

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
JOINT RADIO ADDRESS TO THE NATION
APRIL 22, 1995

95 APR 21 P8:22

THE PRESIDENT: Good morning. Today, I've been joined by the First Lady and the children of some people who work for the federal government -- because we're especially concerned about how the children of this country are reacting to the horrible events in Oklahoma City this week. Our family has been struggling to make sense of this tragedy, just like most families in America.

We know that what happened in Oklahoma is very frightening. And we want children to know that it's okay to be frightened. Your parents understand that, your teachers understand that, and we are all here for you and want to talk about this with you. The First Lady has been very worried about all the children in this country, and she has some good advice, so you should all listen carefully.

THE FIRST LADY: I am very happy to have a chance to be with children here at the White House, and to talk to children all across America. I know that many of you are probably feeling frightened. I know many of you are wondering how such a terrible thing could happen in our country.

But whenever you feel scared or worried, I want you to remember that your parents, families and friends love you very much and will protect you and keep you safe.

And I want you to remember that there are many more good people in the world than bad people. Just think about all the policemen, firefighters, doctors, nurses, rescue workers, neighbors and friends helping the people hurt by the bombing. Think about the people writing letters and sending presents to Oklahoma. These are all good people -- and good people live in every town and city in America.

Like many of your families, our family has spent a lot of time over the past few days talking about what happened in Oklahoma. Sharing our feelings with each other has made all of us feel better. That's why I want you kids to talk to your moms and dads, your grandparents, your teachers, and other grownups you love. Tell them what makes you scared or worried or sad. Tell them when something is upsetting you. And they will help you feel better because they love you and care about you very much.

And finally, I want you to think about ways you can help the people in Oklahoma yourself. Maybe you can write a letter to a child there. Maybe you can send a drawing, a toy, or a gift. I'm sure that children and families in Oklahoma will feel happier knowing that kids around the country care so much about them.

THE PRESIDENT: I'd like to take a moment to talk to parents about these things. I know that it isn't easy always easy to talk with children about issues as difficult and troubling as this. But at times like this, nothing is more important than to reassure children about the future, and explain what has happened.

First of all, you should encourage your children to talk about what they're feeling. If your children are watching news about the bombing, do your best to watch with them. If they have questions, tell them what happened, but remember to listen before talking.

Then reassure them. Explain that it happened hundreds of miles away. Explain that nothing like this has ever happened in our country before and every police officer in America is working very hard to make sure that nothing like this ever happens again.

Tell your children that their own school or day-care center is safe. If they are worried, tell them that people have checked to make sure it's safe.

And makes sure to tell them, without any hesitation, that the evil people who committed this crime will be found and caught. This is my promise to every child, every parent, and every person in America: When we catch the people who did this, we will make sure that they can never hurt a child, or anyone else, ever again.

Finally, and most important of all, tell your children that you love them. Tell them how much you care about them. Hold them if they need to be held.

We must not let the terrible actions of a few terrible people frighten anymore than they already have. Reach out to one another, and come together. We will triumph over those who would divide us by overcoming them together.

God bless you all, and thanks for listening.

on Assails Lead of Hate through Media

Americans Urged to Stand Against 'Reckless Speech'; Conservatives Take Offense

By Howard Kurtz and Dan Balz

Washington Post Staff Writers

A

President Clinton yesterday denounced the "loud and angry voices" that inflame the public debate and called on the American people to speak out against "the purveyors of hatred and division."

Addressing last week's bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, Clinton said the nation's airwaves are too often used "to keep some people as paranoid as possible and the rest of us all torn up and upset with each other. They spread hate, they leave the impression that, by their very words, that violence is acceptable. . . . It is time we all stood up and spoke against that kind of reckless speech and behavior," he said in Minneapolis.

In angry tones, the president said: "When they talk of hatred, we must stand against them. When they talk of violence, we must stand against them. When they say things that are irresponsible, that may have egregious consequences, we must call them on it."

Clinton's remarks were part of a growing and intense debate following the deadliest terrorist attack on American soil. Even before all the victims have been removed from the rubble in Oklahoma City, the finger-pointing has begun in earnest.

Some conservatives reacted furiously to suggestions that there is a link between the Oklahoma bombing and harsh public attacks on government. Rush Limbaugh yesterday accused liberals of trying to foment a "national hysteria" against the conservative movement.

"Make no mistake about it: Liberals intend to use this tragedy for their own political gain," said Limbaugh, whose radio show is carried on 660 stations. He blamed "many in the mainstream media" for "irresponsible attempts to categorize and demonize those who had nothing to do with this. . . . There is absolutely no connection between these nuts and mainstream conservatism in America today."

But some liberal commentators insisted there is a connection. Columnist Carl Rowan, who on the television show "Inside Washington" attributed the bombing to the "angriest of the angry white men," broadened his indictment yesterday to include House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), Senate Majority Leader Robert J. Dole (R-Kan.) and opponents of affirmative action.

"Unless Gingrich and Dole and the Republicans say, 'Am I inflaming a bunch of nuts?' you know we're going to have some more events,"

See DEBATE, A6, Col. 1

Rowan said. "I am absolutely certain the harsher rhetoric of the Gingriches and the Doles . . . creates a climate of violence in America."

Many elected officials continued to tread lightly on the question of assessing blame, lest they be seen as trying to profit politically. Republican presidential candidates have echoed Clinton in calling for the most severe penalties possible for those responsible.

At the same time, several Republicans dismissed efforts to draw any connection between the party's antigovernment ideology and Timothy James McVeigh, the principal suspect in last week's bombing, who has ties to a far-right paramilitary group.

"This is absurd, that somehow the bombing is related to the Contract [With America]," said Fred Steeper, a Republican pollster. "This is left-wing paranoia. It looks like it's Democrats, at least the left wing, trying to gain political advantage, and the media playing along. This is like blaming the right wing for the assassination of President Kennedy."

David Hill, a GOP pollster in Texas, agreed. "We are not going to be placed in a position where we equate calls for limited government with the confused actions of anarchists," he said. "I don't think Republicans will be made hostage to the incident."

But Democratic pollster Mark Mellman said conservatives could be hurt by the actions of extremists, just as public perceptions of the left were colored by violent antiwar radicals in the 1960s.

"At least for appearances, the antigovernment conservatives are going to have to edit themselves for fear of hearing too many echoes of their own language in the rhetoric of the kooks," added Geoff Garin, a Democratic strategist.

Clinton, who has assailed Limbaugh and talk radio in the past, did not mention individual broadcasters or programs in his speech to community college educators in Minneapolis. Senior administration aides labored to emphasize that, despite what seemed like an obvious implication, the president was not referring specifically to conservative talk radio shows. "He's talking in a broader sense about the tenor of public discourse," said Mark Gearan, White House communications director.

Referring to those he said are dividing the country, the president added: "The exercise of their freedom of speech makes our silence all the more unforgivable; so exercise yours, my fellow Americans. Our country, our future, our way of life is at stake. I never want to look into the faces of another set of family members like I saw yesterday. And you can help to stop it."

Lamar Alexander, a GOP presidential candidate, agreed with Clinton to a point. "It's very important to remember there are as many shrill voices from the left as there are from the right, as many shrill attacks on Newt Gingrich as there are on Bill Clinton," he said. "Neither one is very helpful. . . . Sometimes TV and radio turns into political mud-wrestling. . . . I don't see how that has anything to do with the tragedy in Oklahoma."

The Oklahoma bombing has begun to affect the congressional debate over crime and assault weapons. The National Rifle Association, which strongly supported GOP candidates in 1994, has among other things assailed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for "storm-trooper tactics." The ATF, which had offices in the Oklahoma federal building, carried out the raid against cult members in Waco, Tex., two years ago that

appears to have angered McVeigh.

NRA executive vice president Wayne LaPierre said in an interview yesterday that he resents the way his organization is being condemned by some Democrats. "The blame for this is in the hands of the people who did this horrendous crime. NRA couldn't be more outspoken in its contempt for these hate groups and terrorist groups."

G. Gordon Liddy, the former Watergate burglar turned radio talk show host, also has been an outspoken critic of the tactics of ATF agents. Liddy has repeatedly advised "shooting them in the head," but only, he adds, in self-defense.

On his Fairfax-based show yesterday, one caller accused Liddy of "inflammatory" rhetoric, while another said that "you and your other right-wing fanatics have contributed" to the Oklahoma tragedy.

"You are not in any way justified in shooting a BATF agent unless and until that BATF agent is attempting to kill you," Liddy said. He added that "if they come at you with lethal force, shooting, as in Waco . . . what are you going to do, let them kill you?"

The latest ideological eruption is in many ways reminiscent of the aftermath of the 1992 Los Angeles riots, which President George Bush said underscored the failure of Great Society programs and some Democrats blamed on GOP indifference toward urban problems.

Some journalists have attempted to prod top officials into assessing the possible relationship between the political climate and the Oklahoma tragedy. When a newspaper reporter last weekend asked Gingrich whether the GOP victory in November made the bombing possible, Gingrich angrily rejected the question as "grotesque and offensive."

On CBS's "Face the Nation," host Bob Schieffer asked White House Chief of Staff Leon E. Panetta whether "antigovernment rhetoric" on "talk radio" has "has somehow led these people to commit this act?" Panetta responded in general terms, but yesterday in New Orleans, he called on newspaper executives to find ways to encourage consensus, "instead of the polarizing debate you so often hear on television and talk radio and even these days on the Internet."

Despite Clinton's appeal for more civility in the political arena, the blame game continued to inflame the airwaves. On CNN's "Capital Gang Sunday," Juan Williams, a reporter on leave from The Washington Post, called the attack "the essence of the Anglo white man taken to some extreme, some fanatic extreme, and I will grant you that. But it's the same kind of idea that has fueled so much of the right-wing triumph over the agenda here in Washington."

On Limbaugh's show, a caller named Richard tried to link him to the bombers, saying: "Rush, you're their poster boy. . . . You give them credence to go out and do what they do."

Limbaugh tried to score his own political points. He blamed "George McGovern and other liberals" for trying "to put shackles on the ankles of FBI investigators" by limiting domestic intelligence-gathering in the 1960s and 1970s.

Limbaugh raised the issue of possible violence two months ago. Talking about property rights and "environmental wackos," he said that "the second violent American revolution is just about—I got my fingers about a quarter of an inch apart—is just about that far away. Because these people are sick and tired of a bunch of bureaucrats in Washington driving into town and telling them what they can and can't do with their land. . . ."

Staff writer John F. Harris in Minneapolis contributed to this report.

Oklahoma

Affirmative Action Case Embroils Clinton

Reported Choice of a U.S. Attorney in Mississippi Draws Criticism

By STEPHEN LABATON

WASHINGTON, April 24 — Provoking deep resentment among some of its strongest supporters, the Administration has decided to bypass a highly qualified white lawyer in order to appoint a less experienced lawyer as the first black United States Attorney in the history of Mississippi.

Administration officials say President Clinton has settled on Buck Buchanan, a junior Federal prosecutor, to be the next United States Attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi. In doing so, the White House denied the post to the Justice Department's original choice for the job in 1993, Josh Bogen, a white lawyer with stronger political and civil rights credentials.

The selection of Mr. Buchanan has opened a bitter debate over diversity in the Federal work force and how to achieve it. It also offers a revealing glimpse into the Administration's problems of balancing local interests while promoting minorities and women in record numbers to important Federal jobs.

The criticism of the Mississippi appointment is unusual in that it is coming from blacks and liberal Democrats who support Mr. Clinton's policy of promoting minorities and women. The selection is certain to be debated beyond Mississippi as the Administration completes its long-awaited review of the Government's affirmative action practices.

Mr. Bogen said in a recent interview that after his candidacy stalled in late 1993, he was told by Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, who is black and was then the highest ranking Mississippi Democrat in the Administration, that Mr. Clinton had decided it was crucial to have a black United States Attorney from the state.

"Espy told me that he supported me," Mr. Bogen said, "but that the President had personally rejected the idea of appointing two white U.S. Attorneys in the state."

Ginny Terzano, a White House spokeswoman, said last week that Mr. Bogen's account was "not accurate," but she declined to elaborate. Mr. Espy, who resigned last year after an investigation was begun of his ties to Tyson Foods, the huge

Mr. Clinton decided late last year to award the job of United States Attorney in the Southern District of Mississippi to Brad Pigott, who is white, after his leading supporter, former Gov. William Winter of Mississippi, lobbied the White House on his behalf.

For the Administration, which has seemed paralyzed over the decision on the Northern District post by the lobbying campaign, the selection process has been described by officials as intensely frustrating. "The politics of this has fused to gridlock," said one senior Administration official.

Ms. Terzano said that the White House had not made a "final decision" about the appointment for the Northern District. But two senior Administration officials and a Congressional official involved in the selection said that the White House would shortly announce that Mr. Clinton had settled on Mr. Buchanan.

Mr. Bogen, 50, a lawyer from Leland, Miss., has argued hundreds of cases, including many before the state's highest court, in representing more blacks than whites in the rural delta region where he has practiced law for the past two decades. He has long been an active member of the Democratic Party and was one of the very few whites in the state to work on behalf of George McGovern's Presidential candidacy 23 years ago.

Mr. Bogen's name was originally forwarded to the Justice Department in March 1993 as the third choice behind two black lawyers. The three lawyers were chosen by a committee formed by former Governor Winter and Mr. Espy, who was a former Congressman from the area before Mr. Clinton appointed him Agriculture Secretary.

The black lawyers had to withdraw their names when tax problems surfaced in routine background investigations, officials involved in the selection said. After the selection committee disbanded, a third black candidate was found for the job, but he, too, had tax problems and stepped aside.

Mr. Bogen has received the support of several leaders of the Mississippi bar and leading black lawyers, including Johnnie E. Walls Jr., the chairman of the State Democratic Party. The black lawyers have been critical of the selection of Mr. Buchanan because of his lack of experience.

In a letter sent earlier this year to the President, Mr. Walls maintained that the choice of Mr. Buchanan over Mr. Bogen would cause considerable harm to the Democratic Party in Mississippi in statewide elections this year.

"I think there is a need for affirmative action and for blacks to be put in positions which they have been denied from holding," Mr. Walls said in an interview. "But I'm not in favor of putting a black person in a position just for black's sake."

"We have been injured by that sort of thing in the past. Buck Buchanan will not give us the African-American presence that we need. He doesn't have the experience, he doesn't have the longevity and he doesn't have the independence from the U.S. Attorney's office that is necessary."

Mr. Buchanan, 37, is the third most junior lawyer out of 16 in the United States Attorney's office for the Northern District, in Oxford, having been in the office for four years. His supporters cannot recall any major cases that he has handled.

He was not interviewed by the local selection committee and was only considered for the post earlier this year, when Attorney General Janet Reno sent his name to the White House, saying he was qualified. Administration officials said the Justice Department had taken no official position between the two lawyers.

David Margolis, an Associate Deputy Attorney General in Washington who interviewed Mr. Buchanan earlier this year and recommended his appointment, said that he was "more than qualified for the job." Mr. Margolis said he had not been involved in the Justice Department's recommendation of Mr. Bogen two years ago and could not compare his record with Mr. Buchanan's.

"We wanted a candidate who has prosecutorial experience," Mr. Margolis said, "and Buck Buchanan has it."

Mr. Buchanan said in an interview that he had not sought the job. He declined to comment on the critics who say he is less qualified than Mr. Bogen.

Mr. Buchanan said he was recommended for the job by Representative Bennie G. Thompson, the state's lone black Congressman, whose district in Greenville was the only one

in the state to give Mr. Clinton a major of its votes in 1992. Another person involved in the selection said the White House had decided to give Mr. Thompson a say in the appointment in exchange for his support last year of Mr. Clinton's crime bill.

Mr. Thompson said that blacks were the largest group in Mississippi to support Mr. Clinton, and his failure to promote an African-American to a position from which they have historically been excluded would be a political blunder.

"It's no quota to select Mr. Buchanan," he said in an interview. "It's no preference. It's reality. All of the United States Attorneys in Mississippi have been white males. At some point diversity has a place."

But Mr. Bogen's supporters, many of whom have fought the unpopular civil rights struggles over the decades, see the selection as a lesson in how a preference for a black candidate has been transformed into a strict quota, denying a more experienced person a job solely because of his color.

Grady F. Tollison Jr., a former president of the Mississippi Bar Association, who is white, said: "I find it offensive that someone like Josh Bogen, who's been on the right side of the issues and who has sacrificed so much and is so qualified is now being rejected. I'm a lifelong Democrat, but I also believe we shouldn't say, 'Let's get an African-American at all costs.' Bogen is being rejected apparently for one reason, because he's white. That's just not right."

**A revealing look into
White House stakes
in promoting
minorities.**

Arkansas poultry producer, did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

Affirmative
Action

THE PRESIDENT

Shifting Debate to the Political Climate, Clinton Condemns 'Promoters of Paranoia'

By TODD S. PURDUM

DES MOINES, April 24 — President Clinton today denounced "promoters of paranoia" for spreading hate on the public airways and promptly found himself in a confrontation with conservative radio talk show hosts, whom he had not named but who interpreted his remarks as attacks on themselves.

After days of measured statements of grief and outrage over the Oklahoma City bombing, Mr. Clinton edged today into a new discussion of the civic and political climate that might have prompted it. Senior White House aides were so concerned lest his remarks be interpreted as an attack on radio hosts like Rush Limbaugh that they rushed to insist he had only been urging Americans to protect free speech by speaking out against hatred.

"We hear so many loud and angry voices in America today whose sole goal seems to be to try to keep some people as paranoid as possible and the rest of us all torn up and upset with each other," Mr. Clinton said in a speech to the American Association of Community Colleges in Minneapolis before flying to Iowa for a conference on rural America. "They spread hate. They leave the impression that, by their very words, that

violence is acceptable.

"You ought to see," Mr. Clinton continued, "I'm sure you are now seeing the reports of some things that are regularly said over the airwaves in America today. Well, people like that who want to share our freedoms must know that their bitter words can have consequences, and that freedom has endured in this country for more than two centuries because it was coupled with an enormous sense of responsibility."

But Mr. Limbaugh said in his radio broadcast today that it would be "irresponsible and vacuous" to suggest that debate heard on the radio contributed to events in Oklahoma City.

He asserted that liberals intended to use the bombing "for their own gain," and added, "The insinuations being made are irresponsible and are going to have a chilling effect on legitimate discussion."

Mr. Clinton did not mention Mr. Limbaugh or other political opponents by name, but he has sharply criticized him in the past. After initial news service reports characterized the President's remarks as an apparent reference to conservative talk show hosts, the top aides traveling with him — Deputy White House Chief of Staff, Harold M. Ickes, and

the communications director, Mark D. Gearan — sought out reporters to insist that was not so.

Mr. Gearan said the President may have been thinking of news reports that groups with ties to suspects in the bombing had used short-wave radio to broadcast anti-Government messages, and Mr. Ickes said Mr. Clinton was speaking more broadly.

"He is not pointing his finger at any particular person or any particular program," Mr. Ickes said. "But he is very concerned that words do have consequences."

Still later, White House aides distributed copies of the President's State of the Union Message, in which he called for a new civic discourse, in an effort to show that Mr. Clinton had been sounding similar themes for months.

But talk show hosts seized on the President's oratory as an attack on them and responded accordingly. In an interview broadcast tonight on ABC News, G. Gordon Liddy, whose talk show is syndicated in several markets around the country, said that he had no obligation to temper his tone.

"If a listener responds inappropriately it is beyond my control and not my fault," he declared.

For his part, Mr. Clinton insisted in some of his most pointed com-

ments ever on the subject that all Americans should take responsibility for their words. Gritting his teeth, his voice a husky croak, the President recalled his visits on Sunday with the families of the bombing victims in Oklahoma City, and he urged Americans to defend their liberty by calling to account those who would abuse it.

"When they talk of hatred, we must stand against them," he said, never putting a noun to the pronoun. "When they talk of violence, we must stand against them. When they say things that are irresponsible, that may have egregious consequences, we must call them on it. The exercise of their freedom of speech makes our silence all the more unforgivable."

"So exercise yours, my fellow Americans," he added. "Our country, our future, our way of life is at stake. I never want to look into the faces of another set of family members like I saw yesterday — and you can help stop it."

At another point, Mr. Clinton said: "If we are to have freedom to speak, freedom to assemble, and, yes, the freedom to bear arms, we must have responsibility as well. And to those of us who do not agree with the purveyors of hatred and division, with the promoters of paranoia, I remind you that we have freedom of speech, too, and we have responsibilities, too."

Mr. Clinton segued from his comments about the bombing into a renewed defense of direct Federal loans for college education in the face of Republican proposals to scale them back, and a renewed attack on Republican tax-cut proposals as favoring the rich at the expense of middle class.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1995

Oklahoma



Office of the First Lady

New File:
Oklahoma

The Children

I am the voice of the children -
simple and honest and clear.
Forever the light in the darkest of night,
I have not gone away, I am here.

I am the eyes of the children -
with vision beyond my years.
I focus my sight, unblinking and bright,
unclouded, except for my tears.

I am the soul of the children -
innocent, blameless and pure.
My spirit, undaunted, through violence flaunted,
will conquer and ever endure.

Remember the trust of the children.
Darkness will not have it's day;
take hold of my hand, and we'll both understand
that the children will show you the way.

Susan Hill Custer
Cushing, OK

AUTOMATIC COVER SHEET

DATE: APR-25-95 TUE 15:46

TO:

FAX #: 912024566244

FROM:

FAX #:

02 PAGES WERE SENT

(INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE)

OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

TO Dr. Robert Coles

FROM Maggie Williams / Evan Ryan

FAX # 919-681-7600

PHONE # 919-932-1168

OF PAGES (including cover) 3

COMMENTS

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 21, 1995

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT TO THE POOL
UPON DEPARTURE FOR HAVRE DE GRACE

The South Lawn

10:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I wanted to make a couple of points. First of all, I was briefed late last evening by the Attorney General on the status of the investigation, and I am well satisfied with the efforts that are being made, the progress that's being made. I would just ask that you and the American people not rush to any conclusions unsupported by known evidence and that we give the investigators the space they need to do their job. They are working hard; they are moving ahead.

The second thing I'd like to say is that Hillary and I have decided to go to Oklahoma City on Sunday to be a part of the memorial service and to be with the families of the victims and the people of Oklahoma City. I think all America will be there in spirit and is there today, and I have determined that I should also declare Sunday a national day of mourning for the victims there and to ask people in their places of worship and in their homes all across America to pray for the people there and for the community.

The final thing I'd like to say is just a brief message to the children of this country. I have been very concerned with how the children in Oklahoma City and, indeed, the children throughout America must be reacting to a horror of this magnitude. And my message to the children is that this was an evil thing and the people who did it were terribly, horribly wrong. We will catch them and we will punish them.

But the children of America need to know that almost all the adults in this country are good people who love their children and love other children, and we're going to get through this -- we're going to get through this. I don't want our children to believe something terrible about life, and the future, and grown-ups in general because of this awful thing. Most adults are good people who want to protect our children in their childhood, and we are going to get through this.

Q Mr. President, do you know of any progress in the investigation?

THE PRESIDENT: You know I'm not going to comment -- I'm letting the Justice Department announce progress. I don't think that

it's appropriate for me to say anything, except I can tell you that I know what they've done and the American people would be very pleased and very impressed by the work they are doing. But this is a big issue, and we don't want to undermine their ability to work by anything that is said or by jumping to unwarranted conclusions.

END 10:03 A.M. EDT

4/21/95

Dr. Robert Coles:

This is a strong country and we're going to get through this.

A lot of children will be concerned about the vulnerability of this country.

No matter how strong a country, or a person is- vulnerability is still a possibility.

Today - an 8 year old pointed out that these people died while doing the country's work (in a Federal Building)

Dr. Coles: 919-932-1168

FAX: 919-681-7600

HHS NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1995

Public Health Service
Bill Grigg, 202/690-6867
(CMHS) Craig Packer 301/443-2792
(NIMH) Marcia Corbett 301/443-3600

HUG, REASSURE FRIGHTENED CHILDREN, SECRETARY SHALALA SUGGESTS

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala suggested today that parents "hug and reassure" small children who have been frightened by the bombing in Oklahoma City.

"Tell them," the Secretary said, "that what happened in Oklahoma City does not endanger them and their families, and that you will protect them -- and tell them, if they want to help, that a note or drawing or the gift of a small toy might be a way to express sympathy."

Secretary Shalala said experts she had consulted said that smaller children -- unlike teens who typically think they are invincible -- may be anxious about their own safety following a disaster. They may cling and act more childish. "Children under 10 have little ability to assess risks or calculate odds and thus need straight-forward reassurances of the safety of their home, neighborhood and country."

She said experts in HHS' Public Health Service suggested telling children:

"You are safe here in your home and neighborhood.

"The police will find the bad people and put them in jail.

"You can help by sending a note or small gift, or collecting clothing or money that can be sent through the Red Cross or other agency."

According to Peter Jensen, M.D., chief of child and adolescent disorders at the National Institute on Mental Health, children -- like adults -- can benefit by taking action to help.

Secretary Shalala said in a message to HHS employees that the Public Health Service "has activated disaster medical assistance teams to provide emergency medical care in Oklahoma City.

- MORE -

"Many of you have asked if there is anything the rest of us can do to demonstrate support for the people affected by this tragedy. I can think of no better response than contacting your local blood donor organization to give 'the gift of life.'"

Dr. Jensen said that small children may not be reassured by subtle statements. Telling them the risk is one in a million may confirm to a child that he or she is in danger, he said. Thus, it is better to stretch reality a bit to provide the flat reassurance of safety a child needs.

Brian W. Flynn, chief of the Emergency Services and Disaster Relief Branch of the Center for Mental Health Services provided these pointers:

- Encourage children to talk about what they are seeing and to ask questions.
- Don't be afraid to admit that you can't answer all their questions.
- Answer questions at a level the child can understand.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for children to talk. They will probably have more and new questions as time goes on.
- Use this as an opportunity to establish a family emergency plan. Feeling that there is something you can do can be very comforting to both children and adults.
- This experience may provide an opportunity for children to discuss other fears and concerns about other unrelated issues. This is a good opportunity to explore these issues also.
- Monitor children's television watching. Some parents may wish to limit their child's exposure to graphic or troubling scenes. To the extent possible, watch reports of the bombing with children. It is at these times that questions might arise.
- Help children understand that there are no bad emotions and that a wide range of emotions is normal. It is important to encourage children to express emotions to adults (including teachers and parents) who can help them understand these sometimes strong and troubling emotions.
- Try not to focus on blame.

- In addition to the tragic things children will see, help them identify good things they'd seen like very heroic actions, families who are grateful for being reunited, and the way people around the country and the world are offering help.

The Center for Mental Health Services helps counsel children and adults at disaster scenes. It is part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

####

Copyright 1995 The Kansas City Star Co.
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

April 20, 1995 Thursday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/WORLD; Pg. A20

LENGTH: 361 words

HEADLINE: Parents can help children fight fears, experts say

BYLINE: SHIRL KASPER, Staff Writer

BODY:

News of the Oklahoma City bombing, like news about any crime or disaster, can scare children, so parents should be ready with a little reassurance, says a Kansas City psychologist.

"Of course it scares them, because to kids it's like it's right next door," said George Harris, a psychologist with the Professional Psychological Institute, a private practice in Kansas City.

Parents can reassure children by explaining that the tragedy happened hundreds of miles away and that it appears to be an isolated incident.

"You shouldn't dismiss it and say, 'It's nothing,' because it is," Harris said. "People died. But it's not World War III. "

He suggested that parents help children focus on more appropriate emotions, such as grief for the people who were killed.

Kansas City psychotherapist Cornelia Richardson said children will be afraid because they think a similar tragedy can happen to them.

"Make sure you stress that it's a one-time event that it's an unusual tragedy," she said.

If a child seems fearful of going back to his own day-care center, Richardson suggested that parents tell the child that people are checking the center to make sure it is safe.

If a parent feels anxiety about leaving the child at the day-care center, Richardson suggested the parent stay there an extra half-hour.

"It helps to say a prayer for the victims who lost their kids," she said, "and it might help to stay in the day-care center for a while and just be there with the child. "

Harris said it would not be unusual for parents themselves to have strong emotions about such a disaster.

"There may be anger that law enforcement couldn't stop this sort of thing," he said.

Before dealing with children, parents should get as many facts as possible about the tragedy, he said.

"Sit down with the kids. Go over the news accounts and give them an idea of how vast the country is and how isolated the incident is.

"The facts," he said, "should help people feel quieted about it. "

Staff writer Denise Crittendon contributed to this story.

LOAD-DATE-MDC: April 20, 1995

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 20, 1995, Thursday, HOME FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 29A

LENGTH: 342 words

HEADLINE: Helping kids deal with disaster;
Honesty called best policy for parents

BYLINE: Kim North, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

BODY:

Many Dallas-area children will be frightened and confused by the images they see on TV of the Oklahoma City bombing, mental health professionals say.

Some parents may try to shelter their children by shutting off the television or not talking about the disaster, said Dr. David Waller, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

That's a natural response, he says, especially because TV reports have been dominated by talk of the children who were injured or killed in the Alfred P. Murrah Building day-care center.

But avoiding the topic may actually heighten a child's fears, he said.

"A child's imagination can probably come up with worse thoughts than the facts of the story," Dr. Waller said.

He said discussions of the bombing should not be forced on them and the kids should not be lectured, "but it's best not to try to avoid talking about it."

Some children may not be bothered by the bombing, but for others it will take a psychological toll, he said. And although Oklahoma City may seem like a foreign country to Dallas-area children, they could still be affected by the disaster.

"You need to be on the lookout for children that get frightened by it," Dr. Waller said. "Some children may find themselves thinking about it, dreaming about it."

The doctor says the best parenting policy is "to be open and honest and talk about it" with children who are having a hard time.

And they can handle it, he said.

"The evidence is that children can really do a lot with the accurate information they get," said Dr. Waller, who has been with UT Southwestern 15 years. "You need to reassure them they are safe where they are as best you can.

"It's important to keep kids in their normal routine," such as school, he added.

Area school districts also have put counselors on alert in case children need to talk.

"The fact is things are relatively safe. That has to be conveyed," Dr. Waller said. "But it's misleading to tell them it's an absolutely safe world."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO(S): (AP) Family and friends of victims of the Alfred P. Murrah Building bombing comfort one another as they gather at the First Christian Church in Oklahoma City to get information and meet with counselors Wednesday evening.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE-MDC: April 21, 1995

Copyright 1994, The Commercial Appeal The Commercial
Appeal (Memphis)

February 4, 1994, Friday, Final Edition

SECTION: APPEAL, Pg. 4C

LENGTH: 355 words

HEADLINE: Calm fears with safety talks

BYLINE: The New York Times News Service

BODY:

Children who watch something frightening, either on television or in person, need to know the answers to three questions, even though they may not be able to ask them directly: Am I safe? Are you, my parents or the adults who care for me, safe? How will this affect my daily life? Only after those questions are answered will a child be able to put images of disaster in perspective.

Here are some specific things parents can do if their children are upset by what they saw in Los Angeles or any other natural or man-made disaster:

-- Listen before talking.

Remember that children may have different and, from your perspective, less-practical concerns than you do. A preschooler, for example, may talk about his fear that he will lose his toys. Keep in mind that such worries are highly symbolic. To a child that age, those toys may represent his life as he knows it. Belittling his concerns by saying that you can always buy more toys will only raise his anxieties.

-- Encourage your child to express his feelings.

This need not be with words, especially if your child is young. "Ask your child if she would like to draw a picture of what she saw," said Dr. Lenore Terr, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco. "Some children get a lot out of their systems by drawing."

-- Monitor your child's play.

Some children will appear to get "stuck" while they're playing out their fantasies about living through an earthquake. If their play always has the same ending, and it's a frightening one, help them rewrite the script. "Talk about how an ambulance arrived to save them, or how their house was OK," Hendren said.

– Let them know they are not alone.

Being abandoned to fend for themselves is the most terrifying thing many children can imagine. Let your child know that if there's an emergency at night, you will wake up and care for him. Talk about what other adults, like police officers, firefighters and doctors, will do to help him if he needs it.

LOAD-DATE-MDC: July 10, 1994

Copyright 1993 Business Wire, Inc.
Business Wire

April 12, 1993, Monday

DISTRIBUTION: News/Lifestyle Editors

LENGTH: 384 words

HEADLINE: L.A. riots -- talking to young children about fears

DATELINE: LOS ANGELES

BODY:

A California psychologist who has treated victims of disasters says that parents have a responsibility to talk to children about their "riot fears," since what young children can imagine can be worse than the actual events that could occur.

This according to Los Angeles psychologist Robert R. Butterworth, Ph.D., who says that the Rodney King episode alienated entire segments of L.A., from each other, creating a climate of distrust, fear and anger -- young children who are exposed to these emotions and who might be exposed to news coverage of anticipated riots could develop psychological symptoms.

"A small child who does not understand what is occurring today in Los Angeles could easily become confused and frightened as a result of all the talk of possible unpredictable events," Butterworth said.

Child Trauma Anxiety Symptoms The most frequent childhood fear and anxiety reactions are linked to the fear of being injured or killed, or fear of separation from the parents.

Many fears in children occur at night, usually during bedtime. This is seen by parents as children afraid to sleep alone, unable to fall asleep or repeated awakening throughout the night in which they seek parental reassurance.

Other trauma fear-symptoms in children include: being afraid to let a parent out of their sight; afraid of the dark; reacting with fear to any sudden noises, nightmares; aggressive episodes with other children; and withdrawal from activities.

Butterworth worries that the King episode has the power to alienate a new generation of young people from the police. "It used to be that young children viewed policemen as their friend and someone to call when they needed help. The fear now is that with the King beating video being repeatedly televised children now view the police not as their friend but someone to fear and avoid."

Butterworth is co-director of Contemporary Psychology Associates Inc., a counseling and research organization in Los Angeles that has treated victims of earthquakes and violent trauma.

The psychologist is available to discuss adult and child riot anticipatory anxiety.

CONTACT: Contemporary Psychology Associates Inc., Los Angeles
Robert R. Butterworth, 800/677-1983 (24 hours)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

June 27, 1990, Wednesday - INDIANA WEEKLY EAST Edition

SECTION: NEIGHBORHOODS; Pg. 13N

LENGTH: 1214 words

HEADLINE: ADULTS' REACTIONS CAN HELP CHILDREN OVERCOME FEARS

BYLINE: PAM ROBBINS

BODY:

snakes, spiders, mice, strange noises, death. The recent turbulent weather in Southern Indiana has made many adults and children fearful of changing weather. A flood, fire, tornado or other disaster can present situations that we have never had to face. When children are involved, the parents' reactions are crucial in helping children handle their fears.

Many of our fears are common; as adults we can easily handle or forget them. But children are not like adults. They cannot always distinguish fantasy from reality. They also do not have mature reasoning skills, they confuse living and non-living things, and they have not had the experience to cope with fears.

Parents and other adults who work with children can help them overcome fears. Talking about fears at the child's level of understanding is important. Openly discussing fears will reassure the child that having them is a normal part of growing up.

Fears in childhood are normal; many are even helpful. Parents want their children to develop a healthy fear, or at least caution, of strangers, sharp knives and busy highways. But children also need to learn to overcome fears of irrational or unrealistic dangers.

Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between normal fears and irrational ones. Most childhood fears are either fears that are present at birth, developmental fears that appear at certain ages or fears that children have learned from parents or traumatic experiences.

Many fears will disappear naturally as the child's reasoning and mental capabilities increase. Infant fears of unfamiliar people and objects disappear early. A preschooler's fear of imaginary creatures gradually gives way to realistic concerns about matters such as school, pain or injury. Even intense fears that might be labeled as phobias disappear because of developmental growth.

You can, however, help children cope with fears by using the following techniques:

- Talk with the child about his or her fears. Communication can be a source of information, comfort and encouragement. Do not ridicule or make fun of the fears ("It's silly to be afraid of the storm."). Instead, encourage the child to talk about feelings and perceptions. Offer reassurance with comments such as "I don't like storms, either. Here is what I do when it looks stormy."

- Give the child accurate information about fears. Do not use confusing or fear-producing explanations to establish obedience. If you explain death as a long, long sleep, the child may be terrified of going to bed.

- Select good children's books about fears to read with the child. Books about children's fears can provide honest information and clarify misinformation your child may have heard. They can also assure your child that he is not the only one experiencing fear.

- Prepare the child for dealing with fearful situations. Play the "what if" game. "What if it started to storm? What if the lights went out?" Children who realize they are resourceful and can do something about frightening situations are better able to overcome their fears. Having fire and tornado drills at home are beneficial; they help children and adults prepare for emergencies.

- Help the child discover that some frightening situations can be changed. Turning on the lights when he is afraid of the dark is a way a child can control that environment. And while we cannot control thunderstorms or big waves at the beach, following safety precautions can decrease risks.

Preparing a child to deal with fears is helpful; however, there will still be times when the child is afraid. Here are some tips to use in those instances:

- Talk with the child about the frightening situation. Let him know that he can talk to you about the situation, regardless of what it is.

- Allow the child plenty of time to handle the situation. Do not push the child into a scary situation. Forcing him to stay in a dark room will only intensify the fear of the dark.

- Accept the child's fears, feelings and reactions. Do not deny that the child is afraid, as these fears are very real. Ridiculing or shaming children will make them hide feelings from you.

- Tell the child the truth about frightening events. "Yes, the shot may hurt you. So it's OK to yell and make faces, but you must hold still." Don't try to deceive the child

about stressful or frightening events. Providing information about the hospital or death or divorce is not harmful to the child, but being deceitful is.

- Involve the child in decision-making and problem-solving about frightening situations. This will enhance his feelings of power and competence. Ask, "What do you think would help you when you are afraid?"

- Suggest ways the child can cope with fears: "Some people who are afraid of the dark carry a flashlight or use a night light." "Would you like to go the basement when it is storming?" "What would make you feel better?" Do not limit the child's options by emphasizing the negatives: "Don't cry! Don't act like a baby!" Instead, suggest what the child can do.

All of us experience fears. As sensitive, caring adults, we want to protect children from fearful situations. However, we cannot always protect them, nor can we keep them from being afraid. We can, however, reduce their fearfulness by helping them express their fears and distinguish real from imaginary dangers. We can also help them become increasingly independent and confident about handling frightening situations.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE-MDC: August 31, 1993

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

February 5, 1986, Wednesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Domestic News

LENGTH: 226 words

DATELINE: PHILADELPHIA

BODY:

Young children who saw the space shuttle explosion last week will suffer few long-term effects from the trauma, a Temple University child specialist said Wednesday.

Dr. Irwin Hyman, professor of school psychology, doubts students who were to watch Christa McAuliffe's science lessons in space will have trouble resuming their studies or reviving their interest in space travel.

McAuliffe, who along with six other astronauts was killed when the space shuttle Challenger exploded Jan. 28, 74 seconds after takeoff, was to teach classes from space.

Hyman said the reaction to death depends on the age of the child.

"Children ages 5 and 6 don't really understand the concept of death. They may believe the person has just gone away," Hyman said. "Whereas the child a bit older, 7 to 10 years old, starts to conceive of the permanency of death."

Hyman said parents and teachers should initiate conversations about the accident, encouraging the children to express their feelings.

"Everyone learns to live with death. The difference with McAuliffe was that the students got to know her through television and became attached to her in the same sense as they would to a movie star," Hyman said.

Hyman said children today are more resilient to the concept of death and dying because they see so much of it on television and in news reports.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1986 Chicago Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune

January 30, 1986 Thursday, SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 6; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 1045 words

HEADLINE: BEST TO LET KIDS TALK ABOUT IT, EXPERTS SAY

BYLINE: By Eileen Ogintz and Jean Latz Griffin.

BODY:

Millions of schoolchildren were watching because a teacher was going up in space. In an instant, their cheers turned to stunned silence. The space shuttle Challenger had exploded as they watched. That wasn't supposed to happen--not in real life.

Now what are they supposed to think?

"Children will be as deeply moved by the tragedy as grownups," said Dr. Lillian Robinson, a child psychiatrist who teaches at Tulane University School of Medicine and who has worked with children who have suffered trauma. "It's like the Kennedy assassination. The whole nation is plunged into mourning. But it will come even closer for a good many children. They all know a teacher."

As the nation grappled Wednesday with its grief at the sudden loss of six astronauts and New Hampshire teacher Christa McAuliffe, psychiatrists, psychologists, parents and teachers were working to help children understand the tragedy and to prevent it from having any lasting effects on them.

Letting children talk about their feelings is the best thing for them, the experts suggest.

"Basically, their lives will go on as before, and this is what parents need to express," said Dr. Alan Ravitz, a child psychiatrist who teaches at the University of Chicago Medical School. He said children need to be reassured that while this happened once, it is unlikely to occur again or to them.

"As long as kids have the opportunity to talk about it, I don't think it will have a big impact," he said.

In McAuliffe's hometown of Concord, N.H., they weren't taking any chances. By Tuesday afternoon, mental health professionals were visiting Concord High School,

where McAuliffe taught, and other local schools. The schools were closed Wednesday, but counselors and psychologists were available for the students.

"They're grieving. It's a very natural thing. They just don't have the words for it," explained Donald Shumway, director of the New Hampshire Department of Mental Health.

At Olive Elementary School in suburban Arlington Heights, youngsters had plenty to say.

Ten-year-old Jake Pardell, for example, said he doesn't want to be an astronaut any more. His classmate Ernie Costello thinks it's wrong to send private citizens into space. And Margaret McCarthy, who is 11, worried that the astronauts didn't level with their children about the dangers.

"I'm not saying parents shouldn't go on space flights," said Margaret, the youngest of five children and one of the group of Olive students who were discussing the tragedy. "But parents should give their children the facts. . . too often parents say everything is going to be all right when it really isn't. They should consider deeply what their death might mean to their children."

"It was pretty bad that it happened," added Ernie. "But it was even worse because they were trying to do something to encourage ordinary people to go on the shuttles and then this one exploded."

"There's a disillusionment with the safety of space," conceded Dr. Derek Miller, the child psychiatrist who directs the adolescent program at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and is a professor at Northwestern University Medical School.

Miller said some of his patients also were angry at NASA for sending McAuliffe, who would have been the first private citizen to go into space, on such a dangerous mission. But he added that youngsters today hear so much about death and tragedy every night on the news that he doubts this would have a lasting impact.

"Kids become cold and disinterested," he said. "We pelt them with it, and they can't deal with it so they withdraw from it."

"It would be nice if children could respond to a national tragedy, but I don't think they will."

Jake Pardell probably wouldn't agree. "They showed a film of Mrs. McAuliffe and her face looked so happy," the Olive School third grader said. "If I saw her face after the explosion, I don't know what it would look like."

"Every kid and every adult has had a teacher who was special to them," explained Dr. Bennett Leventhal, director of child psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical School. "Mrs. McAuliffe made everybody think of that special teacher."

Experts around the country also say that youngsters could relate more to the loss of Mrs. McAuliffe because she was a mother and because they were involved, too—through the lessons they knew Mrs. McAuliffe would be broadcasting to their

classrooms from space.

"It would not be abnormal for them to respond," said Dr. Lenore Terre, a child psychiatrist and professor at the University of California at San Francisco Medical School who is a pioneer in the study of post-traumatic stress in children.

Dr. Terre and others caution that parents shouldn't be surprised if their children do act differently the next few days. Children may have nightmares, for example, or be afraid of anything from dogs to the dark. They could act withdrawn or unusually aggressive. They may have trouble sleeping or with their homework. Or they may just be plain silly.

"Sad children don't look like sad adults necessarily," explained Tulane's Robinson. "They may raise hell to get away from the sad feelings and to distract themselves." One group in a suburban Chicago high school, for example, broke into cheers when the explosion of the shuttle was replayed in their school cafeteria.

But for most healthy children, the experts agree, their behavior should return to normal quickly. Those who already have problems or have recently experienced a loss of their own--a grandparent, for example, or a divorce in their family--may have a tougher time.

"There will be different responses in different classrooms in different schools depending on what the kids and teachers do," said Dr. Ravitz. "I want to emphasize that we don't know what will happen. We'll just have to see."

"Everybody will have such losses in their own lives," said New Hampshire's Donald Shumway. "It is important that children learn to understand that grieving is OK and that it's OK to cry."

LANGUAGE: LANGUAGE

LOAD-DATE-MDC: September 15, 1993

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

January 29, 1986, Wednesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Regional News

DISTRIBUTION: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

LENGTH: 553 words

HEADLINE: Teacher to students: 'Keep trying'

BYLINE: By RICHARD MARCH

DATELINE: CONCORD, N.H.

BODY:

Counselors at Christa McAuliffe's school consoled grieving students Wednesday, saying their teacher's death aboard the space shuttle should inspire them to pursue their dreams.

"I guess it means it's important to keep trying. That's what she was trying to do," said Eileen O'Hara, a friend of McAuliffe's who substitute taught her class.

O'Hara was one of dozens of educators and psychologists called Wednesday to Concord High School, where classes were canceled so the 1,159 students could cope with McAuliffe's death Tuesday in the explosion of the shuttle Challenger.

Principal Charles Foley said classes would resume Thursday morning, but the afternoon would be reserved for students seeking counseling for the "terrible trauma." The high school will hold a memorial service Friday, he said.

Student David Terrill said of his feelings, "It's mostly confusion. After that, I guess you could call it hatred, or anger really. Once you get past why it happened and how it happened, you go on because you just can't stop life."

Terrill returned to the large red-brick school in New Hampshire's capital to talk with O'Hara. The lanky junior walked into her office and they hugged and cried.

"It's important to acknowledge it's a sad time," O'Hara told him. "To pretend it's not, doesn't make any sense."

Students who gathered Tuesday to celebrate McAuliffe's historic blastoff as the first private citizen to explore space and saw then saw the shuttle explode were asked by

educators to talk about their emotions.

James Wells, deputy director of the Central New Hampshire Community Mental Health Services Inc., said psychologists were sent to Concord schools to help students and teachers.

Young children who had followed McAuliffe's "ultimate field trip" should play out the disaster with toy shuttles if it helps them understand the disaster, Wells said.

"That is part of what gets them through the process," said Wells, adding that parents should be very clear explaining to young children what happened. "All they saw was an explosion."

He said older students could have sleep disturbances, periods of depressions and confusion and may want to avoid school. Wells said teachers had identified with McAuliffe and made an "emotional investment" in her.

"A lot of teachers are having problems with this," Wells said.

Foley agreed, saying "We have a lot of teachers who are hurting bad. People who are suffering from depression don't teach very well."

"I have my good moments and my bad moments," said Chris MacLeod, an English teacher.

MacLeod said teachers would let students know "that it's okay to express emotion. And to help students be tolerant of each other ... that laughing, crying is okay."

John Reinhardt, the district's psychologist, said students were angry over losing a popular teacher.

"They feel anger and they don't know what to do with it," he said.

"We want to make teachers aware of the telltale signs of a child in need," said Mark Beauvais, superintendent of schools. "Someone that wants to get a drink of water every five minutes... go to the bathroom every five minutes. A child squirming in his seat."

Beauvais said he was thinking of asking McAuliffe's backup astronaut, teacher Barbara Morgan, to come speak with Concord students.

GRAPHIC: PICTURE

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

January 28, 1986, Tuesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Regional News

DISTRIBUTION: New York Metro, New York Metro

LENGTH: 557 words

HEADLINE: Damage to children watching could be lasting

BYLINE: By GAYLE YOUNG, UPI Science Writer

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

The thousands of school children who watched in horror Tuesday as the space Shuttle Challenger exploded and took the life of teacher Christa McAuliffe may be deeply traumatized, child psychiatrists said.

"Just witnessing such an event can be traumatizing, especially if the school had built up enthusiasm over the flight and the children felt they were part of it," said Dr. Elliott M. Kranzler, child psychiatrist at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

"Some of the younger ones may see it as just another explosion or death on television," he said. "But many may connect to it in a very personal way, especially if they see how upset their own teachers are."

Challenger exploded a little over one minute after takeoff Tuesday, killing Concord, N.H., high school social studies teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was to be the first civilian in space. Her six crewmates also were killed.

Thousands of school children across the country watched the explosion live on television during special assemblies. McAuliffe's own students, viewing the launch on television, cheered and raised banners during the initial takeoff then sat in stunned silence as the space shuttle burst into flames before their eyes.

Reporters and photographers were ordered out of the school and the children back to their classrooms. McAuliffe's two children, both under age 10, reportedly witnessed the event with their family at the launch site.

Even those children who did not witness the event live on television will be exposed to reruns. The networks showed the fiery crash dozens of times Tuesday, and the psychiatrists said each viewing will freshen the child's feelings about the

tragedy.

The doctors said it will be important for teachers and parents to talk with children about the crash and not try to shield them from the knowledge that accidents sometimes take lives.

"Encourage questions," said Leon A. Rosenberg, a child psychologist at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. "They will ask everything from did the people in the shuttle feel pain, are they in heaven, why did it happen?"

"As a parent I'd have to say 'I don't know why it happened'," he said.

Kranzler said children may be more traumatized because a teacher was involved in the crash.

"Children idealize astronauts and fantasize about them but teachers are part of their every day lives," he said. "Next to parents, teachers are the most important adults in a child's life."

He said teachers should encourage discussion about the accident.

"If her flight was to be part of the curriculum then make the tragedy part of the curriculum," he said. "Make it a chance to talk about accidents."

The doctors said some small children may be afraid of travel after viewing the accident.

As for McAuliffe's two children, a boy and a girl, the impact of watching their mother perish in the crash could be very severe.

"Our studies show children bereave differently from when their parents die in an accident and when they die after a long illness," said Kranzler.

Joyce Brothers, a syndicated psychologist, said the McAuliffe children will benefit if family members talk with them about the tragedy and share their grief.

"They may even be stronger for it because they have dealt with the worst life has to give and they have survived," she said.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1993 The Times Mirror Company
Los Angeles Times

May 3, 1993, Monday, Orange County Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 23; Column 1; Metro Desk

LENGTH: 636 words

HEADLINE: HELPING KIDS WHO WITNESSED CRASH;
FEELINGS OF FEAR, SHOCK MAY LAST FOR MONTHS; EXPERTS SAY FREE
EXPRESSION OF FEELINGS IS BEST WAY TO COPE

BYLINE: By LESLIE BERKMAN, TIMES STAFF WRITER

BODY:

The thousands of children who witnessed the fiery crash Sunday at the El Toro Air Show may be talking for months about how scared they were -- and that is perfectly healthy, experts in child behavior say.

Parents who try to minimize the tragedy may prompt children to bury their feelings, counselors said, and that could cause children difficulty in later life. Those suppressed emotions also could reappear in nightmares or bed wetting.

"For parents to encourage their kids to hold their feelings back would convey the message that it is not OK to talk about hurtful and painful feelings, and that promotes an atmosphere in which kids can't talk about things that bother them," said Carl Shubs, a clinical psychologist in Los Angeles specializing in post-traumatic stress.

"As much as possible, encourage the kids to talk about what they saw, what happened and how they felt about it. They can draw it and possibly write a story about it," Shubs said.

Parents probably also were shocked and frightened by the crash, he said, and it is important for the kids to see "how mom and dad deal with the shock and fear. . . . The more you are able to express it, the easier it is to get through it."

Jacqueline Hamilton, a nurse in charge of the crisis stabilization unit at College Hospital in Costa Mesa, advised parents to give their children an extra dose of "warmth and tenderness and care" over the next couple days.

"At this time of crisis, they need to feel very protected by their parents so they are not more traumatized by the experience," Hamilton said.

Children who are upset by the crash, she said, may become withdrawn or troubled in their sleep. "If they wake with nightmares, be there for them until they quiet down," she said.

While children see a lot of violence and death on television and in the movies, counselors said an eyewitness experience adds another horrifying dimension -- the terrified cries and screams of adults.

"Children under 7 won't comprehend death. The greater trauma they feel will be the reaction of their parents and other adults around them," said Mark Burns, a marriage, family and child counselor in San Juan Capistrano.

The fear could resurface in the future when the child or a close family member is preparing to travel by plane or simply when a plane passes overhead.

"Every time they see a plane, they may be waiting for it to crash," Burns said.

To avoid this fear of flying, Burns and other counselors suggest that parents help the children put the accident in perspective. One way is to point out the relatively good safety record of air travel.

"Don't belittle the tragedy of it. But explain that it doesn't happen all the time," Burns said. "Take them to John Wayne (Airport) and let them see the planes coming and going and show that it is perfectly safe."

Child experts observed that eventually children have to learn the harder facts of life, and tragedies such as Sunday's crash present an opportunity for parents to be teachers.

"At some point, there will be some tragedy the kids will see that will make them realize that this is part of life, and I don't think it is really within our control to orchestrate when that event will happen," said Douglas McKenzie, pastor of Harbor Christian Fellowship in Costa Mesa. McKenzie said one way his family faces tragedies is to pray about them.

While child experts say it is normal for children to be shocked by unexpected calamities, they caution that some children, especially those with other anxieties in their lives, may need professional guidance.

The Orange County Red Cross will staff a hot line of professional counselors Monday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to assist anyone who witnessed the crash and also to arrange for individual or group counseling. The hot line number is (714) 835-5381.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1990 Chicago Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune

May 13, 1990, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: TEMPO; Pg. 3; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 780 words

HEADLINE: Kids and trauma
Counseling helps children to grieve and heal

BYLINE: By Eileen Ogintz

BODY:

One Riverside child just wanted to go home to bed after he saw the car plow across the field full of Little Leaguers playing T-ball.

"He thought if he went to bed he could make it into a dream that turned out differently," explained Bill Moor, a psychologist who lives in Riverside and has been counseling some of the families in the aftermath of last weekend's tragedy that killed three 7- and 8-year-old children and left six other children and three adults injured.

Other children in the community couldn't sleep or had nightmares, their parents reported to the counselors. There were many, though, who simply were too young to grasp the tragedy, the finality of death. One youngster, for example, wanted to know when her dead friend would be back. Another matter-of-factly told her scout leader that she would need a new partner now.

Those from religious families, Moor said, struggled with the moral issues: How could an all-powerful God allow such a tragedy to happen?

Across Riverside, the counselors were ready for the questions last week - in classrooms, in their offices and at special meetings. They encouraged the kids to talk in groups and one-on-one. They counseled teachers on how to respond. They told the parents what they might expect from their children in the weeks and months to come - sleepless nights, lack of appetite, perhaps some regressive behavior, some clinging.

And they told them they'll be there to help as long as they're needed - for the adults as well as the children. "We're trying to deal short term and long term," said Riverside Fire Chief Anthony Bednarz. "This isn't going to just go away after the funerals."

"You have to give parents a place to talk about their feelings so they can (be there) for their children," said Mary Stecher, director of the Community Family Service and

Mental Health Association in La Grange, which does considerable counseling in the Riverside schools and had staff on hand in the grieving community last week.

"Most important, we have to reassure the children that they're safe," Stecher continued. She explained that such a trauma can jar young children's sense of security just as they are venturing out into the world.

"The kids need to go over and over what happened, they need to master the trauma," added Colette Luick, who directs the child and adolescent programs for the Community Family Service agency. "They're angry and confused and sad."

It's only recently, though, that mental health professionals have recognized the importance of helping children psychologically heal after such a trauma. In the past, experts explain, kids were thought to be more resilient, that they would bounce back quickly on their own. But research has shown that without immediate help, some children who have experienced a major tragedy may develop permanent emotional scars and that, like adults, they may be subject to post traumatic stress syndrome.

"Children don't grieve like adults," explained James Carger, a psychologist who is on the Riverside school board and who spent much of the week counseling parents, teachers and children at St. Mary's School. "It comes in waves. It hits them and then it passes and it looks like they're over it. But it comes back again and you have to be sensitive to what they're feeling."

Luick added that some children may even react years from now when they are better able to grasp what happened - how they had such a close brush with death.

At the same time, parents must deal with their own feelings. Some felt guilty that they couldn't do more when the accident occurred. Others felt survivor's guilt that their children lived while others died. Their sense of security is as shattered as their children's.

Riverside is a conservative, tight-knit community, Moor explained, where life centers on the children, where everybody knows one another.

"If you didn't know the children, your children are best friends with their brothers and sisters. If you don't know the parents, you have a friend who is very close to them. It's that level of contact. This has had a profound effect on the entire community," Carger said.

Each child - each adult - will grieve differently, depending on what he saw, how close he was to the children who died, what else has happened in his own family recently. But there's no easy remedy, no pat answers that will serve, he and the other counselors say. "The tendency with adults is to provide answers we don't have," Carger said. "And those answers don't satisfy."

"It feels like the end of the world," Stecher said. "But we (tell the children) we will all find a way to get through this. We will help each other."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Friends of the three Little Leaguers mourn at a service at St. Mary's Church in Riverside. Tribune photo by Jose More.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

HHS NEWS

*File
Oklahoma*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 20, 1995

Public Health Service
Bill Grigg, 202/690-6867
(CMHS) Craig Packer 301/443-2792
(NIMH) Marcia Corbett 301/443-3600

HUG, REASSURE FRIGHTENED CHILDREN, SECRETARY SHALALA SUGGESTS

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala suggested today that parents "hug and reassure" small children who have been frightened by the bombing in Oklahoma City.

"Tell them," the Secretary said, "that what happened in Oklahoma City does not endanger them and their families, and that you will protect them -- and tell them, if they want to help, that a note or drawing or the gift of a small toy might be a way to express sympathy."

Secretary Shalala said experts she had consulted said that smaller children -- unlike teens who typically think they are invincible -- may be anxious about their own safety following a disaster. They may cling and act more childish. "Children under 10 have little ability to assess risks or calculate odds and thus need straight-forward reassurances of the safety of their home, neighborhood and country."

She said experts in HHS' Public Health Service suggested telling children:

"You are safe here in your home and neighborhood.

"The police will find the bad people and put them in jail.

"You can help by sending a note or small gift, or collecting clothing or money that can be sent through the Red Cross or other agency."

According to Peter Jensen, M.D., chief of child and adolescent disorders at the National Institute on Mental Health, children -- like adults -- can benefit by taking action to help.

Secretary Shalala said in a message to HHS employees that the Public Health Service "has activated disaster medical assistance teams to provide emergency medical care in Oklahoma City.

- MORE -

"Many of you have asked if there is anything the rest of us can do to demonstrate support for the people affected by this tragedy. I can think of no better response than contacting your local blood donor organization to give 'the gift of life.'"

Dr. Jensen said that small children may not be reassured by subtle statements. Telling them the risk is one in a million may confirm to a child that he or she is in danger, he said. Thus, it is better to stretch reality a bit to provide the flat reassurance of safety a child needs.

Brian W. Flynn, chief of the Emergency Services and Disaster Relief Branch of the Center for Mental Health Services provided these pointers:

- Encourage children to talk about what they are seeing and to ask questions.
- Don't be afraid to admit that you can't answer all their questions.
- Answer questions at a level the child can understand.
- Provide ongoing opportunities for children to talk. They will probably have more and new questions as time goes on.
- Use this as an opportunity to establish a family emergency plan. Feeling that there is something you can do can be very comforting to both children and adults.
- This experience may provide an opportunity for children to discuss other fears and concerns about other unrelated issues. This is a good opportunity to explore these issues also.
- Monitor children's television watching. Some parents may wish to limit their child's exposure to graphic or troubling scenes. To the extent possible, watch reports of the bombing with children. It is at these times that questions might arise.
- Help children understand that there are no bad emotions and that a wide range of emotions is normal. It is important to encourage children to express emotions to adults (including teachers and parents) who can help them understand these sometimes strong and troubling emotions.
- Try not to focus on blame.

- In addition to the tragic things children will see, help them identify good things they'd seen like very heroic actions, families who are grateful for being reunited, and the way people around the country and the world are offering help.

The Center for Mental Health Services helps counsel children and adults at disaster scenes. It is part of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

####

Copyright 1995 The Kansas City Star Co.
THE KANSAS CITY STAR

April 20, 1995 Thursday METROPOLITAN EDITION

SECTION: NATIONAL/WORLD; Pg. A20

LENGTH: 361 words

HEADLINE: Parents can help children fight fears, experts say

BYLINE: SHIRL KASPER, Staff Writer

BODY:

News of the Oklahoma City bombing, like news about any crime or disaster, can scare children, so parents should be ready with a little reassurance, says a Kansas City psychologist.

"Of course it scares them, because to kids it's like it's right next door," said George Harris, a psychologist with the Professional Psychological Institute, a private practice in Kansas City.

Parents can reassure children by explaining that the tragedy happened hundreds of miles away and that it appears to be an isolated incident.

"You shouldn't dismiss it and say, 'It's nothing,' because it is," Harris said. "People died. But it's not World War III."

He suggested that parents help children focus on more appropriate emotions, such as grief for the people who were killed.

Kansas City psychotherapist Cornelia Richardson said children will be afraid because they think a similar tragedy can happen to them.

"Make sure you stress that it's a one-time event that it's an unusual tragedy," she said.

If a child seems fearful of going back to his own day-care center, Richardson suggested that parents tell the child that people are checking the center to make sure it is safe.

If a parent feels anxiety about leaving the child at the day-care center, Richardson suggested the parent stay there an extra half-hour.

"It helps to say a prayer for the victims who lost their kids," she said, "and it might help to stay in the day-care center for a while and just be there with the child. "

Harris said it would not be unusual for parents themselves to have strong emotions about such a disaster.

"There may be anger that law enforcement couldn't stop this sort of thing," he said.

Before dealing with children, parents should get as many facts as possible about the tragedy, he said.

"Sit down with the kids. Go over the news accounts and give them an idea of how vast the country is and how isolated the incident is.

"The facts," he said, "should help people feel quieted about it. "

Staff writer Denise Crittendon contributed to this story.

LOAD-DATE-MDC: April 20, 1995

Copyright 1995 The Dallas Morning News
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

April 20, 1995, Thursday, HOME FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 29A

LENGTH: 342 words

HEADLINE: Helping kids deal with disaster;
Honesty called best policy for parents

BYLINE: Kim North, Staff Writer of The Dallas Morning News

BODY:

Many Dallas-area children will be frightened and confused by the images they see on TV of the Oklahoma City bombing, mental health professionals say.

Some parents may try to shelter their children by shutting off the television or not talking about the disaster, said Dr. David Waller, director of child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

That's a natural response, he says, especially because TV reports have been dominated by talk of the children who were injured or killed in the Alfred P. Murrah Building day-care center.

But avoiding the topic may actually heighten a child's fears, he said.

"A child's imagination can probably come up with worse thoughts than the facts of the story," Dr. Waller said.

He said discussions of the bombing should not be forced on them and the kids should not be lectured, "but it's best not to try to avoid talking about it."

Some children may not be bothered by the bombing, but for others it will take a psychological toll, he said. And although Oklahoma City may seem like a foreign country to Dallas-area children, they could still be affected by the disaster.

"You need to be on the lookout for children that get frightened by it," Dr. Waller said. "Some children may find themselves thinking about it, dreaming about it."

The doctor says the best parenting policy is "to be open and honest and talk about it" with children who are having a hard time.

And they can handle it, he said.

"The evidence is that children can really do a lot with the accurate information they get," said Dr. Waller, who has been with UT Southwestern 15 years. "You need to reassure them they are safe where they are as best you can.

"It's important to keep kids in their normal routine," such as school, he added.

Area school districts also have put counselors on alert in case children need to talk.

"The fact is things are relatively safe. That has to be conveyed," Dr. Waller said. "But it's misleading to tell them it's an absolutely safe world."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO(S): (AP) Family and friends of victims of the Alfred P. Murrah Building bombing comfort one another as they gather at the First Christian Church in Oklahoma City to get information and meet with counselors Wednesday evening.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE-MDC: April 21, 1995

Copyright 1994, The Commercial Appeal The Commercial
Appeal (Memphis)

February 4, 1994, Friday, Final Edition

SECTION: APPEAL, Pg. 4C

LENGTH: 355 words

HEADLINE: Calm fears with safety talks

BYLINE: The New York Times News Service

BODY:

Children who watch something frightening, either on television or in person, need to know the answers to three questions, even though they may not be able to ask them directly: Am I safe? Are you, my parents or the adults who care for me, safe? How will this affect my daily life? Only after those questions are answered will a child be able to put images of disaster in perspective.

Here are some specific things parents can do if their children are upset by what they saw in Los Angeles or any other natural or man-made disaster:

— Listen before talking.

Remember that children may have different and, from your perspective, less-practical concerns than you do. A preschooler, for example, may talk about his fear that he will lose his toys. Keep in mind that such worries are highly symbolic. To a child that age, those toys may represent his life as he knows it. Belittling his concerns by saying that you can always buy more toys will only raise his anxieties.

— Encourage your child to express his feelings.

This need not be with words, especially if your child is young. "Ask your child if she would like to draw a picture of what she saw," said Dr. Lenore Terr, a clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California at San Francisco. "Some children get a lot out of their systems by drawing."

— Monitor your child's play.

Some children will appear to get "stuck" while they're playing out their fantasies about living through an earthquake. If their play always has the same ending, and it's a frightening one, help them rewrite the script. "Talk about how an ambulance arrived to save them, or how their house was OK," Hendren said.

– Let them know they are not alone.

Being abandoned to fend for themselves is the most terrifying thing many children can imagine. Let your child know that if there's an emergency at night, you will wake up and care for him. Talk about what other adults, like police officers, firefighters and doctors, will do to help him if he needs it.

LOAD-DATE-MDC: July 10, 1994

Copyright 1993 Business Wire, Inc.
Business Wire

April 12, 1993, Monday

DISTRIBUTION: News/Lifestyle Editors

LENGTH: 384 words

HEADLINE: L.A. riots -- talking to young children about fears

DATELINE: LOS ANGELES

BODY:

A California psychologist who has treated victims of disasters says that parents have a responsibility to talk to children about their "riot fears," since what young children can imagine can be worse than the actual events that could occur.

This according to Los Angeles psychologist Robert R. Butterworth, Ph.D., who says that the Rodney King episode alienated entire segments of L.A., from each other, creating a climate of distrust, fear and anger -- young children who are exposed to these emotions and who might be exposed to news coverage of anticipated riots could develop psychological symptoms.

"A small child who does not understand what is occurring today in Los Angeles could easily become confused and frightened as a result of all the talk of possible unpredictable events," Butterworth said.

Child Trauma Anxiety Symptoms The most frequent childhood fear and anxiety reactions are linked to the fear of being injured or killed, or fear of separation from the parents.

Many fears in children occur at night, usually during bedtime. This is seen by parents as children afraid to sleep alone, unable to fall asleep or repeated awakening throughout the night in which they seek parental reassurance.

Other trauma fear-symptoms in children include: being afraid to let a parent out of their sight; afraid of the dark; reacting with fear to any sudden noises, nightmares; aggressive episodes with other children; and withdrawal from activities.

Butterworth worries that the King episode has the power to alienate a new generation of young people from the police. "It used to be that young children viewed policemen as their friend and someone to call when they needed help. The fear now is that with the King beating video being repeatedly televised children now view the police not as their friend but someone to fear and avoid."

Butterworth is co-director of Contemporary Psychology Associates Inc., a counseling and research organization in Los Angeles that has treated victims of earthquakes and violent trauma.

The psychologist is available to discuss adult and child riot anticipatory anxiety.

CONTACT: Contemporary Psychology Associates Inc., Los Angeles
Robert R. Butterworth, 800/677-1983 (24 hours)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

June 27, 1990, Wednesday - INDIANA WEEKLY EAST Edition

SECTION: NEIGHBORHOODS; Pg. 13N

LENGTH: 1214 words

HEADLINE: ADULTS' REACTIONS CAN HELP CHILDREN OVERCOME FEARS

BYLINE: PAM ROBBINS

BODY:

snakes, spiders, mice, strange noises, death. The recent turbulent weather in Southern Indiana has made many adults and children fearful of changing weather. A flood, fire, tornado or other disaster can present situations that we have never had to face. When children are involved, the parents' reactions are crucial in helping children handle their fears.

Many of our fears are common; as adults we can easily handle or forget them. But children are not like adults. They cannot always distinguish fantasy from reality. They also do not have mature reasoning skills, they confuse living and non-living things, and they have not had the experience to cope with fears.

Parents and other adults who work with children can help them overcome fears. Talking about fears at the child's level of understanding is important. Openly discussing fears will reassure the child that having them is a normal part of growing up.

Fears in childhood are normal; many are even helpful. Parents want their children to develop a healthy fear, or at least caution, of strangers, sharp knives and busy highways. But children also need to learn to overcome fears of irrational or unrealistic dangers.

Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between normal fears and irrational ones. Most childhood fears are either fears that are present at birth, developmental fears that appear at certain ages or fears that children have learned from parents or traumatic experiences.

Many fears will disappear naturally as the child's reasoning and mental capabilities increase. Infant fears of unfamiliar people and objects disappear early. A preschooler's fear of imaginary creatures gradually gives way to realistic concerns about matters such as school, pain or injury. Even intense fears that might be labeled as phobias disappear because of developmental growth.

You can, however, help children cope with fears by using the following techniques:

- Talk with the child about his or her fears. Communication can be a source of information, comfort and encouragement. Do not ridicule or make fun of the fears ("It's silly to be afraid of the storm."). Instead, encourage the child to talk about feelings and perceptions. Offer reassurance with comments such as "I don't like storms, either. Here is what I do when it looks stormy."

- Give the child accurate information about fears. Do not use confusing or fear-producing explanations to establish obedience. If you explain death as a long, long sleep, the child may be terrified of going to bed.

- Select good children's books about fears to read with the child. Books about children's fears can provide honest information and clarify misinformation your child may have heard. They can also assure your child that he is not the only one experiencing fear.

- Prepare the child for dealing with fearful situations. Play the "what if" game. "What if it started to storm? What if the lights went out?" Children who realize they are resourceful and can do something about frightening situations are better able to overcome their fears. Having fire and tornado drills at home are beneficial; they help children and adults prepare for emergencies.

- Help the child discover that some frightening situations can be changed. Turning on the lights when he is afraid of the dark is a way a child can control that environment. And while we cannot control thunderstorms or big waves at the beach, following safety precautions can decrease risks.

Preparing a child to deal with fears is helpful; however, there will still be times when the child is afraid. Here are some tips to use in those instances:

- Talk with the child about the frightening situation. Let him know that he can talk to you about the situation, regardless of what it is.

- Allow the child plenty of time to handle the situation. Do not push the child into a scary situation. Forcing him to stay in a dark room will only intensify the fear of the dark.

- Accept the child's fears, feelings and reactions. Do not deny that the child is afraid, as these fears are very real. Ridiculing or shaming children will make them hide feelings from you.

- Tell the child the truth about frightening events. "Yes, the shot may hurt you. So it's OK to yell and make faces, but you must hold still." Don't try to deceive the child

about stressful or frightening events. Providing information about the hospital or death or divorce is not harmful to the child, but being deceitful is.

- Involve the child in decision-making and problem-solving about frightening situations. This will enhance his feelings of power and competence. Ask, "What do you think would help you when you are afraid?"

- Suggest ways the child can cope with fears: "Some people who are afraid of the dark carry a flashlight or use a night light." "Would you like to go the basement when it is storming?" "What would make you feel better?" Do not limit the child's options by emphasizing the negatives: "Don't cry! Don't act like a baby!" Instead, suggest what the child can do.

All of us experience fears. As sensitive, caring adults, we want to protect children from fearful situations. However, we cannot always protect them, nor can we keep them from being afraid. We can, however, reduce their fearfulness by helping them express their fears and distinguish real from imaginary dangers. We can also help them become increasingly independent and confident about handling frightening situations.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE-MDC: August 31, 1993

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

February 5, 1986, Wednesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Domestic News

LENGTH: 226 words

DATELINE: PHILADELPHIA

BODY:

Young children who saw the space shuttle explosion last week will suffer few long-term effects from the trauma, a Temple University child specialist said Wednesday.

Dr. Irwin Hyman, professor of school psychology, doubts students who were to watch Christa McAuliffe's science lessons in space will have trouble resuming their studies or reviving their interest in space travel.

McAuliffe, who along with six other astronauts was killed when the space shuttle Challenger exploded Jan. 28, 74 seconds after takeoff, was to teach classes from space.

Hyman said the reaction to death depends on the age of the child.

"Children ages 5 and 6 don't really understand the concept of death. They may believe the person has just gone away," Hyman said. "Whereas the child a bit older, 7 to 10 years old, starts to conceive of the permanency of death."

Hyman said parents and teachers should initiate conversations about the accident, encouraging the children to express their feelings.

"Everyone learns to live with death. The difference with McAuliffe was that the students got to know her through television and became attached to her in the same sense as they would to a movie star," Hyman said.

Hyman said children today are more resilient to the concept of death and dying because they see so much of it on television and in news reports.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1986 Chicago Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune

January 30, 1986 Thursday, SPORTS FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 6; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 1045 words

HEADLINE: BEST TO LET KIDS TALK ABOUT IT, EXPERTS SAY

BYLINE: By Eileen Ogintz and Jean Latz Griffin.

BODY:

Millions of schoolchildren were watching because a teacher was going up in space. In an instant, their cheers turned to stunned silence. The space shuttle Challenger had exploded as they watched. That wasn't supposed to happen—not in real life.

Now what are they supposed to think?

"Children will be as deeply moved by the tragedy as grownups," said Dr. Lillian Robinson, a child psychiatrist who teaches at Tulane University School of Medicine and who has worked with children who have suffered trauma. "It's like the Kennedy assassination. The whole nation is plunged into mourning. But it will come even closer for a good many children. They all know a teacher."

As the nation grappled Wednesday with its grief at the sudden loss of six astronauts and New Hampshire teacher Christa McAuliffe, psychiatrists, psychologists, parents and teachers were working to help children understand the tragedy and to prevent it from having any lasting effects on them.

Letting children talk about their feelings is the best thing for them, the experts suggest.

"Basically, their lives will go on as before, and this is what parents need to express," said Dr. Alan Ravitz, a child psychiatrist who teaches at the University of Chicago Medical School. He said children need to be reassured that while this happened once, it is unlikely to occur again or to them.

"As long as kids have the opportunity to talk about it, I don't think it will have a big impact," he said.

In McAuliffe's hometown of Concord, N.H., they weren't taking any chances. By Tuesday afternoon, mental health professionals were visiting Concord High School,

where McAuliffe taught, and other local schools. The schools were closed Wednesday, but counselors and psychologists were available for the students.

"They're grieving. It's a very natural thing. They just don't have the words for it," explained Donald Shumway, director of the New Hampshire Department of Mental Health.

At Olive Elementary School in suburban Arlington Heights, youngsters had plenty to say.

Ten-year-old Jake Pardell, for example, said he doesn't want to be an astronaut any more. His classmate Ernie Costello thinks it's wrong to send private citizens into space. And Margaret McCarthy, who is 11, worried that the astronauts didn't level with their children about the dangers.

"I'm not saying parents shouldn't go on space flights," said Margaret, the youngest of five children and one of the group of Olive students who were discussing the tragedy. "But parents should give their children the facts. . . too often parents say everything is going to be all right when it really isn't. They should consider deeply what their death might mean to their children."

"It was pretty bad that it happened," added Ernie. "But it was even worse because they were trying to do something to encourage ordinary people to go on the shuttles and then this one exploded."

"There's a disillusionment with the safety of space," conceded Dr. Derek Miller, the child psychiatrist who directs the adolescent program at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and is a professor at Northwestern University Medical School.

Miller said some of his patients also were angry at NASA for sending McAuliffe, who would have been the first private citizen to go into space, on such a dangerous mission. But he added that youngsters today hear so much about death and tragedy every night on the news that he doubts this would have a lasting impact.

"Kids become cold and disinterested," he said. "We pelt them with it, and they can't deal with it so they withdraw from it."

"It would be nice if children could respond to a national tragedy, but I don't think they will."

Jake Pardell probably wouldn't agree. "They showed a film of Mrs. McAuliffe and her face looked so happy," the Olive School third grader said. "If I saw her face after the explosion, I don't know what it would look like."

"Every kid and every adult has had a teacher who was special to them," explained Dr. Bennett Leventhal, director of child psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical School. "Mrs. McAuliffe made everybody think of that special teacher."

Experts around the country also say that youngsters could relate more to the loss of Mrs. McAuliffe because she was a mother and because they were involved, too—through the lessons they knew Mrs. McAuliffe would be broadcasting to their

classrooms from space.

"It would not be abnormal for them to respond," said Dr. Lenore Terre, a child psychiatrist and professor at the University of California at San Francisco Medical School who is a pioneer in the study of post-traumatic stress in children.

Dr. Terre and others caution that parents shouldn't be surprised if their children do act differently the next few days. Children may have nightmares, for example, or be afraid of anything from dogs to the dark. They could act withdrawn or unusually aggressive. They may have trouble sleeping or with their homework. Or they may just be plain silly.

"Sad children don't look like sad adults necessarily," explained Tulane's Robinson. "They may raise hell to get away from the sad feelings and to distract themselves." One group in a suburban Chicago high school, for example, broke into cheers when the explosion of the shuttle was replayed in their school cafeteria.

But for most healthy children, the experts agree, their behavior should return to normal quickly. Those who already have problems or have recently experienced a loss of their own—a grandparent, for example, or a divorce in their family—may have a tougher time.

"There will be different responses in different classrooms in different schools depending on what the kids and teachers do," said Dr. Ravitz. "I want to emphasize that we don't know what will happen. We'll just have to see."

"Everybody will have such losses in their own lives," said New Hampshire's Donald Shumway. "It is important that children learn to understand that grieving is OK and that it's OK to cry."

LANGUAGE: LANGUAGE

LOAD-DATE-MDC: September 15, 1993

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

January 29, 1986, Wednesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Regional News

DISTRIBUTION: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

LENGTH: 553 words

HEADLINE: Teacher to students: 'Keep trying'

BYLINE: By RICHARD MARCH

DATELINE: CONCORD, N.H.

BODY:

Counselors at Christa McAuliffe's school consoled grieving students Wednesday, saying their teacher's death aboard the space shuttle should inspire them to pursue their dreams.

"I guess it means it's important to keep trying. That's what she was trying to do," said Eileen O'Hara, a friend of McAuliffe's who substitute taught her class.

O'Hara was one of dozens of educators and psychologists called Wednesday to Concord High School, where classes were canceled so the 1,159 students could cope with McAuliffe's death Tuesday in the explosion of the shuttle Challenger.

Principal Charles Foley said classes would resume Thursday morning, but the afternoon would be reserved for students seeking counseling for the "terrible trauma." The high school will hold a memorial service Friday, he said.

Student David Terrill said of his feelings, "It's mostly confusion. After that, I guess you could call it hatred, or anger really. Once you get past why it happened and how it happened, you go on because you just can't stop life."

Terrill returned to the large red-brick school in New Hampshire's capital to talk with O'Hara. The lanky junior walked into her office and they hugged and cried.

"It's important to acknowledge it's a sad time," O'Hara told him. "To pretend it's not, doesn't make any sense."

Students who gathered Tuesday to celebrate McAuliffe's historic blastoff as the first private citizen to explore space and saw then saw the shuttle explode were asked by

educators to talk about their emotions.

James Wells, deputy director of the Central New Hampshire Community Mental Health Services Inc., said psychologists were sent to Concord schools to help students and teachers.

Young children who had followed McAuliffe's "ultimate field trip" should play out the disaster with toy shuttles if it helps them understand the disaster, Wells said.

"That is part of what gets them through the process," said Wells, adding that parents should be very clear explaining to young children what happened. "All they saw was an explosion."

He said older students could have sleep disturbances, periods of depressions and confusion and may want to avoid school. Wells said teachers had identified with McAuliffe and made an "emotional investment" in her.

"A lot of teachers are having problems with this," Wells said.

Foley agreed, saying "We have a lot of teachers who are hurting bad. People who are suffering from depression don't teach very well."

"I have my good moments and my bad moments," said Chris MacLeod, an English teacher.

MacLeod said teachers would let students know "that it's okay to express emotion. And to help students be tolerant of each other ... that laughing, crying is okay."

John Reinhardt, the district's psychologist, said students were angry over losing a popular teacher.

"They feel anger and they don't know what to do with it," he said.

"We want to make teachers aware of the telltale signs of a child in need," said Mark Beauvais, superintendent of schools. "Someone that wants to get a drink of water every five minutes... go to the bathroom every five minutes. A child squirming in his seat."

Beauvais said he was thinking of asking McAuliffe's backup astronaut, teacher Barbara Morgan, to come speak with Concord students.

GRAPHIC: PICTURE

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Proprietary to the United Press International 1986

January 28, 1986, Tuesday, AM cycle

SECTION: Regional News

DISTRIBUTION: New York Metro, New York Metro

LENGTH: 557 words

HEADLINE: Damage to children watching could be lasting

BYLINE: By GAYLE YOUNG, UPI Science Writer

DATELINE: NEW YORK

BODY:

The thousands of school children who watched in horror Tuesday as the space Shuttle Challenger exploded and took the life of teacher Christa McAuliffe may be deeply traumatized, child psychiatrists said.

"Just witnessing such an event can be traumatizing, especially if the school had built up enthusiasm over the flight and the children felt they were part of it," said Dr. Elliott M. Kranzler, child psychiatrist at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

"Some of the younger ones may see it as just another explosion or death on television," he said. "But many may connect to it in a very personal way, especially if they see how upset their own teachers are."

Challenger exploded a little over one minute after takeoff Tuesday, killing Concord, N.H., high school social studies teacher Christa McAuliffe, who was to be the first civilian in space. Her six crewmates also were killed.

Thousands of school children across the country watched the explosion live on television during special assemblies. McAuliffe's own students, viewing the launch on television, cheered and raised banners during the initial takeoff then sat in stunned silence as the space shuttle burst into flames before their eyes.

Reporters and photographers were ordered out of the school and the children back to their classrooms. McAuliffe's two children, both under age 10, reportedly witnessed the event with their family at the launch site.

Even those children who did not witness the event live on television will be exposed to reruns. The networks showed the fiery crash dozens of times Tuesday, and the psychiatrists said each viewing will freshen the child's feelings about the

tragedy.

The doctors said it will be important for teachers and parents to talk with children about the crash and not try to shield them from the knowledge that accidents sometimes take lives.

"Encourage questions," said Leon A. Rosenberg, a child psychologist at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. "They will ask everything from did the people in the shuttle feel pain, are they in heaven, why did it happen?"

"As a parent I'd have to say 'I don't know why it happened'," he said.

Kranzler said children may be more traumatized because a teacher was involved in the crash.

"Children idealize astronauts and fantasize about them but teachers are part of their every day lives," he said. "Next to parents, teachers are the most important adults in a child's life."

He said teachers should encourage discussion about the accident.

"If her flight was to be part of the curriculum then make the tragedy part of the curriculum," he said. "Make it a chance to talk about accidents."

The doctors said some small children may be afraid of travel after viewing the accident.

As for McAuliffe's two children, a boy and a girl, the impact of watching their mother perish in the crash could be very severe.

"Our studies show children bereave differently from when their parents die in an accident and when they die after a long illness," said Kranzler.

Joyce Brothers, a syndicated psychologist, said the McAuliffe children will benefit if family members talk with them about the tragedy and share their grief.

"They may even be stronger for it because they have dealt with the worst life has to give and they have survived," she said.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1993 The Times Mirror Company
Los Angeles Times

May 3, 1993, Monday, Orange County Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 23; Column 1; Metro Desk

LENGTH: 636 words

HEADLINE: HELPING KIDS WHO WITNESSED CRASH;
FEELINGS OF FEAR, SHOCK MAY LAST FOR MONTHS; EXPERTS SAY FREE
EXPRESSION OF FEELINGS IS BEST WAY TO COPE

BYLINE: By LESLIE BERKMAN, TIMES STAFF WRITER

BODY:

The thousands of children who witnessed the fiery crash Sunday at the El Toro Air Show may be talking for months about how scared they were -- and that is perfectly healthy, experts in child behavior say.

Parents who try to minimize the tragedy may prompt children to bury their feelings, counselors said, and that could cause children difficulty in later life. Those suppressed emotions also could reappear in nightmares or bed wetting.

"For parents to encourage their kids to hold their feelings back would convey the message that it is not OK to talk about hurtful and painful feelings, and that promotes an atmosphere in which kids can't talk about things that bother them," said Carl Shubs, a clinical psychologist in Los Angeles specializing in post-traumatic stress.

"As much as possible, encourage the kids to talk about what they saw, what happened and how they felt about it. They can draw it and possibly write a story about it," Shubs said.

Parents probably also were shocked and frightened by the crash, he said, and it is important for the kids to see "how mom and dad deal with the shock and fear. . . . The more you are able to express it, the easier it is to get through it."

Jacqueline Hamilton, a nurse in charge of the crisis stabilization unit at College Hospital in Costa Mesa, advised parents to give their children an extra dose of "warmth and tenderness and care" over the next couple days.

"At this time of crisis, they need to feel very protected by their parents so they are not more traumatized by the experience," Hamilton said.

Children who are upset by the crash, she said, may become withdrawn or troubled in their sleep. "If they wake with nightmares, be there for them until they quiet down," she said.

While children see a lot of violence and death on television and in the movies, counselors said an eyewitness experience adds another horrifying dimension -- the terrified cries and screams of adults.

"Children under 7 won't comprehend death. The greater trauma they feel will be the reaction of their parents and other adults around them," said Mark Burns, a marriage, family and child counselor in San Juan Capistrano.

The fear could resurface in the future when the child or a close family member is preparing to travel by plane or simply when a plane passes overhead.

"Every time they see a plane, they may be waiting for it to crash," Burns said.

To avoid this fear of flying, Burns and other counselors suggest that parents help the children put the accident in perspective. One way is to point out the relatively good safety record of air travel.

"Don't belittle the tragedy of it. But explain that it doesn't happen all the time," Burns said. "Take them to John Wayne (Airport) and let them see the planes coming and going and show that it is perfectly safe."

Child experts observed that eventually children have to learn the harder facts of life, and tragedies such as Sunday's crash present an opportunity for parents to be teachers.

"At some point, there will be some tragedy the kids will see that will make them realize that this is part of life, and I don't think it is really within our control to orchestrate when that event will happen," said Douglas McKenzie, pastor of Harbor Christian Fellowship in Costa Mesa. McKenzie said one way his family faces tragedies is to pray about them.

While child experts say it is normal for children to be shocked by unexpected calamities, they caution that some children, especially those with other anxieties in their lives, may need professional guidance.

The Orange County Red Cross will staff a hot line of professional counselors Monday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. to assist anyone who witnessed the crash and also to arrange for individual or group counseling. The hot line number is (714) 835-5381.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

Copyright 1990 Chicago Tribune Company
Chicago Tribune

May 13, 1990, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: TEMPO; Pg. 3; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 780 words

HEADLINE: Kids and trauma
Counseling helps children to grieve and heal

BYLINE: By Eileen Ogintz

BODY:

One Riverside child just wanted to go home to bed after he saw the car plow across the field full of Little Leaguers playing T-ball.

"He thought if he went to bed he could make it into a dream that turned out differently," explained Bill Moor, a psychologist who lives in Riverside and has been counseling some of the families in the aftermath of last weekend's tragedy that killed three 7- and 8-year-old children and left six other children and three adults injured.

Other children in the community couldn't sleep or had nightmares, their parents reported to the counselors. There were many, though, who simply were too young to grasp the tragedy, the finality of death. One youngster, for example, wanted to know when her dead friend would be back. Another matter-of-factly told her scout leader that she would need a new partner now.

Those from religious families, Moor said, struggled with the moral issues: How could an all-powerful God allow such a tragedy to happen?

Across Riverside, the counselors were ready for the questions last week - in classrooms, in their offices and at special meetings. They encouraged the kids to talk in groups and one-on-one. They counseled teachers on how to respond. They told the parents what they might expect from their children in the weeks and months to come - sleepless nights, lack of appetite, perhaps some regressive behavior, some clinging.

And they told them they'll be there to help as long as they're needed - for the adults as well as the children. "We're trying to deal short term and long term," said Riverside Fire Chief Anthony Bednarz. "This isn't going to just go away after the funerals."

"You have to give parents a place to talk about their feelings so they can (be there) for their children," said Mary Stecher, director of the Community Family Service and

Mental Health Association in La Grange, which does considerable counseling in the Riverside schools and had staff on hand in the grieving community last week.

"Most important, we have to reassure the children that they're safe," Stecher continued. She explained that such a trauma can jar young children's sense of security just as they are venturing out into the world.

"The kids need to go over and over what happened, they need to master the trauma," added Colette Luick, who directs the child and adolescent programs for the Community Family Service agency. "They're angry and confused and sad."

It's only recently, though, that mental health professionals have recognized the importance of helping children psychologically heal after such a trauma. In the past, experts explain, kids were thought to be more resilient, that they would bounce back quickly on their own. But research has shown that without immediate help, some children who have experienced a major tragedy may develop permanent emotional scars and that, like adults, they may be subject to post traumatic stress syndrome.

"Children don't grieve like adults," explained James Carger, a psychologist who is on the Riverside school board and who spent much of the week counseling parents, teachers and children at St. Mary's School. "It comes in waves. It hits them and then it passes and it looks like they're over it. But it comes back again and you have to be sensitive to what they're feeling."

Luick added that some children may even react years from now when they are better able to grasp what happened - how they had such a close brush with death.

At the same time, parents must deal with their own feelings. Some felt guilty that they couldn't do more when the accident occurred. Others felt survivor's guilt that their children lived while others died. Their sense of security is as shattered as their children's.

Riverside is a conservative, tight-knit community, Moor explained, where life centers on the children, where everybody knows one another.

"If you didn't know the children, your children are best friends with their brothers and sisters. If you don't know the parents, you have a friend who is very close to them. It's that level of contact. This has had a profound effect on the entire community," Carger said.

Each child - each adult - will grieve differently, depending on what he saw, how close he was to the children who died, what else has happened in his own family recently. But there's no easy remedy, no pat answers that will serve, he and the other counselors say. "The tendency with adults is to provide answers we don't have," Carger said. "And those answers don't satisfy."

"It feels like the end of the world," Stecher said. "But we (tell the children) we will all find a way to get through this. We will help each other."

GRAPHIC: PHOTO: Friends of the three Little Leaguers mourn at a service at St. Mary's Church in Riverside. Tribune photo by Jose More.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

File Oklahoma

4/21/95

Dr. Robert Coles:

This is a strong country and we're going to get through this.

A lot of children will be concerned about the vulnerability of this country.

No matter how strong a country, or a person is- vulnerability is still a possibility.

Today - an 8 year old pointed out that these people died while doing the country's work (in a Federal Building)

Dr. Coles: 919-932-1168

FAX: 919-681-7600

File Oklahoma —

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
PHONE INTERVIEWS WITH OKLAHOMA CITY RADIO STATIONS
APRIL 21, 1995**

TALKING POINTS

- The hardest thing for children in the wake of such an inexplicable tragedy is to feel safe and secure. Children need to be reassured that their parents love them and will protect them from harm. They need to be talked to and touched. They need to know that their fears are being listened to.
- Parents should stress that the bombing is a very unusual incident, one unlikely to happen again.
- Parents should remind children that they are safe in their homes, day care centers, and schools.
- Children should be reassured that the bad people who bombed the building in Oklahoma will be caught and will not be allowed on the street again.
- Parents should remind children that most people in the world are good, and give examples of all the good people helping victims of the bombing: police, firefighters, rescue workers, people donating food, clothing, and shelter. Parents can also suggest to children that they send a gift, drawing, or toy to children and families affected by the bombing.
- Although it is tempting for parents to try shield children from discussions of the bombing, experts say that we should encourage children to talk openly about their concerns. Leaving children to imagine what happened can produce far more fear than a discussion of the facts.
- Drawing pictures also can help children convey their fears and anxieties. And parents should respond when children -- particularly small children -- use indirect messages and symbolic images to express their fears: fretting over a "lost" toy, for example.
- Parents should not be afraid to admit that they can't answer all of their children's questions. But they should not mislead children with untrue statements (the world is absolutely safe; all people are good; etc.)

###

*File
Oklahoma*

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 21, 1995

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT TO THE POOL
UPON DEPARTURE FOR HAVRE DE GRACE

The South Lawn

10:00 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: I wanted to make a couple of points. First of all, I was briefed late last evening by the Attorney General on the status of the investigation, and I am well satisfied with the efforts that are being made, the progress that's being made. I would just ask that you and the American people not rush to any conclusions unsupported by known evidence and that we give the investigators the space they need to do their job. They are working hard; they are moving ahead.

The second thing I'd like to say is that Hillary and I have decided to go to Oklahoma City on Sunday to be a part of the memorial service and to be with the families of the victims and the people of Oklahoma City. I think all America will be there in spirit and is there today, and I have determined that I should also declare Sunday a national day of mourning for the victims there and to ask people in their places of worship and in their homes all across America to pray for the people there and for the community.

The final thing I'd like to say is just a brief message to the children of this country. I have been very concerned with how the children in Oklahoma City and, indeed, the children throughout America must be reacting to a horror of this magnitude. And my message to the children is that this was an evil thing and the people who did it were terribly, horribly wrong. We will catch them and we will punish them.

But the children of America need to know that almost all the adults in this country are good people who love their children and love other children, and we're going to get through this -- we're going to get through this. I don't want our children to believe something terrible about life, and the future, and grown-ups in general because of this awful thing. Most adults are good people who want to protect our children in their childhood, and we are going to get through this.

Q Mr. President, do you know of any progress in the investigation?

THE PRESIDENT: You know I'm not going to comment -- I'm letting the Justice Department announce progress. I don't think that

it's appropriate for me to say anything, except I can tell you that I know what they've done and the American people would be very pleased and very impressed by the work they are doing. But this is a big issue, and we don't want to undermine their ability to work by anything that is said or by jumping to unwarranted conclusions.

END 10:03 A.M. EDT



Office of the Deputy Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 20530

April 11, 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Jamie S. Gorelick 
Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: Summary of Efforts Underway and Resources Provided to Assist
the Victims of the Oklahoma City Bombing

The purpose of this memorandum is (1) to describe the efforts underway to help the victims of the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City during the upcoming trial in Denver, and (2) to summarize the resources that have been provided to those victims. The resources come from both private and public organizations, including the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma, the Office for Victims of Crime in the Department of Justice, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), United Way in Oklahoma City and in Denver, and the recently formed Colorado Oklahoma Resource Council, which is helping to coordinate assistance for victims attending the Denver proceedings.

Preliminarily, I understand that you asked whether there is a profile of the victims. I have attached a memorandum from Aileen Adams, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime, with that information.

1. Summary of Current Efforts to Assist Victims Who Want to Attend the Trial in Denver

There are many public and private entities working together to provide assistance to those victims who wish to attend the trial in Denver:

- The United States Attorney's Office in the Western District of Oklahoma is conducting an assessment, which should be completed within a week, of how many victims want to attend the trial, for what period of time, and for which portion of the trial. Preliminary results indicate that most victims want to attend at least some of the trial. Lynn Anderson, the Assistant U.S. Attorney

assigned full-time to work with the bombing victims, is helping to coordinate the efforts (described in more detail below) to ensure that appropriate services are provided to the victims. We will urge the Court to seat as many victims as possible in the courtroom and to develop a fair system for allocating the available seats among the victims. Victims who cannot be seated in the courtroom on any given day will likely have audio access to the proceedings. We have advised you separately through the White House Counsel of the status of the proposals to permit video transmittal of the proceedings.

- The Office for Victims of Crime in the Justice Department has committed \$200,000 to assist bombing victims who wish to attend the Denver trial, and it has asked in the Terrorism Bill for authority to spend an additional \$500,000. The money will be distributed in accordance with guidelines developed by the U.S. Attorney's Office in consultation with victims.
- Governor Frank Keating and United Way of Metro Oklahoma City have established a Victims' and Survivors' Travel Fund, a non-profit entity that will receive donations to assist victims in traveling to the proceedings and will coordinate the travel aid effort. The Fund has raised approximately \$75,000, including a \$50,000 donation from Conoco.
- Various non-profit and governmental agencies in Colorado have joined together to form the Colorado Oklahoma Resource Council, which is coordinating available resources for the victims of the bombing. Offers of assistance -- including money, hotel rooms, meals, transportation, child care, and medical services -- are pouring in from Colorado residents and corporations. The Council, which is housed at Mile High United Way, is directly linked to United Way of Metro Oklahoma City, the agency that is coordinating travel aid in Oklahoma City. The Council will collect and inventory resources, will screen offers, and will coordinate the delivery of services. It has proposed a case management system to ensure that each victim attending the Denver proceedings will have a case manager assigned to assist them in securing needed services.
- To assist in providing appropriate mental health services to victims attending the proceedings, FEMA is trying to secure funding to move to Denver several counselors who are currently working with victims in Oklahoma City. FEMA is also seeking to secure funding to support a "safe haven" for victims that will be located in or near the courthouse, and to offer training to Denver

mental health professionals who will provide counseling services for victims attending the trial.

2. **Summary of Resources Provided to the Bombing Victims**

On April 15th, United Way of Metro Oklahoma City will be releasing to Governor Keating a report describing the resources and services provided to the bombing victims by dozens of governmental and private agencies.

Though that report is not yet available, based on currently available information, we have summarized some of the most important resources and services:

- *Coordinated, Comprehensive Services:*

There are at least two organizations that coordinate services for the bombing victims. The first is the Resource Coordination Committee, which was formed shortly after the bombing to bring together governmental and private organizations to assist the victims. There are over 30 funding sources represented on the Committee, including the United Way, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, FEMA, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, Feed the Children, and the Governor's and Mayor's Offices. The Committee meets once a week to assess cases, to evaluate needs, and to coordinate assistance efforts. As of last December, the Committee had spent over \$1.2 million to provide assistance in 208 cases.

The second coordinating organization is the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, which serves as the clearinghouse for the Governor's Victims and Family Relief Fund, the Mayor's Disaster Relief Fund, and several other funds. As of last December, it had dispersed \$6,710,100.39. The vast majority of that money -- \$4,860,000 -- was set aside for the future educational expenses of children who lost a parent in the bombing. Another \$350,000 was committed for mental health/counseling expenses for rescue workers. Funds were also used to compensate victims for auto losses, medical expenses, housing expenses, and counseling expenses.

- *Mental Health Services for Victims:*

Though mental health services have been funded by a variety of sources, most of the services have been coordinated by the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health through Project Heartland. As of the end of February, almost 3,000

individuals had been provided with counseling and crisis intervention services. Over 40,000 individuals have received broader assistance, including debriefings, consultation, and training. A FEMA grant in the amount of \$3,371,369 pays for these services.

- *Victim Compensation:*

The Murrah Fund was established by the Oklahoma Legislature in May 1995 to create a separate fund for bombing victims to assist in paying compensation claims, such as claims for out-of-pocket expenses, counseling for victims and secondary victims, and funeral expenses. \$226,722.96 was raised for this fund, including a \$100,000 contribution from the Iowa State Compensation Program. The fund has compensated a total of 65 victims, primarily for their claims of "loss of support." There are 175 claims pending that will have to be paid from other sources because the fund is almost out of money. The Director of the Oklahoma State Compensation Program estimates that the pending claims may total over \$1 million.

- *Scholarship Funds:*

There are a number of educational funds that have been established to assist bombing victims. The Community Foundation in Oklahoma City oversees the Survivors' Educational Fund, the Children's Support Fund, and the General Relief Fund. The Federal Employees Education and Assistance Fund oversees six separate entities, including the OK Fund and the President's Oklahoma City Scholarship Fund, which are described below.

The Survivors' Educational Fund contains about \$6 million, which came from the Governor's Fund, the Mayor's Fund, and other sources. It primarily provides funds directly to post-secondary educational institutions, such as colleges or trade schools. 160 children who lost a parent in the bombing and 8 children who were in the building but survived are eligible to receive educational support from this fund. In addition, children of the critically injured who were significantly affected financially are also eligible. For example, the fund has supported the education of a child whose mother has no short-term memory due to the bombing and is therefore limited in her ability to work.

The Children's Support Fund, which, as of February 29, contained \$354,557, assists surviving family members in paying for such items as tutoring,

diagnostic testing, and school clothes. For example, it has paid for an SAT course and a student ambassador program for high school students.

Another major source of educational funding is the Federal Employees Education and Assistance Fund. This fund includes six separate entities which combined contain about \$1.4 million. Five of the funds -- the HUD Fund; the SSA Fund; the GSA Fund; the DOT-FHWA Fund; and the OK Fund -- provide assistance exclusively to those designated as "civilian federal personnel." The sixth fund, the President's Oklahoma City Scholarship Fund, was established to assist children who had a parent disabled or killed in the building. It is available to the children of individuals who are not considered to be civilian federal personnel, and who are thus not eligible for the other funds. These individuals include active military personnel, Federal Employee Credit Union personnel, and daycare providers. The President's Oklahoma City Scholarship Fund contains \$147,000.

I understand that you specifically asked about the availability of scholarship funds for older victims. There appear to be at least two possible sources of funding for adults: the OK Fund, which is administered by the Federal Employees Education and Assistance Fund, and the General Relief Fund, administered by the Community Foundation in Oklahoma City. The OK Fund could be used to pay for college or vocational school for adult victims who are covered federal employees or are related to them. The General Relief Fund, which contains about \$1.5 million, has been used to help at least one parent, who lost her child in the bombing, attend vocational school. Some of the funds in the General Relief Fund are earmarked, however, so only a portion of the entire fund is available to assist adult victims in paying for college or vocational school.

- *Housing and Business Assistance:*

FEMA provided temporary housing and daily living expenses for 574 individuals at a cost of \$833,351. Most of these individuals had resided at the Regency Apartments or the YMCA, both of which were located near the federal building and were severely damaged in the bomb blast.

As of last December, the Small Business Administration (SBA) had assisted 70 clients with home and personal property loans; 45 clients with business loans; and 45 clients with economic injury disaster loans. The loans provided by the SBA totalled \$7,185,400.

More than 9,500 Red Cross volunteers and paid staff assisted with the relief efforts in the wake of the explosion. Trained case workers provided over 5,000 people with temporary housing assistance, meals, maintenance expenses, crisis counseling, medical expenses, and other emergency assistance. The total contribution of the Red Cross last year amounted to \$7,432,084.

The Office for Victims of Crime in the Justice Department provided three crisis response teams consisting of 43 volunteer, trained crisis responders who provided debriefings of victims and school children. The crisis response teams also provided training for emergency responders, teachers, and clergy, who in turn provided services to thousands of people.

- *Assistance Provided by the U.S. Attorney's Office:*

The United States Attorney's Office in the Western District of Oklahoma has provided perhaps the most comprehensive assistance ever by a prosecutor's office to victims of mass violence. After the bombing, office staff identified and contacted victims, established an 800 number to provide information and facilitate referrals to local assistance agencies, and sent a brochure describing victims' rights and services to every identified victim. One full-time Assistant United States Attorney, Lynn Anderson, as well as three victim-witness coordinators and their supervisor, Dahlia Lehman, were assigned to focus almost exclusively on the needs of the bombing victims. These individuals have developed a victim data base that includes more than 2,200 victims, and they have met personally or talked over the telephone with most of the victims. Moreover, they provide the victims with regular status reports regarding the proceedings, and they meet with groups of victims. They spend approximately a quarter of their time resolving victims' unmet needs. Finally, they provide a crucial coordinating function for all of the diverse assistance efforts, including those in Denver and Oklahoma City.

The U.S. Attorney's Office has worked closely with the Office for Victims of Crime, which provided funding for the audio link that allowed victims who could not get into the Oklahoma courtroom to listen to the pretrial venue hearings in another room. The use of the audio link set an important precedent in the case, and the judge has provided for a similar link-up to be established at the courthouse in Denver.

Attachment



Office of Justice Programs

Office for Victims of Crime

APR 10 1996

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM: Aileen Adams
Director

SUBJECT: Statistics Regarding the Oklahoma City Bombing Victims

I just received the following statistical information from the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Western District of Oklahoma. The Federal Building Fatality Chart includes the names, ages, race, sex, and addresses of the people killed in the Murrah Federal Building bombing.

For your information, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, there were a total of 109 families who lost one parent. Of these 109 families, there were 269 children affected. Of the 269 children, 154 were adult children, and 115 were minor children. A total of five families lost both parents. Of these five families, there were 20 children affected. Of these 20 children, 17 were adults and three were minors.

The ethnic breakdown of the deceased victims is as follows: 127 Caucasians, 34 African Americans, 4 Hispanics, 2 Asians, and 1 Native American.

Included with this memo is a copy of the Oklahoma Today magazine which contains photographs and descriptions of all of the deceased bombing victims.

cc: Merrick Garland

96 APR 11 P 3:27

OFFICE OF THE
DEPUTY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

ALFRED P. MURRAH FEDERAL BUILDING FATALITIES

CASE #	NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	AGE	RACE	SEX
9502441	ALEMAN JR, LUCIO	11415 SPRING HOLLOW RD #806	OKLAHOMA CITY	33.0	W	M
9502461	ALEXANDER, TERESA ANTIONETTE	12601 N. PENN #161	OKLAHOMA CITY	33.0	N	F
9502377	ALLEN, RICHARD ARTHUR	400 SPRUCE DRIVE	YUKON	46.0	W	M
9502390	ALLEN, TED L.	1036 MOCKINGBIRD LANE	NORMAN	48.0	W	M
9502317	ALMON, BAYLEE	333 NW 5TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	0.1	W	F
9501573	ANDERSON, REBECCA	310 ELM	MIDWEST CITY	37.0	W	F
9502335	ARGO, PAMELA DENISE	2636 NW 38TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	36.0	W	F
9502364	AVERY, SAUNDRA GAIL "SANDY"	3325 PLEASANT DRIVE	MIDWEST CITY	34.0	W	F
9502418	AVILLANOZA, PETER ROBERT	39018 VIRGINIA	PALMDALE	56.0	W	M
9502444	BATTLE, CALVIN C.	1413 NW 104TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	62.0	N	M
9502340	BATTLE, PEOLA	1413 NW 104TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	56.0	N	F
9502302	BELL, DANIELLE NICOLE	5220 FOSTER DRIVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	1.0	W	F
9502464	BIDDY, OLETA CHRISTINE	5805 E. TYLER DRIVE	TUTTLE	54.0	W	F
9502411	BLAND, SHELLY DEANN	507 S.W. 4TH	TUTTLE	25.0	W	F
9502381	BLANTON, ANDREA	4505 OUTPOST DRIVE	SPENCER	33.0	N	F
9502445	BLOOMER, OLEN BURL	1206 S.W. 21ST	MOORE	61.0	W	M
9502307	BOLDEN, LOLA RENEE	2612 N. ANN ARBOR	OKLAHOMA CITY	40.0	N	F
9502423	BOLES, JAMES EVERETT	10000 N. EASTERN AVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	50.0	W	M
9502451	BOLTE, MARK ALLEN	9211 N. COUNCIL	OKLAHOMA CITY	28.0	W	M
9502370	BOOKER, CASSANDRA K.	2528 SE 51ST	OKLAHOMA CITY	25.0	N	F
9502348	BOWERS, CAROL L.	209 VAIL	YUKON	53.0	W	F
9502397	BRADLEY, PEACHLYN	6500 NW 11TH #20	OKLAHOMA CITY	3.0	N	F
9502311	BRADY, WOODROW C. "WOODY"	813 NE 32ND	OKLAHOMA CITY	41.0	N	M
9502321	BROWN, CYNTHIA LYNN CAMPBELL	12445 ST. ANDREWS PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	26.0	W	F
9502438	BROXTERMAN, PAUL GREGORY	11121 SPRINGHOLLOW RD #110	OKLAHOMA CITY	42.0	W	M
9502443	BRUCE, GABREON	6500 NW 11TH #20	OKLAHOMA CITY	0.3	N	M
9502400	BURGESS, KIMBERLY RUTH	7128 S. MCNARNEY DRIVE	TINKER AFB	29.0	W	F
9502382	BURKETT, DAVID NEIL	1311 N. MERIDIAN	OKLAHOMA CITY	47.0	W	M
9502396	BURNS SR, DONALD EARL	1223 NE 59TH STREET	OKLAHOMA CITY	63.0	N	M
9502416	CARR, KAREN GIST	10933 ASHTON TERRACE	MIDWEST CITY	32.0	W	F
9502429	CARRILLO, MICHAEL JOE	1001 S.W. 96TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	44.0	W	M
9502372	CHAFEY, RONA LINN	8704 CORD AVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	35.0	W	F
9502314	CHAVEZ, ZACKARY TAYLOR	2308 S.W. 101ST	OKLAHOMA CITY	0.3	M	M
9502347	CHESTNUT, SHARON LOUISE WOOD	8325 NW 82ND	OKLAHOMA CITY	47.0	W	F
9503300	CHIPMAN, ROBERT N.	1305 CEDAR RIDGE	OKLAHOMA CITY	51.0	W	M
9502378	CLARK, KIMBERLY KAY	2832 NW 14TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	39.0	O	F
9502425	CLARK, MARGARET LOUISE (SPENCE	ROUTE 1 BOX 19A	VERDEN	42.0	W	F
9502371	COOPER, DANA LEANNE	820 SE 13TH	MOORE	24.0	W	F
9502313	COOPER II, ANTHONY CHRISTOPHER	820 SE 13TH	MOORE	2.0	W	M
9502457	COOPER JR, ANTONIO	7855 NE 10TH #241	MIDWEST CITY	0.6	N	M
9502431	COTTINGHAM, HARLEY RICHARD	13309 RED CANYON RD	EDMOND	46.0	W	M
9502406	COUSINS, KIM ROBIN DILLOW	2501 COACHLIGHT APT E	MIDWEST CITY	33.0	W	F
9502305	COVERDALE, AARON M.	5746 NW 16TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	5.0	N	M
9502310	COVERDALE, ELIJAH	5746 NW 16TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	2.0	N	M
9502392	COYNE, JACI RAE	2513 YORKSHIRE	MOORE	1.2	W	F
9502354	CREGAN, KATHERINE LOUISE	7024 S. LINN	OKLAHOMA CITY	60.0	W	F
9502434	CUMMINS, RICHARD LEROY	504 W. PINE BRANCH WAY	MUSTANG	55.0	W	M
9502319	CURRY, STEVEN DOUGLAS	4421 NE 48TH	NORMAN	44.0	W	M
9502324	DANIELS, BRENDA F.	1933 NE 26TH STREET	OKLAHOMA CITY	42.0	N	F
9502384	DAVIS, BENJAMIN LARANZO	304 HARTFORD DRIVE	EDMOND	29.0	N	M
9502420	DAY, DIANA LYNN	2916 S.W. 129TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	38.0	W	F
9502436	DEMASTER, PETER LESLIE	4632 SE 49TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	44.0	W	M

9502373	DEVEROUX, CASTINE	516 N. NEBRASKA	OKLAHOMA CITY	49.0	N	F
9502316	DRIVER, SHEILA R.	305 NW 119TH STREET	OKLAHOMA CITY	28.0	N	F
9502462	EAVES, TYLOR	105 N CARRIE LN	OKLAHOMA CITY	0.8	N	M
9502345	ECKLES, ASHLEY MEGAN	5075 W. INDUSTRIAL	GUTHRIE	4.0	W	F
9502341	FERRELL, SUSAN JANE	209 NW 33RD	OKLAHOMA CITY	37.0	W	F
9502376	FIELDS, CARROL JUNE	ROUTE 6 BOX 655	GUTHRIE	48.0	W	F
9502413	FINLEY, KATHERINE ANN	11000 NW 113TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	44.0	W	F
9502424	FISHER, JUDY JOANN	8301 NW 85TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	45.0	W	F
9502395	FLORENCE, LINDA L.	5108 NW 19TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	43.0	W	F
9502357	FRITZLER, DONALD LEE	11808 DOVER CIRCLE	OKLAHOMA CITY	64.0	W	M
9502368	FRITZLER, MARY ANNE	11808 DOVER CIRCLE	OKLAHOMA CITY	57.0	W	F
9502322	GARRETT, TEVIN D.	4025 LOCUS DRIVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	1.0	N	M
9502407	GARRISON, LAURA JANE	8537 CANDLEWOOD #316	OKLAHOMA CITY	61.0	N	F
9502459	GENZER, JAMIE	202 HAYES DR	WELLSTON	32.0	W	F
9502339	GOODSON, MARGARET	3104 SOMERSET PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	54.0	W	F
9502458	GOTTSHALL II, KEVIN LEE	524 LAWS	NORMAN	0.6	W	M
9502359	GRIFFIN, ETHEL LOUISE	1404 LEAWOOD DRIVE	EDMOND	55.0	W	F
9502386	GUILES, JURETTA COLLEEN	2645 S.W. 97TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	59.0	W	F
9502379	GUZMAN, RANDOLPH	10704 N. COUNCIL RD	OKLAHOMA CITY	28.0	O	M
9502303	HADDOCK, KAYLA MARIE	324 RODNEY GVP	JUNCTION CITY	3.0	W	F
9502405	HAMMON, CHERYL E. (BRADLEY)	6500 NW 11TH #20	OKLAHOMA CITY	44.0	N	F
9502463	HARDIN, RONALD VERNON	1312 GARLAND DRIVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	55.0	N	M
9502331	HAWTHORNE SR, THOMAS LYNN	17851 NE 12TH	CHOCTAW	52.0	W	M
9502427	HIGGINBOTTOM, DORIS ADELE	6225 N. VERMONT	OKLAHOMA CITY	44.0	W	F
9502366	HIGHTOWER, ANITA C.	1623 NE 20TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	27.0	N	F
9502361	HODGES, THOMPSON EUGENE	2003 SADDLEBROOK BLVD	NORMAN	54.0	W	M
9502398	HOLLAND, PEGGY LOUISE (JENKINS)	2500 S.W. 56TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	37.0	W	F
9502385	HOLLINGSWORTH, DIANE ELAINE	705 LITTLER PLACE	EDMOND	45.0	W	F
9502435	HOUSLEY, LINDA COLEEN	2209 S.W. 71ST	OKLAHOMA CITY	53.0	W	F
9502343	HOWARD, GEORGE M.	333 NW 5TH ST	OKLAHOMA CITY	45.0	W	M
9502301	HOWELL, WANDA L.	12724 PARKER HEIGHTS	SPENCER	34.0	N	F
9502380	HUFF, ROBBIN ANN	9308 S. GRACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	37.0	W	F
9502460	HURLBURT, ANNA JEAN	2008 N. ANN ARBOR PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	67.0	W	F
9502456	HURLBURT, CHARLES E.	2008 N. ANN ARBOR PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	73.0	W	M
9502399	ICE, PAUL DOUGLAS	509 E. HARMON	MIDWEST CITY	42.0	W	M
9502369	JENKINS, CHRISTI YOLANDA	417 BRIGHTON DRIVE	EDMOND	32.0	N	F
9502421	JOHNSON, NORMA JEAN	817 SE 70TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	62.0	W	F
9502356	JOHNSON, RAYMOND LEE	1613 S. EVEREST AVE	OKLAHOMA CITY	59.0	I	M
9502394	JONES, LARRY JAMES	105 SEQUOIA PARK	YUKON	46.0	W	M
9502468	JUSTES, ALVIN	125 N.W. 9TH ST. APT 6A	OKLAHOMA CITY	54.0	W	M
9502304	KENNEDY, BLAKE RYAN	ROUTE 1 BOX 230	AMBER	1.0	W	M
9502448	KHALIL, CAROLE SUE	2121 NW 32ND	OKLAHOMA CITY	50.0	W	F
9502402	KOELSCH, VALERIE	2108 N. DONALD	BETHANY	33.0	W	F
9502447	KREYMBORG, CAROLYN ANN	3645 NW 70TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	57.0	W	F
9502410	LAUDERDALE, TERESA L.	2606 N. UNION	SHAWNEE	41.0	W	F
9502452	LEINEN, CATHERINE MARY	1337 S.W. 77TH PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	47.0	W	F
9502346	LENZ, CARRIE ANN	9623 S. INDIAN MERIDIAN	CHOCTAW	26.0	W	F
9502360	LEONARD, DONALD R.	3704 CACTUS DRIVE	EDMOND	50.0	W	M
9502404	LEVY, LAKESHA	2703 TIMMONS #5	MIDWEST CITY	21.0	N	F
9502308	LONDON, DOMINIQUE R.	2825 NE 16TH	OKLAHOMA CITY	2.0	N	M
9502422	LONG, RHETA IONE BENDER	2721 S.W. 54TH PLACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	60.0	W	F
9502374	LOUDENSLAGER, MICHAEL L.	3500 MORAN DRIVE	HARRAH	48.0	W	M
9502336	LUSTER, AURELIA DONNA	901 W. WASHINGTON	GUTHRIE	43.0	W	F
9502337	LUSTER JR, ROBERT LEE	901 W. WASHINGTON	GUTHRIE	45.0	W	M
9502342	MARONEY, MICKEY BRYANT	11600 WAY CROSS ROAD	OKLAHOMA CITY	50.0	W	M
9502430	MARTIN, JAMES KENNETH	8317 NW 10TH TERRACE	OKLAHOMA CITY	34.0	W	M

9502349 MARTINEZ, GILBERT XAVIER
 9502415 MCCARTHY, JAMES ANTHONY
 9502367 MCCULLOUGH, KENNETH GLENN
 9502442 MCGONNELL, BETSY JANICE
 9502428 MCKINNEY, LINDA GAIL (GRIFFIN)
 9502433 MCRAVEN, CARTNEY J.
 9502412 MEDEARIS, CLAUDE A.
 9502450 MEEK, CLAUDETTE
 9502363 MERRELL, FRANKIE ANN
 9502465 MILLER, DERWIN WADE
 9502344 MITCHELL, EULA LEIGH
 9502383 MOSS III, JOHN CLAYTON
 9502414 NIX, PATRICIA "TRISH" ANN
 9502449 PARKER, JERRY LEE
 9502401 RANDOLPH, JILL DIANE
 9502352 RANGEL, EMILIO TAPIA-
 9502446 REEDER, MICHELLE ANN
 9502389 REES, TERRY SMITH
 9502409 RENTIE, MARY LEASURE
 9502419 REYES, ANTONIO C.
 9502312 RIDLEY, KATHRYN
 9502315 RIGNEY, TRUDY
 9502453 RITTER, CLAUDINE
 9502466 ROSAS, CHRISTINE NICOLE
 9502455 SANDERS, SONJA LYNN
 9502320 SCROGGINS, LANNY LEE
 9502332 SEIOL, KATHY LYNN
 9502417 SELLS, LEORA LEE
 9502426 SHEPHERD, KARAN DENISE
 9502306 SMITH, CHASE DALTON
 9502309 SMITH, COLTON
 9502388 SOHN, VICTORIA L.
 9502318 STEWART, JOHN THOMAS
 9502330 STRATTON, DOLORES MARIE
 9502454 TEXTER, VICTORIA JEAN DIXON
 9502355 THOMAS, CHARLOTTE ANDREA
 9502350 THOMPSON, MICHAEL G.
 9502467 THOMPSON, VIRGINIA MAE
 9502328 TOMLIN, RICKY LEE
 9502358 TREANOR, LARUE ANN
 9502338 TREANOR, LUTHER HEARTMAN
 9502432 TURNER, LARRY LAVERNE
 9502403 VALDEZ, JULES ALFONSO
 9502387 VANESS, JOHN K.
 9502323 WADE, JOHNNY ALLEN
 9502391 WALKER, DAVID J.
 9502440 WALKER JR, ROBERT NOLAN
 9502326 WATKINS, WANDA LEE
 9502334 WEAVER, MICHAEL D.
 9502351 WELCH, JULIE
 9502333 WESTBERRY, ROBERT GLEN
 9502353 WHICHER, ALAN GERALD
 9502375 WHITTENBERG, JO ANN
 9502408 WILLIAMS, FRANCES ANN
 9502325 WILLIAMS, SCOTT DWAIN
 9502439 WILLIAMS, WILLIAM STEPHEN

3526 S.W. 40TH
 2612 W. PINE VALLEY DRIVE
 909 WENDY LANE
 2020 MELROSE DRIVE
 1120 S.W. 100TH
 1467 N. MIDWEST BLVD #438
 624 N. PETERS
 4416 SE 118TH
 8500 CRESTLINE DRIVE
 408 SUMMIT RIDGE RD APT 106
 2143 NW 11TH
 333 NW 5TH #2201
 2908 SMILING HILLS BLVD
 4600 108TH AVE NE
 5529 D NW 50TH
 5606 NW 23RD #123
 7400 NW 28TH TERRACE
 1305 ZACHRY CIRCLE
 8216 NW 29TH
 3400 BILLY LANE
 3901 S. PORTLAND AVE #10
 705 W. RICKENBACKER
 15229 EDNA RD
 105 S.W. 14TH
 217 N. ENGLISH
 11909 SOMERVILLE
 33210A LAKE ROAD
 625 FLAMINGO
 708 N. PATTERSON DRIVE
 3200 WINTER DRIVE
 3200 WINTER DRIVE
 2705 E. HILLS DRIVE
 13829 SE 89TH
 821 GLENWOOD DRIVE
 6202 SE 46TH
 3004 NE 16TH
 2109 BENTHAM WAY
 620 S.W. 25TH
 4307 N. ARROWHEAD RD
 ROUTE 4 BOX 386
 ROUTE 4 BOX 386
 8100 HARVEST HILLS
 1820 OAK CREEK DRIVE
 1321 S. 11TH
 909 FOX RIDGE
 4216 BENT TREE DRIVE
 4713 NW 61ST STREET
 9429 SE 29TH LOT 165
 1725 CANARY DRIVE
 9905 HEFNER VILLAGE DRIVE
 4016 N. RIVERSIDE DRIVE
 1008 OLDE WATERFRONT
 1228 NE 44TH
 1316 JAMES DRIVE
 ROUTE 3 BOX 269
 ROUTE 1 BOX 72B

OKLAHOMA CITY	35.0	M	M
EDMOND	53.0	W	M
EDMOND	36.0	W	M
NORMAN	47.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	47.0	W	F
MIDWEST CITY	19.0	W	F
NORMAN	41.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	43.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	23.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	27.0	N	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	64.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	50.0	W	M
EDMOND	47.0	W	F
NORMAN	45.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	27.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	50.0	M	M
BETHANY	33.0	W	F
MIDWEST CITY	41.0	W	F
BETHANY	39.0	W	F
EDMOND	55.0	M	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	24.0	N	F
MIDWEST CITY	31.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	48.0	W	F
MOORE	22.0	W	F
MOORE	27.0	W	F
YUKON	46.0	W	M
SHAWNEE	39.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	57.0	W	F
MOORE	27.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	3.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	2.0	W	M
MOORE	36.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	51.0	W	M
MOORE	51.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	37.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	43.0	N	F
YUKON	47.0	W	M
EL RENO	56.0	W	F
PIEDMONT	46.0	W	M
GUTHRIE	55.0	W	F
GUTHRIE	61.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	42.0	N	M
EDMOND	51.0	W	M
CHICKASHA	67.0	W	M
EDMOND	42.0	N	M
EDMOND	54.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	52.0	W	M
MIDWEST CITY	49.0	W	F
EDMOND	46.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	23.0	W	F
BETHANY	57.0	W	M
EDMOND	40.0	W	M
OKLAHOMA CITY	35.0	N	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	48.0	W	F
TUTTLE	24.0	W	M
CASHION	42.0	W	M

202 514 6383: # 6/ 7

9502393 WILSON, CLARENCE EUGENE
9502437 WOODBRIDGE, RONOTA ANN
9502365 WORTON, TRESIA JO MATHES-
9503301 YOUNGBLOOD, JOHN

1223 NE 55TH
2012 ARAPAHO
1000 NW 88TH ST APT G-12
11701 SANDY CIRCLE

OKLAHOMA CITY	49.0	N	M
EDMOND	31.0	W	F
OKLAHOMA CITY	28.0	W	F
YUKON	52.0	W	M

4-10-96 :10:04AM :U.S. ATTORNEY. WD/OK-

SENT BY:

File Oklahoma

ROUTING SLIP

DATE: 5/23/95

FROM: Billy Webster
Director of Scheduling and Advance

SUBJECT: **Heroes of Oklahoma City**

Don Baer	X	Abner J. Mikva	_____
Erskine Bowles	_____	Laura Tyson	_____
Rebecca Cameron	_____	Leon Panetta	☒
Peg Cusack	_____	John Podesta	_____
Rahm Emanuel	_____	Jack Quinn	☒
Mark Gearan	X	Carol Rasco	_____
Jack Gibbons	_____	Lee Satterfield	_____
Pat Griffin	_____	Patti Solis	☒
Marcia Hale	_____	Doug Sosnik	_____
Alexis Herman	_____	G. Stephanopoulos	_____
Nancy Hernreich	_____	Ann Stock	☒
Kitty Higgins	X	Stephanie Streett	_____
Harold Ickes	_____	Kim Tilley	☒
Anthony Lake	_____	Jodie Torkelson	_____
Bruce Lindsey	_____	Melanne Verveer	_____
Mike McCurry	X	Anne Walley	☒
Anne McGuire	X	Maggie Williams	☒
Mack McLarty	_____		

FILE: ~~X~~

Pending

No date or time indicated

FYI ~~X~~

ADVICE _____

ACTION _____

REGRET POTUS, suggest a surrogate is needed: _____

COMMENTS: per 5/23 meeting

pending

05/08/95

95 MAY 22 All : 59

TO:

William Webster
Deputy Assistant to the President and
Director of Scheduling and Advance

FROM:

Kitty Higgins
Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Cabinet

REQUEST:

Rose Garden Ceremony Honoring the Heroes of the Oklahoma City Tragedy. Heroes would receive medals for their bravery, courage, and dedication. Heroes would consist of representatives from:

- Oklahoma City Fire Department
- 11 Search and Rescue Teams sent to Oklahoma City from across the country
- Some of the "real people" who assisted in the rescue effort

*Domestic
W- sent*

The President's remarks would be broadcasted to gatherings of Federal Employees -- hosted by Cabinet and Sub-Cabinet officials -- throughout the country. FEMA has capacity to broadcast to every fire department headquarters in the country.

PURPOSE:

- 1) To honor the heroes of the Oklahoma City tragedy.
- 2) To thank federal employees for their public service and comfort them in the wake of the Oklahoma City tragedy.

BACKGROUND:

The Oklahoma City bombing was a direct attack at public service. This event would emphasize that public service is to be commended, not condemned. The event would also highlight the heroism of Oklahoma City -- honoring the nation's "coming together" during this time of crisis.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

DATE and TIME:

TBD

DURATION:

1 hour

LOCATION:

The Rose Garden
The White House

PARTICIPANTS:

Members of the Cabinet
FEMA Director, James Lee Witt
Representatives from:

- Oklahoma City Fire Department
- 11 Search and Rescue Teams sent to Oklahoma City from across the country
- Some of the "real people" who assisted in the rescue effort

OUTLINE OF EVENTS:

TBD

REMARKS REQUIRED:

Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE:

Open Press

PROPOSED ATTENDANCE:

☒	President
☐	Vice President
☒	1st Lady
☐	2nd Lady

RECOMMENDED BY:

Kitty Higgins

CONTACT:

Jason Goldberg
456-2572

File Oklahoma

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

APRIL 24, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR MARGARET A. WILLIAMS

CC: PATTI SOLIS
FROM: ALICE PUSHKAR
SUBJECT: FIRST LADY VISIT TO PRESIDENTIAL
GREETINGS OFFICE

Attached is the wire service report of the First Lady's meeting with the mother of one of the Oklahoma City day-care victims. She told the First Lady that she had requested and received a greeting from the President when her child was born. This was just one of the more than one million greetings that have been mailed from the Greetings Office during the Clinton Administration. I know that it would mean a great deal to the staff and the volunteers in the Greetings Office if the First Lady would come by to thank them. Because many of the volunteers in that office are elderly, it would be best if a drop-by could be arranged between 10 and 12 on a week-day morning. Jamie Williams is the director of the office.

E X E C U T I V E O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T

24-Apr-1995 09:48am

TO: Jamie S. Williams
TO: Thomas W. Tanner
TO: Patrick E. Briggs

FROM: Kyle M. Baker
 Presidential Correspondence

SUBJECT: A MOTHER'S ORDEAL: TELLING THE PRESIDENT OF BIRTH AND ...

Date: 04/24/95 Time: 09:38

A Mother's Ordeal: Telling the President of Birth and Death

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) When Baylee Almon was born a year ago, her mother sent President and Mrs. Clinton a birth announcement and the White House sent back a note of congratulations.

On Sunday, the young mother met the Clintons, and this time she told them her baby the subject of a dramatic rescue attempt pictured on front pages worldwide was dead. She wept in their arms.

''I'm sorry. I'm so sorry,'' a glassy-eyed Clinton said as he hugged 22-year-old Aren Almon after Sunday's memorial service.

Clutching a long-stemmed pink rose and a teddy bear, Aren gazed up at the president with puddled eyes, looking for reassurance that someday she could be happy again. Holding back tears, the president clenched his jaw and nodded warmly. His eyes didn't waver from hers.

She handed him the teddy bear she got at the memorial service and asked him to sign it.

''God bless you,'' he wrote in black ink on the bear's cotton paw.

For Aren, it had been a week of shock, grief and comfort as she tried to make sense of the bloody death of the 1-year-old child her family called ''Miss Baylee.''

''The reality of it hasn't really hit her yet,'' said a friend who accompanied her to the memorial service.

Aren knew her daughter was dead before she saw the photos, shot by a bank credit specialist who worked three blocks from the federal building.

One shows police Sgt. John Avera clutching the limp body to his chest, running to hand her to firefighter Chris Fields, his arms outstretched. The second shot shows Fields cradling the diaper-clad baby in his arms.

''It was the photo that was felt around the world,'' said Tommy Almon, the baby's grandfather.

In a heart wrenching meeting on the front lawn of the home where Aren is staying with relatives her downtown apartment was evacuated after the blast she thanked Avera and Fields.

"Thank you for getting her out of there as fast as you could," she said, sobbing in their arms the day after the bombing.

Avera had run into the smoking ruins of the federal building, beckoned by screams and a baby's cry. A fellow officer pulled out the crying child and Avera clutched little Baylee. She was motionless, her head cut open and her face covered with insulation dust.

Charles Porter IV's camera was focused on Avera as he ran out of the building and handed the baby to Fields.

On Saturday, Aren met the photographer.

"We never would have known she was treated so good if you didn't take those pictures," Aren said during the tearful meeting around the dining room table.

"I'm relieved. I thought, 'What must they think of me?' I hope it didn't hurt you," Porter, 25, replied quietly.

"Of course it broke our hearts, but it let us see how much they did care," said the baby's grandmother, Debbie Almon.

Porter also told them something even the photo couldn't show Fields, who has a 2-year-old son, stared at the baby, immobilized, for about 30 seconds as he cradled her in his arms.

Porter was so affected by the image of the child that in the hours after the bombing he put the snapshot in his pocket and went to hospitals to try to find out her fate.

"Have you seen this baby? Have you seen this baby?" he asked nurses.

The Almons had already found her at St. Anthony's Hospital.

After the memorial service Sunday, Aren and about two dozen other relatives of bombing victims gathered in a small room at the State Fair arena where they individually met the Clintons.

When she met the first lady, Aren told her of the birth announcement she'd sent the White House after a friend told her she'd done so and gotten a response from the president.

Tears streamed down Hillary Clinton's face as she embraced Aren, whose chin didn't stop quivering. She told her she was brave.

"Write to me and tell me how you're doing," the first lady said.

Holding the teddy bear still closer, Aren went home and prepared for her daughter's funeral.

=

EDITOR'S NOTE: Julia Prodis is the AP's Southwest regional reporter, based in Dallas.

APNP-04-24-95 0938EDT

LM DRAFT 4/21/95

File Oklahoma

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
AND FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
JOINT RADIO ADDRESS TO THE NATION**

[President's Introduction]

I would like to talk for a minute to the children with us here at the White House, and to children all across America. I know that many of you are probably feeling frightened after the bombing in Oklahoma. I know many of you are wondering how such a terrible thing could happen in our country.

Whenever you feel scared or worried, I want you to remember that your parents, families and friends love you very much and will protect you and keep you safe. I want you to remember that the bad people who bombed the building in Oklahoma will be caught and will never be allowed on the streets again.

And I want you to remember that there are many more good people in the world than bad people. Just think about all the policemen, firefighters, doctors, nurses, rescue workers, neighbors and friends helping the people hurt by the bombing. Think about the people writing letters and sending presents to Oklahoma. These are all good people and good people live in every town and city in America.

One other thing I want to tell you: over the last few days, my daughter Chelsea and I have spent a lot of time talking about how we were feeling about the bombing. Chelsea has told me and her father about how sad she feels that so many people died.

I want all of you to talk to your moms and dads, your grandparents, your teachers, and other grownups you love. I want you to tell them what makes you scared or worried. I want you to tell them when something is upsetting you. And I bet if you do, they will help you feel better.

And finally, I want you to think about ways you can help the people in Oklahoma yourself. Maybe you can write a letter to a child there. Maybe you can send a drawing, a toy, or a gift. I'm sure that children and families in Oklahoma will feel happier knowing that kids around the country care so much about them.

File Oklahoma

Allen, Rick

From: Toscano, J
To: Allen, Rick; Block, Herbert; Burch, Natalie; Friedman, Sondra; Garmendia, Zoe; Gassner, Laura; Green, Ida; Hacaj, Sylvia A.; Hallerman, Karen; Parr-Moore, Rae; Perdue, Patricia; Sofer, Gene; Whitman, Sarah; *Public Affairs; *Public Liaison
Subject: AP newswire story
Date: Wednesday, April 26, 1995 10:40AM

23 AP 04-25-95 05:30 PET 34 LINES

AM-NY--Mrs Clinton-AmeriCorps,300

First Lady: Many Americans Believe They're 'Not Being Heard'

NEW YORK (AP) Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday she recognizes in the aftermath of the Oklahoma City bombing that there are many Americans who believe "they are not being heard."

The first lady said the country could learn a lesson from a conflict-mediation program that she saw demonstrated at Seward Park High School on Manhattan's Lower East Side. The program is part of AmeriCorps, a Clinton administration community-service initiative.

Mrs. Clinton told several dozen youths that their work "to solve your problems in a peaceful and nonviolent way" got her thinking about the Oklahoma City bombing.

"You can tell from the aftermath of it that certainly although we have seen an extraordinary outpouring of good, positive efforts to help the people in Oklahoma, we also know that there are many people who, for whatever reason, believe that they are not being heard ... that their grievances are not being understood," the first lady said.

"And in the face of such horrific violence, I think our country has an opportunity, if we take it, to start trying to rebuild these bonds of trust and community," she said.

Mrs. Clinton didn't elaborate and wasn't available to reporters after the event.

The AmeriCorps "Project SafetyNet" program that Mrs. Clinton saw demonstrated involves high school youths mediating disputes among their peers.

The Seward Park program is staffed by students from New York University. Similar projects are in place at another school in New York and in North Carolina, Atlanta and Atlantic City, N.J.

Mrs. Clinton visited Seward Park to mark Tuesday as a "National Day of Service." Events for the day were sponsored nationally by the Corporation for National Service, Youth Service America and The Points of Light Foundation.

Maggie —
Overall, coverage around
the country on the day's
activities was excellent.
We really appreciate the
First Lady's leadership.
Rick