alexis Herman

Event Coordinator: Lucie Naphin

POOL PRESS

9:00 am

THE PRESIDENT departs the site of the former Mt. Zion AME Church via motorcade en route the newly constructed site of the Mt. Zion AME Church
[drive time: 5 minutes]

Air Base Passenger Terminal

June 11, 1996 4:07pm

8:30 conference call
757-2104
3900

9:05 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives the newly constructed site of the Mt. Zion AME Church
9:05 am- 9:10 am	TOUR NEWLY CONSTRUCTED MT. ZION AME CHURCH MT. ZION AME CHURCH Staff Contact: Alexis Herman Event Coordinator: Lucie Naphin CLOSED PRESS
9:15 am- 10:30 am	CELEBRATION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE MT. ZION AME CHURCH THE LAWN Mt. Zion AME Church Remarks: Terry Edmonds Staff Contact: Alexis Herman Event Coordinator: Lucie Naphin OPEN PRESS
10:40 am	THE PRESIDENT departs the newly constructed site of the Mt. Zion AME Church via motorcade en route the Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina [drive time: 5 minutes]
10:45 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina
10:55 am	THE PRESIDENT departs Landing Zone at CE Murray High School, Greeleyville, South Carolina via Marine One en route Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, South Carolina [flight time: 30 minutes]
11:25 am	THE PRESIDENT arrives Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, South Carolina
11:35 am	THE PRESIDENT departs Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, South Carolina via Air Force One en route Andrews Air Force Base [flight time: 1 hour, 10 minutes]
tba	BRIEFING FOR UNITED STATES/EUROPEAN SUMMIT ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE Staff Contact: Tony Lake, Michael McCurry
12:45 pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives Andrews Air Force Base
1:00 pm	THE PRESIDENT departs Andrews Air Force Base via motorcade en route the Reflecting Pool [drive time: 10 minutes]

1:10 pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives the Reflecting Pool
1:15 pm	THE PRESIDENT departs the Reflecting Pool via motorcade en route the White House [drive time: 5 minutes]
1:20 pm	THE PRESIDENT arrives the White House
1:25 pm- 2:00 pm	DOWN TIME RESIDENCE
2:00 pm- 2:15 pm	BRIEFING OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Tony Lake
2:15 pm- 2:40 pm	BILATERAL MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER PRODI OF ITALY OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Tony Lake STILLS ONLY
	-- Ambassador Molly Raiser, Chief of Protocol, escorts Prime Minister Prodi into the Oval Office and makes introductions.
	-- The meeting begins.
	-- Upon conclusion of the meeting, the President remains in the Oval Office, while Prime Minister Prodi proceeds to the Roosevelt Room.
2:45 pm- 3:00 pm	MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER PRODI OF ITALY AND PRESIDENT SANTER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OVAL OFFICE Staff Contact: Tony Lake WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY
	-- Ambassador Molly Raiser, Chief of Protocol, escorts Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer into the Oval Office and makes introductions.
	-- The meeting begins.
	-- Upon conclusion of the meeting, the President , accompanied by Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer, proceeds to the Cabinet Room.

3:00 pm-
4:00 pm

**UNITED STATES-EUROPEAN UNION MEETING
CABINET ROOM
Staff Contact: Tony Lake
WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY**

- **The President**, accompanied by Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer, enters the Cabinet Room and proceed to their seats.
- The meeting begins.
- Upon conclusion of the meeting, the **President** proceeds to the Oval Office, while Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer remain in the Cabinet Room.
- Following a brief hold, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer proceed to the Oval Office to join the **President**.

4:25 pm

THE PRESIDENT escorts Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer to OEOB 450

4:30 pm-
4:55 pm

**UNITED STATES-EUROPEAN UNION JOINT PRESS
CONFERENCE
OEOB 450
Remarks: Dan Benjamin
Staff Contact: Tony Lake
OPEN PRESS**

- **The President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer are announced into the room and proceed to their podiums.
- **The President** makes remarks.
- Prime Minister Prodi makes remarks.
- President Santer makes remarks.
- Upon conclusion of remarks, the **President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer take questions from the press.
- 4:55 pm -- **The President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer hold briefly, while the delegations proceed to the motorcade.
- 5:00 pm -- **The President** escorts Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer to West Executive Avenue and bids them farewell.

5:10 pm-
5:15 pm

DEPARTURE PHOTO WITH MAJOR DARREN MCDEW
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Alan Sullivan
WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY

5:25 pm-
6:30 pm

PHONE/OFFICE TIME
OVAL OFFICE

6:30 pm- (T)
7:15 pm

MEETING
OVAL OFFICE
Staff Contact: Tony Lake

HOLD EVENING

BC AND HRC RON

THE WHITE HOUSE

US Mars

Federal €

Designated District

Rebuild

1) Challenge to the state

use of funds to rebuild

guidance

seek legislative funds

5-6,000,000 million

2) private sector

3) congress



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

To: Anne McGuire/Kitty Higgins

From: Linda McLaughlin tel - 622-0049

Date: June 11, 1996

Re: The Fact Sheet on Church
Fires

Date: 06/11/96 Time: 17:50

CBlack Church Fires Across the South

Thirty-two fires at predominantly black churches in the Southeast have been investigated as possible arson by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. By date:

Johnson Grove Baptist, Bells, Tenn.; Jan. 13, 1995
Macedonia Baptist, Denmark, Tenn.; Jan. 13, 1995
Mount Calvary Baptist, Hardeman County, Tenn.; Jan. 31, 1995
Mount Zion AME, Williamsburg County, S.C.; June 20, 1995 (arrest made)
Macedonia Baptist, Manning S.C.; June 22, 1995 (arrest made)
St. John Baptist, Lexington County, S.C.; Aug. 15, 1995 (arrest made)
Mount Zion Baptist, Boligee, Ala.; Dec. 22, 1995
Salem Baptist, Gibson Co., Tenn., Dec. 30, 1995
Inner City, Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 8, 1996
Little Zion Baptist, Green County, Ala.; Jan. 11, 1996
Mount Zoar Baptist, Green County, Ala.; Jan. 11, 1996
Ohovah AME Church, Orrum, N.C.; Jan. 6, 1996 (arrest made)
Cypress Grove Baptist, East Baton Rouge, La.; Feb. 1, 1996
St. Paul's Free Baptist, East Baton Rouge, La.; Feb. 1, 1996
Sweet Home Baptist, Baker, La., Feb. 1, 1996
Thomas Chapel Benevolent Society, East Baton Rouge, La.; Feb. 1, 1996
Glorious Church of God in Christ, Richmond, Va.; Feb. 21, 1996
New Liberty Baptist, Tyler, Ala.; Feb. 28, 1996 (arrest made)
St. Paul AME, Hatley, Miss.; March 5, 1996
New Mount Zion Baptist, Ruleville, Miss.; March 20, 1996
Gay's Hill Baptist, Millen, Ga.; March 27, 1996
El Bethel, Satartia, Miss.; March 30, 1996 (arrest made)
St. Charles Baptist, Paincourtville, La.; April 11, 1996
Rosemary Baptist, Barnwell, S.C.; April 13, 1996
Effingham Baptist, Effingham, S.C.; April 26, 1996
Mount Pleasant Baptist, Tigrett, Tenn.; May 14, 1996
Mount Tabor Baptist, Cerro Gordo, N.C.; May 23, 1996
Pleasant Hill Baptist, Lumberton, N.C.; May 24, 1996
Rising Star Baptist, Greensboro, Ala.; June 3, 1996
Matthews Murkland Presbyterian Church sanctuary, Charlotte, N.C.; June 7, 1996 (arrest made)
New Light House of Prayer, Greenville, Texas, June 9, 1996
The Church of the Living God, Greenville, Texas, June 9, 1996
APNP-06-11-96 1754EDT

DRAFT

June 12, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: KITTY HIGGINS

SUBJECT: A Call to Action

In your speech you will restate your Administration's commitment to assist state and local communities in combatting church arsons and rebuilding the ~~houses of worship~~ that have been destroyed. You will report on:

Churches

1. Actions already taken--See Treasury ~~and~~ Justice fact sheets
2. More Protection

- U.S. Marshals will now participate as full partners in the federal task forces, both local and national, that you announced last Saturday.
- Treasury guidelines for protective measures will be released ~~today~~ *Chambers can take this week.*
~~(brochure attached)~~ *(Treasury will distribute copies if funding ready).*

3. Enforcement

- U.S. Attorneys and ~~Special agents in charge~~ *Supervisors from ATF & FBI* ~~have been called to~~ *will meet in* Washington ~~by Justice and Treasury tomorrow (June 13).~~ You will challenge them to:

--Meet a strict "Code of Conduct" for investigating these arsons

--Report to you through the AG and Secretary of the Treasury, early next week, on additional resources ,
the need for

4. Rebuild--You will offer three challenges to aid rebuilding

- Challenge the private sector--to come forward with money and people ~~power~~ to rebuild. Habitat for Humanity and the National Council of Churches have already responded with volunteers in Alabama (Habitat) and money (Council). Nations Bank also has offered a \$500,00 reward.

- Challenge the States--to use their allocations of HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through loan guarantees and other means to help local communities rebuild. HUD and Justice will provide guidance regarding church--state issues. HUD will reimburse states who use their funds with "recaptured" money. Legislative authority is needed.
- Challenge the Congress--to increase CDBG funding by \$10 million in case state and private resources are inadequate.

A Call to Action

In your speech you will ~~announce~~
restate your administrative commitment
to assist state & local ^{communities} ~~governments~~ in
correcting Church arson & rebuilding
the houses of worship that have been
destroyed. You ~~are~~ will report on;

- 1.) ~~Review~~ Report Actions Already Taken --
see Treasury / Justice fact sheet

- work
- 2.) ~~How~~ Protection ⁱⁿ ~~Steps~~ --

- U.S. Marshalls will now ~~participate~~
as ~~members~~ of the local task forces
& National ~~Protector~~ participants
as full partners in the
local task forces. local
& national - you announced on
last Saturday

- Treasury guidelines for protective
measures will be released today -
(^{circulated} copy attached)

- 3.) Enforcement

- U.S. Attorney & Special Agents in Charge
have ~~will~~ been called to Washington on ~~Thursday~~
(6/13) day Justice & Treasury tomorrow.
You will challenge them to:
-- ~~the~~ ^{reestablish} ~~disseminate~~ a "code of conduct" for
when ~~that~~ charged with investigating the causes

June 11, 1996

**CHURCH RECOVERY FUND
Legislative Proposal**

Over the past 18 months, 31 black churches throughout the South have been destroyed by suspected arson. It is fully expected that many churches will face financing obstacles in their efforts to rebuild their homes of worship. Most of these churches were probably under-insured and will need to access multiple sources of capital to proceed with rebuilding efforts.

The Administration, therefore, will seek a Congressional appropriation of \$25 million to create a Recovery Fund to assist in the rebuilding of religious institutions damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. There is precedent for such funding: Congress appropriated \$39 million in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing in part to support the reconstruction of damaged churches.

The \$25 million would be appropriated under HUD's flexible Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). CDBG allows recipients to use federal funds for a broad range of activities including demolition, clearance, removal, acquisition, rehabilitation and reconstruction. CDBG also allows recipients to use funds in a variety of ways: as grants, low-interest loans, interest-rate write downs on market loans and loan guarantees. The Administration recommends that such flexibility be retained in this special appropriation.



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001**

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Honorable William J. Clinton
FROM: Henry G. Cisneros
DATE: June 10, 1996
SUBJ: WH Response to Burnings of Black Churches

As the crisis of the burning of black churches continues to widen, I'd like to suggest that you take two immediate steps.

First, you could bring together a broad cross-section of national leaders (white churches, other denominations, business, civic leaders and others) who represent voices of reason and stability and, arm in arm with these leaders, issue a call to conscience, an appeal to the American community to come together and rise up against this tide of hatred and negativity.

At the same time, you could then propose the creation of an emergency fund of either grants, loans or loan guarantees -- coupled with private sector assistance -- to help rebuild the destroyed churches, promising to continue to investigate and prosecute but also moving the Nation towards a resurrection of these vital community institutions as swiftly as possible.

I. A CALL TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY and CONSCIENCE

I would suggest that you bring together a wide range of national and community leaders at the White House as soon as possible to join you in issuing a call to the American conscience.

A) This gathering would be an important moment for you to focus the Nation's attention and to talk to the country about the great injustice being perpetrated in these burnings: the targeting of innocent, good, decent Americans solely because of the color of their skin. Moreover, these crimes directly pierce the heart of so many of these communities, who rely not just on their churches as houses of worship but also as the civic center of their communities.

I believe you can also raise this call beyond the immediate circumstances of the crimes committed against these churches and encourage citizens to stand together -- and against -- the hatred

and negativity and nihilism of which these burnings are but one painful manifestation.

To my mind, it is important for you to send a signal that we, the American people, know that this strategy of destruction can not stand. Americans, when stirred by conscience and fairness, have not and will not tolerate such hatred and extremism. The Nation is yearning for opportunities to heal itself and this tragedy presents a moment for us to stand together to defeat the desperate designs of these destroyers and to let them know that such hatred, bigotry and violence are not acceptable while people of goodwill and faith are still in the majority in this country.

In many ways, the most important message you can bring to the country lies in the words of Edmund Burke who said that "the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing" or Thomas Aquinas who wrote that evil is the absence of good. And thus, you might say, it is time for us, as a Nation of tolerance and justice and righteousness to let the word go forth clearly and loudly that we will not let men of hatred divide us, that we are better than this, and that by coming together as a national community, we ensure that the voices of goodness and faith drown out the voices of hatred.

In short, your appeal to immediate action to discourage further burnings and begin rebuilding these churches would be to all good Americans who know that we are a country of conscience and courage not contempt and cowardice -- and are willing to stand up and defend these beliefs now.

B) As for the kinds of leaders best to invite, I'd envision you standing with a very diverse group; for example, folks like Billy Graham, Jesse Jackson, Hugh McColl, Reggie White, Quincy Jones, Marian Wright Edelman and perhaps even Bob Dole.

You might also consider calling on Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford to co-chair the national effort to raise money to rebuild the churches and provide assistance to the affected communities, in particular having HUD partner with Habitat for Humanity in the rebuilding effort.

- Religious leaders
 - Black churches
 - White churches of all denominations
 - Synagogues
- Business leaders
 - Top 10 bankers and Fortune 500 CEOs

- Political leaders
 - Mayors of affected cities
 - Governors of affected states
- Civic leaders
 - This should be people who span the ideological spectrum, from People For the American Way, the Anti-Defamation League and ACLU to the Christian Coalition and the United Way.
- Celebrities from TV, movie and music industries.
 - (This is vital to reaching young people, who appear in some cases to be the perpetrators of the crimes).

II. REBUILDING THE CHURCHES

It is fully expected that many churches will face financing obstacles in their efforts to rebuild their homes of worship. Most of these churches were probably under-insured and will need to access multiple sources of capital to proceed with rebuilding efforts.

HUD, therefore, recommends that we seek a Congressional appropriation of \$10 million to create a Recovery Fund to assist in the rebuilding of religious institutions damaged or destroyed by acts of arson or terrorism. There is precedent for such funding: Congress appropriated \$39 million in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing in part to support the reconstruction of damaged churches.

The \$10 million would be appropriated under the flexible Community Development Block Grant Program. CDBG allows recipients to use federal funds for a broad range of activities including demolition, clearance, removal, acquisition, rehabilitation and reconstruction. We would recommend that HUD be permitted to make funds available as grants, loan guarantees, interest-rate write downs or by any other means that support recovery and rebuilding efforts.

DRAFT**FEMA'S U.S. Fire Administration Response to
Arson Crisis****Training**

In accordance with the Arson Prevention Act of 1994, and President Clinton's response to the recent arson outbreak, the National Fire Academy (NFA) will make arson detection and investigation training available to all 50 States; with special consideration given to the 10 States experiencing the recent outbreak of suspicious church fires. Funding for the training will be made available to the States through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's U.S. Fire Administration.

State Funding

Funding in the amount of \$740,000 will be made available immediately. The 10 States experiencing the rash of arson fires will receive a total of \$260,000 (\$26,000 per State); and the remaining 40 States will receive total of \$480,000 (\$12,000 per State).

NFA Training Options

States will be given a menu of course and material delivery options for immediate delivery within their State. Options will include one two-day detection course and two six-day investigation courses; as well as a variety of instructional support materials. A brief description of the three training courses is listed below:

Arson Detection for the First Responder (2 Day)

Designed specifically for the first responder to enable them to recognize the potential of an intentionally set fire, preserve evidence, and properly alert appropriate officials.

Fire Cause Determination for Company Officers (6 Day)

Designed specifically for company officers to give them the basic skills to conduct initial fire cause determination to assist the eventual fire investigation.

Initial Fire Investigation (6 Day)

Designed specifically for local personnel with one year or less of investigative experience to increase their knowledge and ability in determining the origin, cause and responsibility for fires and explosions.

Cadre of Instructors

In preparation for the delivery of the three arson courses, the NFA recently completed an instructor training program for 41 instructors. Bringing the available cadre of NFA trained instructors to 61. This list of instructors will be made available to all 50 States for the delivery of their courses.

For more information on these and other NFA training opportunities, please contact Mrs. Carrye B. Brown, U.S. Fire Administrator at (301) 447-1018 or Dr. Denis Onieal, Superintendent, NFA, at (301) 447-1117.

Data

Technical Assistance

USFA's programmatic initiatives with respect to arson and fire investigation

1. Arson Information Management System (AIMS).

A computer based program to support fire investigation professionals in improving investigative procedures which allows for the tracking of arson related information across incidents statewide. Used by investigators both in public and private industry, local, State and Federal levels to analyze trends and track arson incidents.

2. Arson Case Prosecution Workshops:

*** Expert Witness**

A two week course dedicated to investigators to promote their detection skills and courtroom presentation of evidence as expert witnesses. This program is joint sponsored by FEMA/USFA and BATF and Bureau of Justice Assistance(BJA).

*** Arson Prosecutors Seminar.**

A joint delivery of BATF, BJA with USFA of a three day seminar for local, State and Federal prosecutors designed to promote increased conviction rates and familiarize prosecutors with on-scene fire investigation techniques and evidence collection. This program uses a modified version of the materials above but is delivered with an emphasis toward the prosecutor.

3. The Juvenile Firesetter Workshop has been in use since the late 1980's and has been effective in curbing the juvenile firesetter problem in jurisdictions where implementation has been completed. The workshops are given to firefighters, social workers, hospital personnel, and psychologist who have responsibility for addressing the juvenile firesetting problem. These workshops have been very effective in obtaining a reduction in fire set by the target population.

4. Technical Assistance to Arson Investigation Units.

Provides management reviews of State fire marshal and metropolitan arson units to promote improved case management practices, introduce technology and community support concepts/interventions.

PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH GOVERNORS
CONCERNING CHURCH FIRES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1996
1:30 P.M. TO 2:45 P.M.

PROPOSED AGENDA

- I. Welcoming Remarks by the President
- II. Welcoming Remarks by the Vice President
- III. Presentation from the Responsible Agencies
 - A. Enforcement Issues - Department of Justice
 - B. Security/Prevention Issues - Department of the Treasury
 - C. Rebuilding - Department of Housing and Urban Development
- IV. Legislation
 - A. Faircloth-Kennedy-Hyde-Conyers legislation
 - B. Additional resources for enforcement
 - C. HUD Authorization to provide loan guarantees for church rebuilding
- V. Open Discussion with Governors
- VI. Concluding Remarks by the President

June 18, 1996

**Church Arson Task Force
Expanding Community Policing Efforts**

Guidance to Public Housing Authorities

The nation's public housing program currently provides affordable housing for more than 1.2 million families. The program is administered by some 3400 public housing authorities located in cities and counties throughout the country.

Close to 50 percent of public housing residents are African-American. Many public housing developments are located near churches and other religious institutions. These institutions play a critical role in the civic and social life of urban and rural neighborhoods.

Public housing authorities use a wide variety of resources - drug elimination grants, operating subsidies, capital funds -- to carry out crime prevention activities on or near developments. Many hire residents to form community watch groups or otherwise engage in community policing activities.

The Department is preparing guidance for public housing authorities on the extent to which anti-crime activities can be extended to church properties.

Challenge to States: Use Federal Funds

The Administration is urging State governments to explore using federal Community Development Block Grant funds to assist in the protection of churches that are threatened with arson or vandalism.

States receive 30 percent of CDBG funds on a formula basis. These funds are targeted for use in small communities, areas where the bulk of the arson activity has occurred. Most states set aside funds for emergencies.

CDBG allows State recipients to use federal funds for a broad range of anti-crime activities including community policing, neighborhood watch efforts and resident patrols.

Within the next week, HUD will provide guidance to States on how CDBG funds can be used for anti-crime activities.

To: Ann McGuire
Fr: Cecilia Calvo

456-6704

This was sent to
Pam van Wie.

To: Pam
From: Steve

DRAFT

Please note, Harris has not seen this yet so we definitely want you to view this as a tentative proposal. Thanks.

Pheonix Corps

Create a Summer "Pheonix Corps" of 100 AmeriCorps-VISTAS – partially recruited from area historically black colleges – to work with local communities to implement their own strategies for responding to the fires. Such approaches might include: helping to organize community volunteers to run 24-hour arson watches to prevent future burnings; organizing community meetings to design long-term responses; working with local schools to prepare curricula to help students understand and react constructively to the tragedy; help replace and restore social services that had been run out of the church (child care, soup kitchens, etc.). The goal in all cases is to help something positive and strong to grow from the ashes.

CHURCH FIRES

What the Corporation for National and Community Service can contribute:

- State Commissions on National Service will assess if AmeriCorps participants (including VISTA volunteers) currently are serving areas near "church fire communities". (North Carolina is already engaged in this process.) Existing AmeriCorps participants could be assigned to:
 - 1) Work with local police departments to develop neighborhood "church-watch" programs. The AmeriCorps participants would recruit volunteers from the community to participate in the "church-watch" programs. Local police departments could provide training to the volunteers.
 - 2) Work with city/town councils to organize city/town meetings. The AmeriCorps participants would publicize the city/town meeting and encourage citizens to attend and bring their ideas on how protect their neighborhood churches.
 - 3) Work with existing nonprofits (e.g. NAACP, Southern Christian Coalition, etc.) that have plans to implement programs in communities. AmeriCorps participants would help implement the nonprofit's plan by recruiting necessary volunteers and providing training.
 - 4) Help reestablish social services housed in the church (i.e. childcare, soup kitchens, etc.) AmeriCorps participants would help find suitable space in the community and relocate the soup kitchen, childcare center, or counseling center.
- **Phoenix Corps.** Create a Summer "Phoenix Corps" of 100 AmeriCorps*VISTA participants. These participants, partially recruited from area historically black colleges, would work with local communities to implement their own strategies for responding to the fires. Such approaches might include:
 - Helping to organize community volunteers to run 24-hour arson watches to prevent future church burnings;
 - Organizing community meetings to design long-term responses;
 - Working with local schools to prepare curricula to help students understand and react constructively to the tragedy;
 - Helping replace and restore social services that had been run out of the church (child care, soup kitchens, etc.)

The goal in all cases is to help something positive and strong to grow from the ashes.

National Service cannot participate in the reconstruction of the churches

Under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, AmeriCorps participants or AmeriCorps funding cannot be used "to perform service that provides a direct benefit to any organization engaged in religious activities . . . or to construct or operate facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship or to maintain facilities primarily or inherently devoted to religious instruction or worship; . . ." (Sec. 132 (a)(4)(D))

TO: Ann McGuire
Fr: Cecilia Calvo

456-6704

THIS was sent to
Pam Van Wic.

To: Pam
From: Steve

DRAFT

Please note, Harris has not seen this yet so we definitely want you to view this as a tentative proposal. Thanks.

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AT AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCHES IN THE SOUTH

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-- President William Jefferson Clinton, June 8, 1996

Jurisdiction and Immediate Federal Response

- The Federal government will respond to all violent acts directed at houses of worship, including arsons, as they are an assault on a basic tenet of American democracy -- religious freedom.

The federal government has authority under several statutes to investigate and prosecute suspicious fires at houses of worship. They include the Anti-Arson Act of 1982 (which makes it a federal crime to use fire to destroy property involved in interstate commerce), 18 U.S.C. §§ 241, 247, and 248(a)(3) (which make it a federal crime to desecrate religious property or a house of worship or to conspire to deprive people of their civil rights). The Administration supports an amendment to § 247 that was recently offered in Congress. The amendment would make it easier to prosecute these crimes.

- The apparent increase in the number of church arsons, particularly at predominantly African American churches during the past 18 months, mandates a timely, coordinated and comprehensive approach by the federal government to this abhorrent problem. The President, the Departments of Justice and the Treasury and the Congress have taken aggressive and active steps to bring to bear all necessary investigative and prosecutive resources of the Federal government on this national disgrace.
- The Departments of Justice and the Treasury, working with the FBI and ATF, have been investigating fires at houses of worship for several years. While we cannot comment on ongoing investigations, the Federal government is absolutely committed to determining the cause of each one of these fires, determining whether they are motivated by racial hatred or hostility and whether there is any link between some or all of them, and bringing the arsonists to justice.
- The President has worked in recent weeks to bring church arsons to national attention, including through his weekly

- 2 -

radio address, his trip to the site of a rebuilt African American church in Greeleyville, South Carolina and his call for a meeting with Southern Governors to provide them with information on federal efforts and to work with them on ideas for prevention, prosecution and rebuilding.

- The President has formalized a high level task force to oversee the conduct of all these investigations. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Deval Patrick and Assistant Treasury Secretary for Enforcement James Johnson co-chair this task force. FBI Director Louis Freeh and ATF Director John Magaw also participate. This task force will report weekly to the President through Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin and Attorney General Janet Reno.
- With well over 200 FBI and ATF investigators -- working together with state and local authorities -- this is one of the largest federal criminal investigations of any kind, one of the largest arson investigations in history and the largest current civil rights investigation.
- The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) of the Department of the Treasury is responsible for investigating suspicious fires that fall under the Anti-Arson Act. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) of the Department of Justice is responsible for investigating civil rights violations. Because these cases are of national interest, all federal prosecutions will be handled jointly by U.S. Attorneys Offices and the Civil Rights Division, in close coordination with ATF, FBI and state and local law enforcement.
- Federal authorities are most often notified of incidents by local fire or police departments. Once the ATF or FBI is notified of a suspicious fire, each bureau will ensure that the other bureau, as well as the Church Arson Task Force, is immediately notified. ATF and FBI then coordinate with local authorities on the scene.
- After being notified of a suspicious fire, both the ATF and FBI will immediately respond to the crime scene with sufficient manpower to address the forensic and investigative aspects of the incident. On-scene commanders will determine whether additional and/or specialized manpower or equipment is needed from either agency.
- Evidence collected at the scene can be forwarded to a lab at either ATF or FBI for analysis. Agents may query ATF's Explosives Incidents System (EXIS), which is a database of information on explosives and arson incidents throughout the United States. In pursuing their investigations, Agents use

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- Since January 1, 1995 federal agents have responded to 61 suspicious fires or acts of desecration at African American churches. Of those, 53 were in the Southeast, which includes the following states: Tennessee, South Carolina, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Florida, Texas, and Oklahoma. Of these 53 incidents, 47 were fires; 4 of which preliminarily have been determined to be accidental.

Arrests and Progress

- Of the 43 non-accidental suspicious fires in the Southeast, arrests have been made in 8 cases, including: the Mt. Zion AME Church, Greeleyville, SC; the Macedonia Baptist Church, Manning, SC; St. John Baptist Church, Lexington Co., SC; the New Liberty Baptist Church, Tyler, AL; the El Bethel Church, Satartia, MS; the Matthews Murkland Church, Charlotte, NC, the First Missionary Baptist church in Enid, OK and the New Light House of Prayer in Greenville, TX. So far three people have been convicted on federal conspiracy charges in the case of two churches in Maury Co., Tennessee (Friendship Missionary Baptist and Canaan AME Church).
- The ATF and FBI have been working closely with state and local law enforcement on most of these cases. For example, the two individuals charged in the Mt. Zion and Macedonia case were arrested by South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) officers.
- The federal government has solved and successfully prosecuted a number of church arsons and desecrations. More than 30 [currently 35] of the incidents reported to the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice since 1990 have been solved. These crimes are difficult to solve, but the federal government -- the Justice and Treasury Departments, through the FBI, ATF, Civil Rights Division, and the United States Attorneys -- is committed to solving and prosecuting these crimes no matter how long it takes.
- The federal government has worked to ensure the integrity of these investigations. When the Justice and Treasury Departments' Inspectors General each released their report on the Good O'Boys Roundups in late March and early April, the two Departments acted quickly to determine whether any agents working on these investigations were involved in or present at racist Roundup events. No FBI agents were involved in or present at racist events; two ATF agents were referred for disciplinary inquiry or counseling because of their participation in the Good O'Boys Roundups and removed

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Outreach and Coordination

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- The Task Force, less than a week after being formalized, met with FBI and ATF SACs and United States Attorneys from the Southeast region to emphasize the critical importance of continuing to pursue these cases with vigilance, determination, and dispatch as well as with sensitivity to the needs of the victims. The Task Force received valuable

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feedback from the field and will soon formalize the conduct of the investigations with a written protocol.

Actions going forward

- ATF has prepared a Church Threat Assessment Guide which it has begun to distribute throughout its divisional offices and through church groups. This Guide will help churches, especially rural ones, to take steps to protect themselves from criminal arsonists and vandals.
- The federal government has established a toll-free tip line for citizens to report information on these fires. [As of noon 6/18/96] We have already received 730 calls through that service. That toll free number is 1-888-ATF-FIRE. Both ATF and FBI are offering rewards for information in a number of arson cases.
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS**

Arson and Explosives Division

***Church Threat
Assessment Guide***

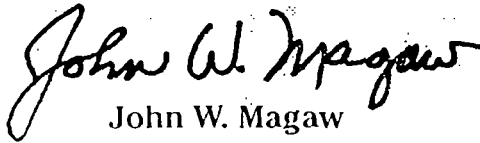


DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The burning of churches is a particularly heinous crime because those who would attack our churches seek to strike at our most fundamental liberties and sources of personal support. Historically, churches have served as places of sanctuary, centers of the community, and symbols of freedom. ATF is committed to fully applying our investigative resources to determine the cause of those fires and arrest those responsible for the arsons.

One aspect of this commitment is the dissemination of the Church Threat Assessment guide. It contains valuable information on the steps that may be taken to prevent fires at churches, the steps to follow after an incident has occurred, the toll free telephone number, 1-888-ATF-FIRE, and the telephone numbers of ATF offices for providing authorities information about any acts of violence, or threats of violence, directed at churches nationwide.

We must all work together to solve and prevent these despicable crimes. With your continued assistance and support, and your cooperation in applying the recommendations contained within this booklet, churches and congregations will be better protected from this type of violence.



John W. Magaw
Director

CHURCH THREAT ASSESSMENT GUIDE

The following is a guide to assessing church vulnerability to arson and bombing attacks. It should not be considered all inclusive. Your local Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) office, police or sheriff's department should be contacted for additional guidance concerning a specific plan for your church.

AREAS OF VULNERABILITY

- Churches located in isolated or rural areas.
- Churches left unattended for extended periods of time.
- Churches with unsecured doors and/or uncovered windows leave weak points for forced entry by intruders.
- The absence of an adequate burglar alarm system provides a determined criminal with additional time for criminal activity.
- Heavy shrubs and outside vegetation, and/or the absence of sufficient perimeter lighting, provides security for criminals, not victims.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTIONS TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY

1. Install perimeter floodlights outside the building.

Criminals can conceal their presence and activity from witnesses at night. Adequate lighting that illuminates all points of entry (*doors, windows, skylights, etc.*) discourages them. Interior lights in areas visible through exterior windows should be left on during all hours of darkness. Exterior lights should have protective screens over them to prevent vandalism. All lights should be checked weekly for serviceability. Relatively inexpensive motion activated and/or timing equipment may be purchased to automatically turn lights on and off.

2. Install an adequate burglar alarm system.

Alarms should be installed by reputable local companies that can service and properly maintain the equipment. Please note that some municipalities or police departments have enacted burglar alarm standards and will not respond to false alarms by inferior systems that frequently cause false alarms. Check with your local police or sheriff's department.

3. Install entrance/exit doors with interior hinges and hinge pins to prevent an intruder from removing the door. Solid wood or sheet metal faced doors provide extra integrity that a hollow core wooden door cannot. Metal security grates or screens that cover the entire door and frame also provide added security.

A steel door frame that properly fits the door is as important as the construction of the door.

With the proper foundation of a sufficient door and frame, the most obvious consideration, door locks, can be addressed. Long throw dead bolts of hardened steel are excellent deterrents to forced entry. Many standard locks are easy to pick or break open.

4. Install burglar-proof bars on screens, and large roof vents to prohibit access through them. However, it should be noted that aesthetic or fire safety considerations often preclude their use. **Local ordinances should be researched BEFORE costly security renovations are undertaken.**

Windows are common points of entry for criminals, regardless of their height from the ground. Burglars can open unlocked windows, break glass and unlock locked windows, saw through metal or wooden frames, or pry entire window frames from exterior walls.

5. Heavy shrubs and vines should be kept low to the ground to reduce their potential to conceal criminals or incendiary or explosive devices. Large trees or vines should be removed to prevent criminals from climbing to upper windows, large vents, or onto the roof.
6. Participate in formal Neighborhood Watch type programs conducted by your local law enforcement agency.
7. Meet with your neighbors and security personnel assigned to your neighboring businesses. Explain your situation and ask them to keep an eye on your church.
8. Educate personnel on methods to deal with telephoned threats and conducting bomb searches. Develop a written protocol for threats and keep it posted.
9. Document any strange or threatening phone calls. Talk with the phone company about tracing your lines or installing Caller ID to identify your callers if you are receiving threats.
10. If a suspicious package or letter is received, immediately call your local police or sheriff's department. Do not touch or manipulate the object in any manner. Be alert for letters or packages that display an excessive amount of postage, contain grease stains, or have unfamiliar or missing return addresses. (*See the "SUSPECT LETTER AND PACKAGE INDICATORS" page*)
11. Keep the handling of threatening correspondence, once identified, to an absolute minimum. Place envelopes, letters or the packages in clear plastic bags and do not compress the bag. Store them in another location until they can be turned over to law enforcement.

12. On a rotating basis, have a member of the congregation, who is at least 18 years of age, check on the church daily. Evaluate the need for a security guard for nights and weekends.
13. Obtain as detailed a physical description as possible of any suspicious person(s) noticed in or around your facility, including a description of vehicles and license numbers. (Refer to enclosed worksheet, "Suspect Description")
14. Duplicate all documents, computer disks, and records that are stored at the church. Complete a comprehensive inventory of all furniture and equipment, to include serial numbers and value. Evaluate insurance coverage frequently.
15. Remove all potential fire hazards from the church grounds, such as trash, lawn clippings and debris. Store all combustible materials in a locked room, shed, etc.

CAUTIONARY NOTES:

- A. **DO NOT** allow watch persons to sleep inside the church
- B. The carrying of firearms, nightsticks, mace, or any type of weapon while conducting surveillance or participating in church watch programs should not be permitted.
- C. **DO NOT** approach a suspicious person, challenge anyone, or otherwise place yourself in jeopardy. If a suspicious situation is found, report it to the nearest law enforcement agency. Take detailed, legible notes of the activity, which may be used later for court or police purposes.
- D. **DO NOT** pursue vehicle or suspects.
- E. Remember, you do not possess police powers and you are liable as an individual for civil and criminal charges should you exceed your authority. The key is to **OBSERVE** and **REPORT**.
- F. **DO NOT** allow anyone to check on the church after having consumed alcohol. Do not allow anyone to stand watch and consume alcohol.
- G. If possible, conduct the watch patrol in pairs.
- H. Conduct watches in a random fashion and not in an observable pattern.

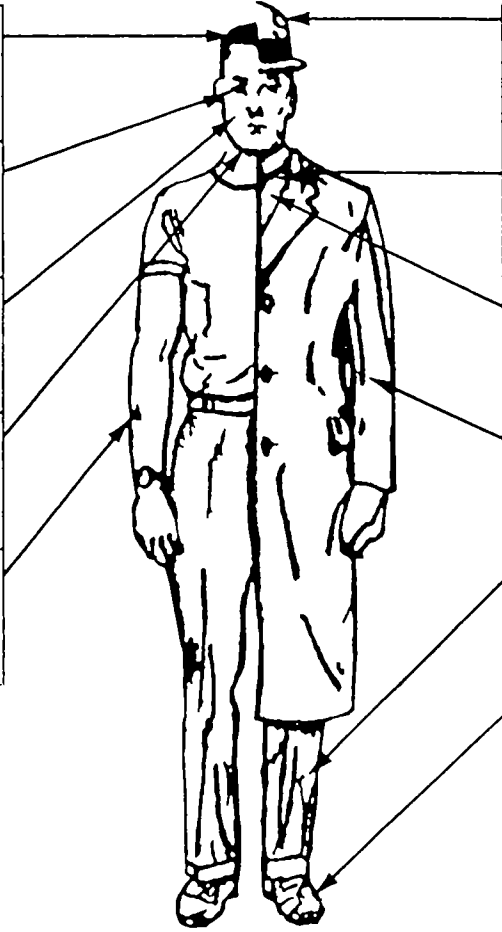
Please realize that a perfect security system does not exist and that some of these recommendations may or may not be practical for a place of worship. However, these suggestions can reduce the potential for an arson, bombing, or burglary at your church. Many of the listed security measures are quite expensive and may be beyond the means of many churches. Local police crime prevention sections are excellent sources for security evaluations and suggestions. They will assist you in prioritizing your needs within your budget constraints.

We realize these recommendations are not all inclusive. We welcome your ideas for improving this assessment and also the descriptions of any measures you have taken, not contained within this guide, that should be shared with other congregations. Please contact ATF through our Toll Free number, 1-888-ATF-FIRE, to provide this information.

SUSPECT DESCRIPTION

FILL OUT AS BEST YOU CAN
GIVE TO THE FIRST POLICE OFFICER ON THE SCENE

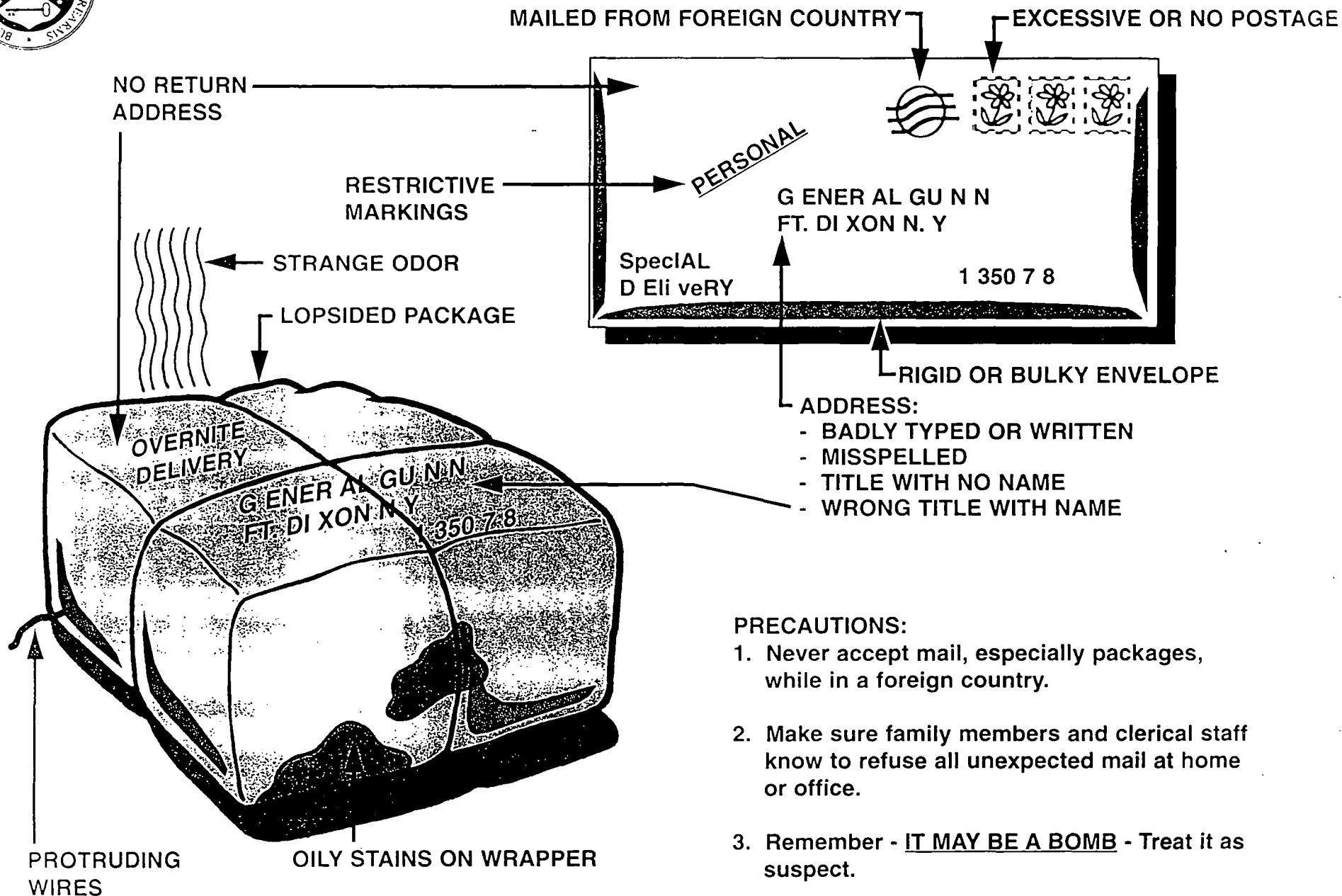
SEX	RACE	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	WEAPON TYPE
-----	------	-----	--------	--------	-------------

HAIR		HAT (color, type)
GLASSES TYPE		TIE
COMPLEXION		SHIRT
SCARS/MARKS		COAT
TATTOOS		TROUSERS
		SHOES

AUTO LICENSE, MAKE, COLOR	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	



WARNING! Suspect Letter and Package Indicators



PRECAUTIONS:

1. Never accept mail, especially packages, while in a foreign country.
2. Make sure family members and clerical staff know to refuse all unexpected mail at home or office.
3. Remember - IT MAY BE A BOMB - Treat it as suspect.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BOMB SECURITY OR BOMB THREATS, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL ATF OFFICE.

**BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND FIREARMS
ARSON AND BOMBING RESPONSE NUMBERS**

**ATF NATIONAL ARSON HOTLINE
(OPERATIONAL 24 HOURS A DAY)**

TOLL FREE 1-888-ATF-FIRE

**ATF NATIONAL BOMB HOTLINE
(OPERATIONAL 24 HOURS A DAY)**

TOLL FREE 1-888-ATF-BOMB

**ATF NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
(OPERATIONAL 24 HOURS A DAY)**

TOLL FREE 1-800-800-3855

**ATF ARSON AND EXPLOSIVES DIVISION
(HEADQUARTERS - WASHINGTON, D.C.)**

202-927-7930

ATF LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD OFFICES

ATLANTA FIELD DIVISION: 404-331-6526

Atlanta, GA. (ARSON II GROUP) 404-331-6436
Macon, GA. 912-474-0477
Savannah, GA. 912-652-4251

BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION: 410-962-0897

Baltimore, MD. (GROUP I) 410-962-4115
Hyattsville, MD. 301-436-8313
Wilmington, DE. 302-573-6102

BIRMINGHAM FIELD DIVISION: 205-731-1205

Birmingham, AL. 205-731-1111
Gulfport, MS. 601-863-4871
Huntsville, AL. 205-539-0623
Jackson, MS. 601-965-4205
Mobile, AL. 334-441-5338
Montgomery, AL. 333-223-7507
Oxford, MS. 601-234-3751

BOSTON FIELD DIVISION: 617-565-7042

Boston (GROUP I/ARSON) 617-565-7050
Burlington (WILLSTON, VT.) 802-463-3238
Hartford, CT. 203-240-3185
New Haven, CT. 203-773-2060
Portland, ME. 207-780-3324

BOSTON FIELD DIVISION (CONTINUED):..... 617-565-7042

Concord, NH..... 603-225-1547
Providence, RI..... 401-528-4366
Springfield, MA..... 413-785-0007
Worcester, MA..... 508-793-0240

CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION: 704-344-6125

Charlotte, NC. (GROUP I)..... 704-344-6126
Charlotte, NC. (GROUP II) 704-344-6119
Charleston, SC..... 803-727-4275
Columbia, SC..... 803-765-5723
Fayetteville, NC..... 910-483-3030
Greenville, SC..... 864-232-3221
Greensboro, NC..... 910-547-4224
Raleigh, NC..... 919-856-4366
Wilmington, NC..... 910-343-4936

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION: 216-522-7210

Cincinnati, OH..... 513-684-3354
Cleveland, OH..... 216-522-3080/3786
Columbus, OH..... 614-469-6717
Toledo, OH..... 419-259-7520
Youngstown, OH..... 216-747-8285

CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION: 312-353-6935

Chicago, IL. (ARSON GROUP) 312-886-5441
Oakbrook, IL..... 708-268-0986/1274
Springfield, IL..... 217-492-4273
Merrillville, IN..... 219-791-0702

DALLAS FIELD DIVISION: 214-767-2250

Dallas, TX. (ARSON GROUP) 214-767-0530
Fort Worth, TX..... 817-334-2771
Lubbock, TX..... 806-798-1030
Oklahoma, TX..... 405-297-5060
Tyler, TX..... 903-592-3927
Tulsa, OK..... 918-581-7731

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION: 313-393-6019

Detroit, MI. (ARSON GROUP) 313-393-6036
Flint, MI..... 810-766-5010

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION (CONTINUED): 313-393-6019

Grand Rapids, MI. 616-456-2566

HOUSTON FIELD DIVISION: 713-449-2073

Austin, TX. 512-349-4545

Beaumont, TX. 409-835-0062

Corpus Christi, TX. 512-888-3392

El Paso, TX. 915-534-6449

Houston, TX (ARSON GROUP) 713-449-2093

McAllen, TX. 210-687-5207

San Antonio, TX. 210-805-2727

Waco, TX. 817-741-9900

KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION: 816-421-3440

Colorado Springs, CO. 719-473-0166

Des Moines, IA. 515-284-4372

Denver, CO. (ARSON/EXPLOSIVES GROUP) 303-866-1173

Kansas City, MO. (ARSON GROUP) 816-421-3231

Omaha, NE. 402-221-3651

Springfield, MO. 417-864-4707

Wichita, KS. 316-269-6229

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION: 213-894-4812

Los Angeles, CA. (ARSON GROUP) 213-894-4840

Long Beach, CA. 310-980-3434

Riverside, CA. 909-276-6031

San Diego, CA. 619-557-6663

Van Nuys, CA. 818-756-4350

LOUISVILLE FIELD DIVISION: 502-582-5211

Ashland, KY. 606-329-8092

Bowling Green, KY. 502-781-7090

Ft. Wayne, IN. 219-424-4440

Indianapolis, IN. 317-226-7464

Lexington, KY. 606-233-2771

Louisville, KY. (FIELD OFFICE) 502-582-5213

MIAMI FIELD DIVISION: 305-597-4800

Jacksonville, FL. 904-232-2228

Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 954-356-7369

Ft. Myers, FL. 813-334-8086

MIAMI FIELD DIVISION (CONTINUED): 305-597-4800

Hato Rey San Juan, PR. 809-766-5084
Miami, FL. 305-597-4778/4807
Orlando, FL. 407-648-6136
Pensacola, FL. 904-435-8485
St. Croix, VI. 809-692-9435
St. Thomas, VI. 809-774-5757
Tallahassee, FL. 904-942-9660
Tampa, FL. 813-228-2184
West Palm Beach, FL. 407-835-8878

NASHVILLE FIELD DIVISION: 615-781-5364

Chattanooga, TN. 423-855-6422
Knoxville, TN. 423-545-4505
Memphis, TN. 901-766-2904

NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION: 504-589-2350

Baton Rouge, LA. 504-389-0485
Little Rock, AR. 501-324-6181
New Orleans, LA. (ARSON GROUP) 504-589-2314/2563
Shreveport, LA. 318-676-3301

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION: 212-264-4658

Albany, NY. 518-431-4182
Buffalo, NY. 716-551-4041
Melville, NY. 516-694-8372
New York (ARSON GROUP) 718-896-6400
Newark, NJ. (ARSON GROUP) 201-357-4070
Rochester, NY. 716-262-2110
Syracuse, NY. 315-448-0889

PHILADELPHIA FIELD DIVISION: 215-597-7266

Atlantic City, NJ. 609-625-2228
Camden, NJ. 609-968-4884
Harrisburg, PA. 717-782-3884
Philadelphia, PA. (ARSON GROUP) 215-597-9080
Pittsburgh, PA. (ARSON GROUP) 412-644-2911
Reading, PA. 610-320-5222
Trenton, NJ. 609-989-2155
Wheeling, WV. 304-232-4170

PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION: 602-640-2840

Albuquerque, NM. 505-766-2271
Phoenix, AR.(FIELD OFFICE) 602-640-2025
Tucson, AR. 520-670-4725/4882

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION: 415-744-7001

Bakersfield, CA. 805-861-4420
Fresno, CA. 209-487-5393
Las Vegas, NV. 702-388-6584
Reno, NV. 702-784-5251
Oakland, CA. 510-637-3431
Sacramento, CA. 916-498-5100
Salt Lake City, UT. 801-524-5853
San Francisco, CA. (ARSON GROUP) 415-744-7012

SEATTLE FIELD DIVISION: 206-220-6440

Agana, GUAM 671-472-7129
Anchorage, AK. 907-271-5701
Billings, MT. 406-657-6886
Boise, ID. 208-334-1983
Cheyenne, WY. 307-772-2346
Helena, MT. 406-441-1101
Honolulu, HI. 808-541-2670
Portland, OR. 503-326-2171
Seattle, WA. (ARSON GROUP) 206-220-6450
Spokane, WA. 509-353-2862
Yakima, WA. 509-454-4403

ST. LOUIS FIELD DIVISION: 314-425-5560

Cape Girardeau, MO. 573-335-3163
Fairview Heights, IL. 618-632-9380
St. Louis, MO. (FIELD OFFICES) 314-425-5563/5551

ST. PAUL FIELD DIVISION: 612-290-3092

Fargo, ND. 701-239-5176
Milwaukee, WI. 414-297-3937
Sioux Falls, SD. 605-330-4368
St. Paul, MN.(FIELD OFFICE) 612-290-3459

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION: 202-219-7751

Bristol, VA..... 540-466-2727
Falls Church, VA. (ARSON GROUP) 703-285-2551
Norfolk, VA..... 804-441-3190
Richmond, VA..... 804-560-0005
Roanoke, VA..... 540-857-2300