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Oklahoma City

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To: Thomas L. Freedman/OPD/EOP@EOP

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Subject: Oklahoma City Clips

Tom --

Here are some clips from the past year that give a flavor of the current local psychology on the bombing, including the story written on the 4th anniversary of the bombing. Kari Ferguson Watkins, the Executive Director of the memorial, may be helpful in filling in the gaps. She can be reached at (405) 235-3313.

--Sarah
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THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

March 29, 2000, Wednesday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS;

LENGTH: 641 words

HEADLINE: Interest growing in memorial work as dedication nears

BYLINE: Jack Money, Staff Writer

BODY:

In just three weeks.

No one could predict the April 19, 1995, bomb that destroyed Oklahoma City's federal building that resulted in the deaths of 168 people.

But in just three weeks, people everywhere likely will pause to remember the event and watch as Oklahoma City dedicates a memorial to those who died, those who survived and those who were changed forever.

In three short weeks, five years will have passed since the explosion rocked Oklahoma City and the faith that terrorist acts such as this just couldn't happen here.

In the past five years, the downtown area near the former site of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building has changed dramatically.

A calm, shallow reflecting pool representing 9:02 a.m. - the exact time the bomb exploded on April 19 - replaces a once-busy city street.

The pool is bracketed by a pair of gates representing minutes immediately before and after the bombing, symbolizing a world changed dramatically by the attack and one that will never be the same again.

To the south, on the Murrah Building's footprint, a field of

grass containing 168 chairs memorializes the bombing victims.

A name is etched into each glass chair base, and no two bases or brass seat backs will be the same, representing the individuality of each victim.

Tucked into a corner of the building's old site are granite panels remembering people who were inside the Murrah and other nearby buildings who survived.

Workers are busy this week installing the chairs and finishing the laying of sandstone around the reflecting pool and along walkways leading to different areas of the site.

Hundreds watched during the weekend and early this week as work progressed.

"I think there is a heightened awareness... people want to see how it is coming," said Kari Watkins, executive director of the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

Watkins said the site will draw 300,000 visitors a year, based on informal surveys.

Much of the work related to the April 19 dedication is happening outside the public's eye, though. Watkins and others are working to confirm potential visits from dignitaries for the dedication.

Two ceremonies are planned - a private one at 8:30 a.m. for victims' relatives, survivors and rescue workers, and another at 5 p.m. for the public. The public can pick up tickets at Homeland Stores beginning April 3.

The Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism also continues to build its staff, announcing Tuesday that Tulsa native Donald R. Hamilton will be its deputy director.

Hamilton, of Washington D.C., works for the U.S. State Department as a counter-terrorism adviser. He also is a senior adviser to the congressionally appointed National Commission on Terrorism.

Visitors to the site this week were impressed by what they see.

Tony Aguilera first visited the site with a U.S. Army bomb squad on the day of the attack.

Aguilera looked over the site Monday with his wife, Kelly, and his mother-in-law, Sandra Norton.

"It brings back a lot of memories," said Aguilera, who had to fight back tears as he spoke. "I hadn't really talked about it before, but it is just really hard to describe those three days. I had been in combat before, and I had never saw anything like that.

"I just wanted to come back."

Even Watkins, who has been involved in the memorial's planning for more than four years, said the finished product is "more than I ever thought it would be."

She said the memorial will accomplish what it intends: Bringing life back to the site and hope back to the city.

"It is a gift from our city to the world to say thank you for its help, and to remember the lives that were lost, and to pay respect to survivors and others who were changed forever," she said.

GRAPHIC: Photo 1: Tom Horn and other workers sweep dirt and sand from the bottom of the reflecting pool at the Oklahoma City National Memorial. The pool's pumps were turned on for the first time Tuesday. Photo 2: Chris Vespermann positions a piece of granite that will serve as the seat of a chair dedicated to bombing victim Harley Richard Cottingham, a special agent with the Department of Defense Investigative Service. Each of the 168 men, women and children who died as a result of the Alfred P. Murrah Building bombing will be remembered at the Oklahoma City National Memorial with a glass, bronze and granite chair. - STAFF

PHOTOS BY JIM BECKEL

LOAD-DATE: March 30, 2000

Copyright 1999 The Daily Oklahoman
THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

December 09, 1999, Thursday CITY EDITION

SECTION: EDITORIAL; LEONARD PITTS

LENGTH: 630 words

HEADLINE: Grief over bombing will linger

BYLINE: Leonard Pitts, KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE SERVICES

BODY:

HER name is Mickey Hill. Here's what she told survivors of the Oklahoma City bombing and their families in a recent interview with a television station in Tampa-St. Petersburg, Fla.:

Get over it. Move on. "It was a big event," she said, "... but so was the O.J. Simpson case, so was the bombing in New York City."

It's galling enough that she said it.

But here's the kicker. Mickey Hill's son is Timothy McVeigh, the man who sits on death row for masterminding the explosion that left 168 children, women and men dead.

Your first impulse is to try to figure out what might have possessed her to say something like that. You try to lay it off to a mother's understandable grief or her equally understandable need to stand up for her maligned son. You figure it might even have something to do with her having been, according to a published report, involuntarily committed to mental institutions three times in her life.

Or maybe she's just cold.

Maybe she's just a defective person who lacks the basic human ability to care. In which case, she and her son would seem to have much in common.

The impression of coldness is reinforced by a later interview Hill did with The Oklahoman, in which she compared the bombing to a plane crash. As in, Hey, it's tragic, but it happens. Hill told the paper that she has put the whole thing behind her.

"He was found guilty," she said of her son. "I had my cry, I went home and I got on with my life."

Let me tell you the truth. I came here all set to rip this woman from stem to stern. But halfway through, I seem to have lost my taste for that. Halfway through, I find myself feeling less contempt than pity.

I think it's because of this theme she keeps repeating: Getting through it, getting over it, putting it behind you. In a sense, it's hard to blame her. After all, this is the idea we've all bought into in recent years. Grief, we're told, is a neat and predictable process, the purpose of which is to reach "closure," a state where you shut the door on painful things and move forward with life.

Unfortunately, it just doesn't happen that way. You don't close grief away. Rather, you find a way to live with it, to breathe past it. Yes, the passage of time will burnish the grieving, lending the bitter some sweet so that the pain becomes easier to bear. Eventually your crying ends and you find yourself passing days or weeks without thinking of the thing that made you grieve.

But there is no such thing as "closure" in the sense of sealing it away in a place where you never have to deal with it again. You don't get on with life so much as accept that this hurt will

henceforth be a part of that life.

And that's if someone you love died of cancer or was hit by a bus. How much more painful is it when that loved one went to work one day and was destroyed by a madman with a bomb?

I don't know if Mickey Hill has ever been to the site of the federal building her son blew up. I was there this past spring. All that was left was a gaping wound in the dirt surrounded by a chain-link fence strewn with mementos and tributes. People filed past, speaking in the muted whispers of the tomb.

Elemental evil happened there. And the challenge we face is not to forget that, but to learn the lessons it offers. Lessons as big as the risks of being an open society in a dangerous world. And as small as the need to treasure a toddler's every goodbye morning hug, because you just never know.

I don't think the survivors - nor any of us - will ever reach "closure" on what happened at that place, ever come to a state where this thing has no power to affect us. And I'm glad. Because what would it say about us if we could?

LOAD-DATE: December 10, 1999

Copyright 1999 The Daily Oklahoman
THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

November 04, 1999, Thursday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS;

LENGTH: 730 words

HEADLINE: Memorial countdown starting

BYLINE: Penny Owen, Staff Writer

BODY:

Even while bodies were being pulled from the building, people sought a larger meaning.

They needed something to explain the Oklahoma City bombing beyond the hate of a couple loners, beyond the police investigations and preachers' explanations of why some lived while others died.

The Oklahoma City National Memorial is a culmination of these exercises. A memorial task force spent eight months in 1996 writing the memorial's mission, which served as guidelines for the design. The effort united unlikely groups of artists and administrators and survivors to search their souls for a mission to fit the crime. It moved some survivors from a point of simply wanting their loved one's name on a piece of granite to wanting to teach the world how to prevent such terrorism from happening again.

The bombing's symbolic number - 168 - begins ticking today. In that many days, the memorial will be finished and the crowds can come. They'll cry from the horror of it all. Then they'll find hope from the heroism and strengths of Oklahoma City's people, whose response to the tragedy became a beacon in one of the country's darkest periods.

So what have the years that led up to this point taught us? What, in the wake of the grieving and investigation and trials, has this April 19, 1995, tragedy come to mean?

Those who will only know the bombing by what they learn at the memorial have already found meaning in its icons: the gutted ruins that loomed in the skyline. Firefighter Chris Fields as he held Baylee Almon's broken body.

To them, the federal building bombing means vulnerability. They learned that if it could happen in a noneventful place like Oklahoma City, it could happen anywhere.

"Clearly for the larger culture, the bomb immediately became a useable symbol as people tried to figure out how it happened and what it meant," said Edward Linenthal, a University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh professor of religion and American culture who is writing the book "Remembering the Bomb in Oklahoma City," due out next year.

Linenthal pointed to how the bombing was used to stampede the militia, to rally around gun control issues and chastise talk radio hosts. It remains a hot button in dozens of issues, from federal funding to conspiracy theories to changes in the law.

And, Linenthal wonders, what kind of poisonous effect will the bombing have on future generations, who as young children watched the carnage unfold on television? What will terrorism mean to them?

Linenthal sees the memorial as part of a movement to reverse the desensitization of the nation - to bring a senseless tragedy down to a personal level, with faces and families and an outrage that says, this is still intolerable.

If Oklahoma City had a lesson to teach the world, it was this:

that the government is everyone, from the young mother who kisses her child goodbye before heading to her desk to the lawyer who finds time to help an old man get his house back after being taken in a deal.

The bombing also transcended all the common barriers of race and gender and class, bringing people together who would not be joined otherwise.

"Perhaps one of the only ways people can identify with each other is in bereavement, as part of large bereaving community," Linenthal said.

On a more personal and tragic level, the bombing has meant broken lives, failed careers, divorce, suicide. It has consumed and devastated more than a few. And it has prodded some into action.

Grievors have turned into activists for victims, the law, human rights and more. They've made speeches and compiled books. One, Bud Welch, even visited Timothy McVeigh's father in a cathartic move to resolve the loss of his daughter, Julie, and to make peace with his own opposition to the death penalty.

Some have developed a keener sense of the world around them. No longer is a bombing in Nairobi, Kenya, just some travesty far away. A plane crash is not just another plane crash.

Fields and other Oklahomans know too well what follows these tragedies. Of course, they take on a deeper meaning now. It seems the only sure thing is that another tragedy is around the corner. And eventually, it will have a memorial to help folks understand.

Oklahoma City's is now 168 days away. The countdown begins.

LOAD-DATE: November 5, 1999

Copyright 1999 The Saturday Oklahoman
THE SATURDAY OKLAHOMAN

October 23, 1999, Saturday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS;

LENGTH: 459 words.

HEADLINE: Bombing site poems unite Kenyans with Oklahomans

BYLINE: Melissa Nelson, Staff Writer

BODY:

Kimanzi Muthengi first noticed the poems on the chain-link fence at the Oklahoma City bomb site.

"This is how universal evil is," he said while surveying the place so much like the sacred ground in his native Kenya where 213 died and more than 5,000 were injured in a 1998 terrorist blast.

"It's a different place, but it is the same place."

Similar poems are posted near the site of the bombed U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. Muthengi, a country director for the Oklahoma City-based World Neighbors, made his first trip to the United States this month to attend the nonprofit relief agency's international conference. The downtown bombing site was on top of his list of places to visit.

As he turned his back to the morning chill Friday, he remembered a friend who died in the Nairobi blast. The man, a fellow teacher, was standing in line to obtain a travel visa when the bomb exploded.

"This place is so much like that place to me," he said.

And the people of Nairobi are asking the same questions as the people of Oklahoma City. Why did it happen here? How could anyone do something this horrible? Is there any justice?

It's a horrific bond between two cities that have little else in common. Like Oklahomans, Kenyans found strength in tragedy, pulling together to make it through a difficult time.

Muthengi hopes to solidify the bond through exchanges with Oklahomans. World Neighbors has supported his efforts with the donation of \$ 9,000 for victims of the Nairobi bombing. The money will go toward medical expenses for people disabled in the bombing.

But it's the emotional scars that money cannot heal.

When the city used fireworks in a recent celebration, many Nairobi residents complained that it brought back the trauma of the bombing, he said.

"What we feel in Kenya is a psychological fear."

His Oklahoma friends understand this fear. Jan Miller was with Muthengi in Kenya four days before the Aug. 7, 1998, bombing to film a PBS documentary about World Neighbors.

She stood with him Friday at the Oklahoma City bombing site.

"We have such strong ties between our two cities now," she said. "They were so much like us, a city that was politically calm where you would never expect it to happen."

Muthengi said, "From where I live, people died. From where I came, people died. From where I worked, people died."

He found solace on this October morning in the poetry on a chain-link fence 9,000 miles away from his home.

"These poems could have been written by anybody anywhere in the world."

Survivors

If you're interested in assisting Kimanzi Muthengi in his efforts at uniting survivors of the Oklahoma City and Nairobi bombings, call World Neighbors at 752-9700.

GRAPHIC: Kimanzi Muthengi walks along the memento-laden fence at the Oklahoma City bomb site on Friday. Muthengi, a native of Kenya, reflected on his country's experiences during the aftermath of the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi. - STAFF PHOTO BY JIM BECKEL

LOAD-DATE: October 26, 1999

Copyright 1999 The Daily Oklahoman
THE DAILY OKLAHOMAN

October 12, 1999, Tuesday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS;

LENGTH: 441 words

HEADLINE: FUNDS SOUGHT TO FINISH MEMORIAL National effort appeals to public

BYLINE: Jack Money, Staff Writer

BODY:

Corporations, foundations, and the federal and state governments have paid to build a monument and museum to the April 19, 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building.

Now the group building the monument is asking everyone to give donations to finish building the memorial and then to operate and maintain it.

Beginning Nov. 4, 168 days before the April 19, 2000, opening of the symbolic memorial, the group is asking television and radio stations nationwide to run 60- and 30-second remembrances of the bombing.

Each day of the campaign will remember one of the 168 people who died in the bombing - first the adults, then the children in reverse alphabetical order.

The 168 Days Campaign will also include print and billboard advertisements, T-shirts and bumper stickers.

Oklahoma City National Memorial leaders hope the campaign will raise public awareness about the project and its funding needs as the opening approaches. The memorial has raised \$ 20.3 million. It needs another \$ 8.7 million to meet its goal.

Most of the donations to build the symbolic memorial, a planned museum and an institute for the prevention of terrorism have come from a corporate and foundations campaign. Money was also raised by a 168-pennies campaign for school children and a donation program for federal employees.

Congress also appropriated \$ 5 million for the memorial, and the Oklahoma state government has contributed \$ 5 million.

The new campaign is the first broad-based appeal for donations, said Kari Ferguson, national memorial executive director.

The memorial foundation hopes to raise \$ 29.1 million to build the memorial and establish an endowment that will pay for its operation. That total includes:

- \$ 10.3 million to design and build the symbolic memorial;
- \$ 7 million to design and build a memorial center museum inside the Journal Record Building;
- \$ 550,586 to design, build and operate the memorial center's archives area;
- \$ 5 million for an endowment to operate a terrorism prevention institute;
- \$ 5 million for an endowment to operate the memorial and museum;
- \$ 1.3 million to pay for the memorial foundation's operating costs from the time it was created through the opening of the outdoor memorial and the museum, which should open in November 2000.

168 Days Campaign

People who want to donate to the 168 Days Campaign can call either a toll-free telephone number, (888) 542-4673, or visit www.168days.com.

Harold's Clothing will sell 168 Days T-shirts at their stores and at www.harolds.com. Proceeds will be donated to the memorial fund.

GRAPHIC: Photo 1: Workers continue construction on the 9:01 a.m. gate to the Oklahoma City National Memorial. The gate on the memorial's east side represents the moment before a truck bomb exploded in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building at 9:02 a.m. April 19, 1995. Photo 2: Two visitors watch as workers install brass cladding on the 9:01 a.m. gate, the east entrance to the Oklahoma City Memorial. - STAFF PHOTOS BY JIM BECKEL

LOAD-DATE: October 13, 1999

Copyright 1999 The Sunday Oklahoman
THE SUNDAY OKLAHOMAN

October 03, 1999, Sunday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS;

LENGTH: 1984 words

HEADLINE: City, Waco bonded by shared tragedy Bombing links city to Waco in many minds

BYLINE: Penny Owen, Staff Writer

DATELINE: WACO, Texas

BODY:

A relentless wind swept the cloud-covered plains and flapped the canopy where a couple hundred sympathizers and survivors had gathered to read the names of the dead.

It was April 19, 1995. Two years had passed since the deadly finale of a 51-day standoff between federal agents and the Branch Davidian religious sect in the middle of Texas.

Television trucks and news crews had come to this 77-acre rural plot to record the solemn memorial. A handful of militia members, dressed in camouflage and carrying rifles, a few survivalists and some sympathetic locals had joined the 40 or so Davidian survivors. Ramsey Clark, a former U.S. attorney general, came to speak.

The group stood quietly, perhaps a bit uncomfortably, on the scrappy patch of land that was dotted with 82 crape myrtle trees, one for each victim. Except for two rusted bus skeletons in the brush, few traces lingered to remind visitors of the once robust Davidian compound.

The morning couldn't have been more different 300 miles to the north, where Oklahoma City was busying itself with a midweek workday under a sunny, picture-perfect spring sky.

Opening remarks had barely begun when television monitors started getting feeds from Oklahoma City. Someone bombed a building downtown - a federal building.

Officials suspect an Arab connection, reports said. Officials suspect a connection to Waco. Reporters spread among the crowd asking questions: Was there a connection? Was the bomb planted by Branch Davidian faithfuls?

Sheila Martin, a Davidian survivor who lost her husband and four children when the compound went up in flames, recalled that morning.

"We're hoping nothing will happen to us as we're sitting in our memorial, that we'll have a day to reflect on things. And then this."

Rain pelted the group, but survivor Clive Doyle pressed on, slowly reading the names of each person who died - there were 82, the Davidians say, including 17 children and two stillborn babies. Six adults had died in the gunbattle that ensued Feb. 28, 1993, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents raided the compound for illegal weapons. The rest went up in flames.

In Oklahoma City, death estimates were climbing. There was a day-care center in the building, reports said.

Doyle's voice cracked when he read the name of his 18-year-old daughter, Shari.

After each name, someone rang a bell. It looked like the Liberty Bell.

"We were totally horrified," Doyle recalled. "It's not something

we condoned or would wish upon anybody.... Basically our position is that vengeance belongs to God."

Doyle said he wanted to drive to Oklahoma City right then. Maybe he could help the victims. He could certainly understand their heartache. His attorney advised against it, however, saying it could be misinterpreted.

"It would put us on the scene of the crime, so to speak," Doyle said.

More than six years later, the horror of these sister tragedies has created a terrible bond between Oklahoma City and Waco, saddling both with a lingering sadness and a notoriety that has become impossible to shed.

They mark their places in time - their shared day of mourning with granite stones and groves of trees - and obligingly tell their stories, over and over again, to strangers asking questions.

Now and then they ask themselves, are we getting better? Are we moving on?

Bringing in souls

Moving on can actually mean staying put, as Clive and his mother, Edna, 84, do at Mount Carmel, where they live in a double-wide trailer a few hundred feet from where the compound burned.

They believe they have a calling to be here, to minister to others and keep their truth alive.

"God brings his souls here," said Clive Doyle, who moved back to Mount Carmel after spending a year in jail on weapons and conspiracy charges.

Come morning, Edna Doyle puts on her housedress and walks next door to a modest, wood-frame visitors center, where she greets the occasional tourist and answers questions, should they come.

She also tolerates the barbs. Not long ago, someone came in with a photo of a child who was killed in the Oklahoma City bombing. What do you feel for this child, they demanded to know of her.

"You get all sorts of remarks from different people," the grandmother said. "How do you think I cope with watching my granddaughter die?... To me, I just feel like God has taken away most of my feelings.... I have not shed a tear for Oklahoma or this. It doesn't affect me."

Inside the visitors center, glass cases display books written about the siege and memorabilia from the scene: bullet fragments, a bent tricycle wheel, twisted silverware, a tattered Huggies diaper box. On the wall are photos of Davidians in happier times - as they married, held children and played on the couch with Barbie dolls.

Daily accounts of the 51-day siege line the walls, along with photos of the burning compound and of FBI and ATF agents as they posed, some grinning, in front of the building's remains.

Edna Doyle looks onto the 82 trees that have become her back yard. Each bears a carved stone at the base with the victim's name, age and home country. Many came from England, Canada, New Zealand and Doyle's native Australia. Someday, she believes, slain Branch Davidian leader David Koresh will return to raise these victims.

"I hope for the resurrection of their loved ones, too," she said of the Oklahoma City victims. "They didn't do any harm. It wasn't them that was causing any trouble."

The connection to Oklahoma City is acknowledged here by a small, granite stone centered on a patch of grass.

"We pray that they and their families find comfort and peace in

our Lord," it reads in part. Next to it is a marker for the four ATF agents killed in the raid.

The Mount Carmel site itself is a far cry from the multi-million-dollar memorial being built for Oklahoma City's 168 victims of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing.

Those who manage to find their way down the Texas back roads are greeted by Amo Paul Bishop Roden, who claims to be the wife of a former Davidian leader. She never lived in the compound, and survivors consider her a squatter and menace. Roden lives in a one-person, plywood hut at the entrance, where she has erected hand-made posters outlining the injustices and "truth" behind the government's role in the compound's demise. She offers literature and requests a \$ 4 donation in return. A few hundred cars pass her way each week.

Roden describes their path: First the Alamo in San Antonio; then on to Mount Carmel; then Dealey Plaza in Dallas, where President Kennedy was shot; and finally, Oklahoma City.

"It's kind of an I-35 thing," Roden said. "A massacre cover-up route, if you like."

Down the road, Davidians and volunteers are rebuilding their church where the compound once stood. Called "The Phoenix Project," they recently installed concrete pillars with donations folks made at the local hardware store.

A few volunteers camp nearby in tents to keep vandals away. Too many times, they've found crosses kicked over.

Donations are coming in, they say, but not from Waco residents. "Waco is so sensitive about this," Roden said. "They do not support us."

Shared legacies

Though citizens of Waco are quick to point out that the Davidians lived a dozen miles outside the city, they share a long history with the sect that is rooted in apocalyptic Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.

The Davidians came to Waco in the 1930s. Boyd Thornton, a funeral director, recalls how they once rid themselves of personal belongings and huddled at Mount Carmel, at that time in Waco, to wait for the end of the world.

It never came, so the Davidians settled in, grew peach orchards and caused no trouble - until 1987, when their leader, George Roden, dug up the corpse of a Davidian follower to show his superiority and claimed he could resurrect her from the dead. He challenged Koresh, then known as Vernon Howell, to do the same.

The stir resulted in a gunfight between Koresh and Roden, who ultimately was shot. Koresh and seven others went on trial for attempted murder and at one point, McLennan County Sheriff Jack Harwell said, the woman's corpse was hauled into the courtroom. Authorities promptly ordered it out. No one was convicted.

Harwell describes the Davidians as mild-mannered and friendly, but he wasn't surprised at their reaction when ATF agents arrived with guns and warrants.

"They were defensive of that property," Harwell said. "They looked at that land as their country."

Waco residents had generally looked upon the Davidians as an oddball group that bothered no one - if they even knew the group existed at all. Now, with the sect's demise commonly referred to as simply "Waco," its citizens have become the butt of jokes - "Wackos from Waco," they are called.

Waco's citizenry tolerate the barrage of tourists and anti-government zealots who pester them for directions and come in

waves after every new book is published, every new investigation is announced.

"It's an embarrassment to a lot of people," said Thornton, who helped bury about 30 unclaimed bodies of the Davidians in a Waco pauper's cemetery.

Thornton said the Oklahoma City bombing affected Waco more profoundly than its own tragedy. Once the siege of the compound began, people were braced for the worst with the Davidians, but the bombing of the Murrah Building shocked them to the core.

Ironically, the tragedy Waco is known for is not the one the city remembers the most. In 1953, a tornado leveled all but the tallest building downtown, leaving more than 120 people dead.

"That had much more of an impact than the Davidians," said Jack Stewart, president of Waco's Chamber of Commerce.

Forever linked

Oklahoma City also shares a legacy of tragedy, both natural and man-made. Known for little else before, both cities must now accept an association they would have done anything to avoid.

"If you're not known for anything but a killing around the world, it's going to take a while to overcome that," Waco resident Juan Sanchez said.

Yet, as Oklahoma City embraced its victims, some Davidian survivors say Waco largely shunned them. They said charities wouldn't help them when they were homeless and released from jail. Stewart disputes that claim, saying the community provided for the displaced Davidians.

"Individually they treat us pretty good. As a group, they have little concern for us," said Clive Doyle, who works at a health food store in Waco. He is among only several survivors who still live in the Waco area. Seven Davidians remain in prison on weapons and conspiracy charges.

Some locals, like Sanchez, believe the government mishandled the Davidians. Many try to ignore the Davidian legacy but still have strong feelings about its outcome.

"I don't know what their purpose is having guns and all that, but then again, I don't know why we had to bother them, either," Sanchez said. "You kind of look around nowadays and say, 'There were fanatics on both sides.'"

Just as Oklahoma City prepares for another painful chapter with the upcoming state trial of bombing co-conspirator Terry Nichols, Waco is bracing itself for the outcome of special investigator John Danforth's probe into government wrongdoing on the siege's final day.

"It's never going to die. Never, never, never," Waco resident Joyce Lowe said.

"This is something that could have happened anywhere," said another local, who identified himself only as "an old country boy."

"The people of Waco are good, decent people," he added, before speeding off in his pickup. "They don't deserve this."

GRAPHIC: Photo 1: Eighty-two crape myrtles and a stone memorial etched with names pay tribute to the Davidians who died at the compound. Photo 2: Pilings rising from the Texas plain near Waco are the building blocks of the new Davidian church. Photo 3: Clive Doyle: Lost his daughter, Shari. Photos 4 and 5: Sheila Martin sketched this portrait of the children who died at the compound. She lost her husband and four children in the ordeal. - STAFF PHOTOS BY PENNY OWEN

LOAD-DATE: October 6, 1999

August 25, 1999, Wednesday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 393 words

HEADLINE: Study Details Bombing Aftereffects Psychiatric Problems Observed

BYLINE: Ann DeFrance, Staff Writer

BODY:

A study of survivors of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing indicates about 45 percent had psychiatric problems in the six months following the explosion in 1995 and 34 percent suffered from post-traumatic stress disorders.

The study was published in today's issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The paper was prepared by two Washington University psychiatric epidemiologists along with Dr. Sara Jo Nixon of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and Sheryll Shariat and Sue Mallonee of the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

It says victims who had emotional disorders before the disaster were more likely to have the bomb-related stress disorders.

Dr. Paul Heath, an Oklahoma City psychologist who was in the Murrah Building when the explosion occurred, and a spokesman for the survivors, said that the weaker a victim's personal support systems - emotional, social, financial - the more likely a disastrous event will stimulate prior symptoms of emotional disturbance.

Heath also said the proximity of people sampled to the placement of the bomb is a significant factor the study did not consider.

"The closer to the bomb, the more severe the physical and emotional impact," he said.

Post-traumatic stress disorder probably will be severe in people who were in the exploding building, he said, but also can happen to those who watched it on television.

Symptoms of the disorder include flashbacks and nightmares; hyperarousal symptoms such as feeling jumpy, having difficulty sleeping or concentrating or being easily startled; avoiding reminders and memories and experiencing numbed feelings. Subjects with the latter symptoms probably had other psychiatric problems before the bombing.

Among the conclusions were that victims with minor symptoms benefited from counseling, but did not need psychiatric treatment. Researchers advised that triage personnel after a disaster should try to identify people with pre-existing emotional problems.

Heath said the study will benefit other communities where disasters might occur, but also can apply to Oklahoma.

"We just experienced the worst tornado in history," he said.

Heath said such research might help prevent post-traumatic stress disorder and speed the post-disaster healing process.

GRAPHIC: Dr. Paul Heath

LOAD-DATE: August 26, 1999

August 22, 1999, Sunday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 1543 words

HEADLINE: Last Grant Awarded For Bomb's Damage

BYLINE: Steve Lackmeyer, Jack Money, Staff Writers

BODY:

The vote happened without comment or public notice.

Not a hint of controversy or intrigue surrounded a decision Tuesday by the Oklahoma City Council to award a \$ 12,250 bombing recovery grant to the Miracle Revival Center to start repairs at 901 NW 6.

But the vote was significant. With the grant's approval, Oklahoma City closed out its efforts to help owners repair properties damaged by the worst act of terrorism in the nation's history.

Since 1995, the city's Murrah District Revitalization Program has reviewed 260 applications for assistance with bomb damage repairs. Of those, 169 were declared eligible for the grants.

Of two congressional appropriations totaling \$ 51 million, the council has authorized \$ 32,040,000. Though plywood still covers the windows of several buildings close to the bombing's epicenter, all but seven of the federally funded recovery projects are complete.

For those involved in the recovery since day one, such as Assistant Manager JoeVan Bullard, the city has perfected a recovery cookbook he hopes will never be used again.

"I wish we were further along, and that the area were further along in its economic revitalization," Bullard said.

"But if you think back and be objective about it, the area has made tremendous strides. It was not the going part of the central business district to begin with. It was on the edge of downtown both geographically and economically. But the area is on the move - it's moving forward."

Maps of the bombing recovery efforts can be confusing. Repairs paid for by the Murrah program can be found south of the bombing at The Lunch Box along Sheridan Avenue and blocks north in Midtown, where the program assisted owners of the still vacant Plaza Court Building.

Likewise, money went east toward the historic Calvary Baptist Church on NE 2. Some bombing recovery money traveled as far west as Classen Boulevard.

But the majority was spent within a one-square block of the bombing itself, said Russell Claus, director of the Murrah program since 1997.

The city awarded a \$ 7 million grant and a \$ 6.5 million loan to repair and renovate the Journal Record Building in preparation for a museum and anti-terrorism institute. Those awards alone represented one-third of the first \$ 39 million congressional appropriation.

About \$ 5 million was awarded to repair historic churches devastated by the bombing. A \$ 4 million grant repaired a former Southwestern Bell building that became the new headquarters for the Department of Environmental Quality.

Another \$ 2.1 million will soon launch construction of a new office and retail building to replace the Kilpatrick Hotel at Robinson Avenue and NW 6.

The Gianos family, which also owns other buildings along NW 6, had owned the hotel since 1970. The hotel and adjoining shops were too badly damaged by the bombing to be repaired and were torn down in April 1996.

Construction of a new \$ 2.8 million, 30,000-square-foot building, however, is only starting next month. The development will be financed by the \$ 2.1 million federal grant, a \$ 450,000 insurance settlement and \$ 110,000 from the city.

The tenants won't be the same. Guaranty Bank has signed a 20-year lease for the building's ground floor, and owner Peter Gianos is courting restaurants and a law firm to lease the remaining space.

Completion of the brick-and-stone building should coincide with the opening of the Oklahoma City National Memorial next year.

Gianos, a partner in the longtime family-owned Fashion Cleaners with his father, Gus, said the family is pleased with the aid it received from the city.

"Yeah, there was a lot of paperwork involved and a lot of committees to go through," he said Thursday. "But we understand, because they want to know where their money is going and that it is being used wisely. They wanted it to work, and so do we. As long as you had plans to do something in a reasonable amount of time, they would work with you."

Working Out of a Job

Driving through downtown this past week, Russell Claus quickly recalls each building damaged by the bombing and how the program was or was not able to help.

With the exception of the Gianos project and ongoing repairs at the Journal Record Building, much of the work in the immediate area of the bombing is complete. Churches once again welcome the faithful on Sundays along what has historically been church row.

The Regency Apartments no longer show the scars of a building rocked by the blast - the high rise was one of the first repaired in the bombing's aftermath.

Repairs also are complete in Midtown, where windows were shattered and aging buildings were weakened. It was here that Claus often encountered property owners who weren't eager to follow the guidelines and paperwork trails required by the federal government.

"These were people who were used to doing things on a cheap, incremental basis," Claus said.

"Sure, there were a lot of people who were good businesses and pretty much took care of things right away. But there were others that were marginal to begin with, who either sought to cash in or wanted to continue to do things the way they do it. They didn't want any strings attached. It was just, 'give me the money, and thank you very much.'"

Success stories abound, however. A former flop house at NW 10 and Hudson is being repaired and converted into professional offices. Claus hopes more flop houses will undergo similar transformations once work begins on a \$ 40 million federal office complex.

Claus seems most satisfied with the transformation of Broadway's Automobile Alley, which has benefited not just from bombing-related repairs but also a street project that replaced crumbling sidewalks and added vintage style street lamps and stylish turn-of-the-century intersections.

"I think Automobile Alley is the most dramatically changed area. We poured \$ 6.7 million into the area and leveraged a similar amount," Claus said.

With the end to bombing recovery grants, all that remains for Claus are economic development loans funded by the remaining \$ 5.1 million of federal funds.

Nicholas Preftakes, one of several developers keeping busy with rehabilitation projects on the strip, credits the loans with spurring the next phase of recovery for downtown.

"It's not just a rebirth - we're going beyond where we were before," Preftakes said.

His firm, Precor Reality, will move next month into the Hudson-Essex building at NW 9 and Broadway - a renovation financed with a \$ 600,000 bombing economic recovery loan. Work continues with the aid of a \$ 725,000 loan on the former Anthony's headquarters, renamed 701 Broadway Building.

The first floor of 701 Broadway is already leased. Tenants will include a branch of the Bank of Nichols Hills, Genesis Business Solutions and Ozark Mountain Smoke House. The bank should open by late October, Preftakes said.

Continuing with economic recovery loans is critical to maintaining the area's rebound, Preftakes said.

"It's the key to continuing to support the start we have. We can't stop now. All we've done is to get a start."

Claus agrees. But the extent of how much further the recovery can go is pending a decision by Congress as to whether to award a final \$ 11 million requested by the city.

The appropriation could make the difference in whether one of Claus's biggest disappointments can ever be turned around.

His enthusiasm for the Gianos project at NW 6 and Robinson is dampened when he looks at the former YMCA building next door.

The windows are all boarded, and city leaders, including the mayor, are eager to see the building either torn down or fixed - before next year's opening of the memorial.

Frustrated with a lack of performance by the building's new owners, Mayor Kirk Humphreys ordered Urban Renewal officials to begin appraisals, asbestos studies and preparation to ensure the building won't be an eyesore when thousands of travelers begin visiting the nearby memorial.

The owner, Gene Maul, remains bitter over his attempts to deal with the city's rules governing the grants and loans.

"They didn't want to give money to a second owner. I suppose they did what they wanted to do. I feel what they did was wrong. But they'll have to deal with that," Maul said.

Claus admits the city has probably exhausted its efforts to develop a feasible project for the building, but he still hopes a combination of the right owners and a doable development is possible, especially if another \$ 11 million is added to the city's fund for economic loans.

"I think this area is getting pretty close to where it was. The missing piece is the YMCA. If we got that back, that would be as close as we could possibly get."

Even if Congress appropriates the \$ 11 million, Claus believes the majority of his work is complete.

"I think everybody should work themselves out of job. I was hopeful we could have gotten this done quicker. But the reality was it's very complex.... With the time frame involved, I think we've done very well."

LOAD-DATE: August 24, 1999

April 20, 1999, Tuesday CITY EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 637 words

HEADLINE: Anniversary Honors Time of Rebuilding

BYLINE: Ann DeFrange, Staff Writer

BODY:

The fourth anniversary of the Murrah Building bombing was commemorated Monday quietly and privately - the way the families of victims and the survivors of the explosion wanted it to be.

Kari Ferguson, spokesman for the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation, said this year, those principals chose to conduct a "low-key" ceremony - no "Taps," no flyover, just a gentle tribute to people they may have loved and lost.

The conditions at the Murrah Building site contributed to their theme. The site is being rebuilt, as are their lives.

The commemorative program was held on the plaza above the ground-level "footprint" where the building once sat. The space accommodated only dignitaries, families and survivors - a group that has dwindled as people find personal means of remembrance - and the media.

Ferguson called this a "transition year," very likely the last very private anniversary commemoration. April 19, 2000, will mark the dedication of the permanent memorial. It will include 168 chairs, a reflecting pool and gates of time signaling 9:02 a.m., the time of the explosion.

The memorial will make the site more public, Ferguson said. According to the memorial committee's mission statement, it will be a place to remember "those who were killed, those who survived, and those changed forever."

On Monday, construction cranes rose above the Murrah Building site, and construction materials lay on the ground. The carefully tended green lawn on the "sacred ground" where so many people died is now red clay, resembling a bandage pulled off a raw wound. The skin of the site is being re-formed under the treads of dirt-moving machinery.

Bob Johnson, chairman of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust, commended two construction companies at the site - Blazer and Lippert Bros. - for maintaining "appreciation and respect for this site" while they complete the job.

And walls are going up. A "promontory" has been built around the Survivors Tree to protect it and to serve as a serene place to contemplate the eventual memorial. A waist-high glass wall is up at the front of the plaza.

As names of the deceased were read Monday, those with connections to them tossed flowers over the wall to the ground.

The annual program has become almost routine in four years, as the survivors have found a satisfactory format. Besides the recitation of the names and the laying of the flowers, there was the attendance of Gov. Frank Keating and Cathy Keating, Lt. Gov. Mary Fallin and Oklahoma City Mayor Kirk Humphreys. A wreath and a message arrived from President Clinton: "All Americans still share your sorrow," he said.

Johnson called it fitting that the memorial will be surrounded

by downtown churches; four years ago, he said, neighboring churches offered comfort to the city.

Robert E. Long from St. Luke's United Methodist Church reprised the day four years ago, including the community response that followed the disaster. He assured the survivors, "We still care. Your loved ones are not forgotten."

Susan Colley Joplin of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral evoked a vision of the Murrah Building four years ago, with wounds gaping open, and spoke of the wounds inflicted on rescuers - "ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things."

But the routine will likely never become so that the participants forget why they're there.

They come to mourn losses, and the hardest part may not be the words spoken by distinguished speakers.

The hardest part may be the traditional 168 seconds of silence.

While no one says anything, those in attendance are left to cope with whatever images slip into their minds or memories. The tears come then, and the hugs, and the need for a shoulder to lean on.

GRAPHIC: Photo 1: Oklahoma City Police Chaplain Jack Poe offers a hug and a kiss to Betty Hawthorne during the anniversary commemoration of the Murrah Building bombing. Hawthorne's son, Thomas Hawthorne, was a visitor to the building when he was killed in the April 19, 1995, bombing. Photo 2: Rachel Cregan smells the flower she holds in memory of her grandmother, Katherine L. Cregan. - Staff Photos by Steve Sisney Photo 3 (Page 6): Victor Chavez Jr., left, holds a wreath to remember his nephew, Zackary T. Chavez, who was 3 years old when the bomb blast killed him in the America's Kids day-care center. At his side is Zackary's grandmother, Susan Chavez Pate. - Staff Photo by Jim Argo Photo 4 (Page 6): Brandon and Rebecca Denny, below, who were injured in the America's Kids day-care center, walk with their mother, Claudia, at the bombing site Monday. - Staff Photo by Steve Sisney Photo 5 (Page 6): Survivors and families, right, hold hands during a prayer at Monday's memorial service in downtown Oklahoma City. - Staff Photo by Steve Sisney Photo 6 (Page 6): Bombing survivor Calvin Moser and his wife, Virginia, left, were among those attending Monday's ceremonies commemorating the fourth anniversary of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing. Moser was working for the Housing and Urban Development Department when the explosion occurred. - Staff Photo by Jim Argo

LOAD-DATE: April 20, 1999



Julie L. Haas

11/05/99 02:55:40 PM

.....

*Sylvia —
Here is a response
to your inquiry. I
recommend an oral
response from you given
the apparent confusion.
Sonny*

Record Type: Record

To: Sonny Garg/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc: kenneth l. schwartz/omb/eop@eop, david j. haun/omb/eop@eop, douglas pitkin/omb/eop@eop

bcc:

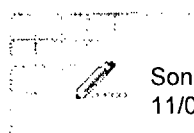
Subject: Re: Federal Employees in Oklahoma City

In FY 1995, GSA received \$40.4 million to construct a new Federal office building in Oklahoma City. The plan is to construct two low-rise buildings in a two block area. Both the House and Senate Public Works Committees authorized this project last spring/summer. Within the next 30 days, GSA should reach agreement on acquiring the six parcels of land for the site. The project's design concept is finalized and the design should be completed in June/July 2000. GSA anticipates awarding the construction contract within a year.

According to GSA, a couple of years ago, there were discussions of using the historic hotel to house the Federal agencies. However, the city did not support this concept -- they would like to keep the facility as a hotel. (Plus, there were other concerns regarding the renovation feasibility and cost.) GSA indicated that the city is supportive of the current proposal.

GSA's Central Office was not aware that the issue of the hotel has come up again, nor were they aware of this letter. They are currently looking into the situation. If I hear anything else, I will let you know.

Sonny Garg



Sonny Garg

11/04/99 06:27:59 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Kenneth L. Schwartz/OMB/EOP@EOP, David J. Haun/OMB/EOP@EOP, Julie L. Haas/OMB/EOP@EOP

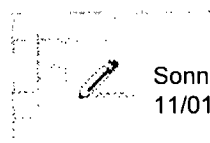
cc: Douglas Pitkin/OMB/EOP@EOP

Subject: Federal Employees in Oklahoma City

any thoughts on this, yet? thanks.

Sonny

----- Forwarded by Sonny Garg/OMB/EOP on 11/04/99 06:27 PM -----



Sonny Garg

11/01/99 03:53:22 PM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 27, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR SYLVIA MATHEWS

FROM: BRUCE R. LINDSEY

RE: FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

George Hozendorf sent the attached letter and Tenant Survey to the President. Both concern the current plan to construct a new Federal Building to replace the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, OK. Apparently, some local politicians, including Congressman Frank Lucas, and some Federal employees are opposed to the construction of a new Federal Building.

As an alternative, George has suggested renovating the Skirvin Hotel, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. The hotel would house selected federal offices as well as state and local offices and could be saved with only a portion of the money Congress authorized for a new Federal building.

Do you have any thoughts on whether this is a viable alternative or whether we even have any flexibility?

WHL: HAD
- Mark H. H. H.

10/29/99
→ Please copy top page for me
→ send packet to Sonny
→ Sonny, please work w/ Deich's folks and draft a note from me back to Powell unless it is better to respond orally to Sonny



General Services Administration

215 Dean A. McGee, Room 314

Oklahoma City, OK 73102

405-231-4080 voice

405-231-4081 fax

September 15, 1999

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. President:

Attached you will find results of a Tenant Survey conducted at the request of Congressman Frank D. Lucas (R-6thOK). The Congressman, after hearing from many constituents and a large number of Federal employees, questions the wisdom of constructing a new Federal Building in Oklahoma City to replace the Murrah Federal Building. He asked that the survey be taken to determine the opinion of prospective Federal Employees concerning the proposed Federal Building for Oklahoma City. In my capacity as Chairman Elect of the Oklahoma Federal Executive Board and being with the General Services Administration (GSA), I have had the opportunity to hear from a number of Federal employees concerning this matter also. It is my opinion; we should not construct a new Federal Building at this time.

These results have not yet been shared with anyone within the General Services Administration except John Poulard, General Services Administration Regional Administrator for Region 7. A copy of the results from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been sent to Betsy Julian, HUD Secretary's Representative, Region 6. I would appreciate it if you would allow me to discuss this with you personally before you, if desired, discuss it with anyone else. There are certain factions within GSA determined to build this project regardless of facts in front of them or the concerns of the employees. Furthermore there is no need for more office space in downtown Oklahoma City.

The results do not give a clear, clean answer; however, it is my opinion that the responses bear out the fact that building a new Federal Building is not in the best interest of our employees.

No responses were received from the U.S. Employees Credit Union, Federal Employees Credit Union nor the Food and Drug Administration. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission chose not to have their employees reply to the survey (see attached letters). These four agencies have a combined total of only 25 employees, representing only 5.64% of the total prospective tenants.

Below are some figures I have pulled. Hopefully you will find them of interest. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Indian Health Services (IHS) make up 62% of the total workforce scheduled to occupy the new building.



<u>STATEMENT</u>	<u>ALL</u>	<u>HUD</u>	<u>IHS</u>
Number responding	237	83	56
Worked in Murrah Building	33.79%	60.00%	1.79%
Happy in present location	90.14%	89.47%	87.27%
Feel strongly they should remain in present location*	57.41%	66.67%	49.09%
Would not move**	51.58%	67.16%	42.00%
Feel strongly building should be outside downtown*	46.76%	45.00%	37.50%
Feel strongly about close, convenient, cheap parking*	86.79%	83.78%	89.29%
Would seriously consider early retirement*	19.90%	29.87%	10.90%
Would seriously consider looking for another job*	33.33%	45.16%	27.27%
Would seriously consider quitting*	14.49%	19.73%	14.55%
Previous three combined**	67.72%	94.76%	52.72%

* Derived by totally Ratings 4 and 5

** Note discrepancy between "Would not move and the combined responses for early retirement, another job and quitting

Congressman Lucas and I would like to ask Secretary Cuomo and Secretary Shalala to recommend their offices remain in their present location for the time being. Once the majority of the employees who were affected by the Murrah bombing depart Federal service for one reason or another, it might be feasible to construct a new building, if the need is there. To do so now, based on these results would disrupt the Federal community here in Oklahoma City.

Presently the City of Oklahoma City is trying to save an old hotel in the downtown area. The Skirvin Hotel is on the National Register of Historic Places. This would be a wonderful opportunity for Federal, State, County and City governments to join forces. The Skirvin could be saved using a portion of the funds authorized by Congress for a new Federal Building. At the same time we would not be adding new square footage to the downtown area that is not needed. Also, the Federal Government could take the lead in revitalizing downtown. Some Federal agencies could be housed in the hotel along with complimenting State and Local agencies (one stop government shopping; Hassle-Free initiative).

Congressman Lucas was very excited by my idea and has asked Mayor Humphreys to appoint me to a citizens committee he is forming to come up with ideas on what to do with the Skirvin. At the same time however, he has a number of justifiable political issues, which need to be addressed. These concerns would best be discussed with you in person.

Your interest and concern for the Federal Employees in Oklahoma City is deeply appreciated. I am looking forward to discussing this issue with you personally.

Sincerely,



George R. Hozendorf
Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator
GSA



Anna Richter

03/01/2000 01:32:37 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Cathy R. Mays/OPD/EOP@EOP
cc: Andy Rotherham/OPD/EOP@EOP
Subject: Phone Message for Bruce

Helene Brooks from Representative Rob Andrews's office called to schedule a phone call for Bruce and Rep Andrews regarding the K-12 Initiative. Her phone number is:
(856) 546-5100

Handwritten: 309

Handwritten: OK
next week

Handwritten: 9529
fax



Sarah E. Gegenheimer

04/12/2000 01:26:56 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Daily Oklahoman: Bombing anniversary to draw networks

See story below. Per Julia, ABC is sending folks for GMA and World News and Jennings will probably just go to Columbine. Brokaw is going to do both right now unless they send Brian Williams out.

Bombing anniversary to draw networks

04/07/2000
By Mel Bracht
Staff Writer

The fifth anniversary of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing and the dedication of the national memorial April 19 will receive plenty of network attention as part of a two-day western swing.

The following day, the media spotlight will move to Denver for the first anniversary of the Columbine High School shootings.

CBS plans to send Dan Rather to anchor "The CBS Evening News" and Bryant Gumbel of "The Early Show" to Oklahoma City to cover the events, CBS spokeswoman Sandy Genelius said.

CBS is even bringing back "60 Minutes II" correspondent Scott Pelley to report from Oklahoma City. Pelley covered the bombing and Timothy McVeigh's trial, but he later was transferred to the White House beat before joining "60 Minutes II" in September.

NBC plans to send "Today Show" co-host Katie Couric to do reports, and the network will provide extensive reporting on other shows, "Today Show" spokeswoman Allison Gollust said.

CNN, which won an Emmy for its coverage of the bombing, plans extensive coverage of the day's events, reporter Tony Clark said.

The Fox News Network plans to devote much of its programming that day to the bombing, the burning of the Branch Davidian compound in Texas on April 19, 1993, and the Columbine shootings, network spokesman Robert Zimmerman said.

Other networks have not announced their plans but are expected to send contingents to Oklahoma City.

Message Sent To:

Loretta M. Ucelli/WHO/EOP@EOP
Eric P. Liu/OPD/EOP@EOP
Thomas L. Freedman/OPD/EOP@EOP
Stephanie A. Cutter/WHO/EOP@EOP
Karin Kullman/OPD/EOP@EOP
Charles J. Payson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Marty J. Hoffmann/WHO/EOP@EOP
Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP@EOP
Samir Afridi/WHO/EOP@EOP
Joel Johnson/WHO/EOP@EOP
Anna Richter/OPD/EOP@EOP
Sonya N. Hebert/WHO/EOP@EOP

THE WHITE HOUSE

To: Thurgood Marshall
Loretta Ucelli
Laura Graham
Julie Eddy
Kris Balderston
Marge Tarmey
Chip Payson
Mickey Ibarra
Eric Liu
207-Karin Kullman

From: Billy Glunz

Please see the attached information on the Federal Agencies that were affected and the employees that each agency lost in the Oklahoma City bombing.

Thanks

George R. Hozendorf
405-231-4080 voice
405-231-4081 facsimile

Request from Cabinet Affairs on 4/11/00

Below is a listing of Federal Agencies that were housed in the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building on April 19, 1995 along with the number of employees at the time. Also listed is the number of employees each agency lost.

AGENCY	# OF EMPLOYEES	# OF DEATHS
Social Security Admin.	62	40
GSA	13	2
Defense Security Serv.	12	5
DOT/Federal Highway	26	11
Army Recruiting	40	8
U. S. Customs	6	2
Dept. of Agriculture	15	7
U. S. Marine Recruiting	4	2
HUD	132	35
DEA	13	5
Secret Service	13	6
USPS	2	0
Gen. Accounting Office	5	0
VA	15	0
Dept. of Labor	1	0
ATF	24	0
		123

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES IN THE BUILDING

America's Kids Child Development Cent.	25	18
Fed. Employees Credit Union	33	21
Snack Bar	3	0

There were 6 other deaths; 1 rescue worker, 1 visitor to the snack bar and 4 in two buildings across the street.

**"We come here to remember
those who were killed..."**

April 19, 1995 Victims

Rescue Worker

Rebecca Needham Anderson

Visitor (Food Service)

Scott D. Williams

Social Security Administration

Teresa Antionette Alexander

Richard A. Allen

Pamela Cleveland Argo

Saundra G. (Sandy) Avery

Calvin Battle

Peola Battle

Oleta C. Biddy

Cassandra Booker

Carol Louise Bowers

Peachlyn Bradley

Gabriel Bruce

Katherine L. Cregan

Ashley Megan Eckles

Don Fritzler

Mary Anne Fritzler

Laura Jane Garrison

Margaret Beuterton Goodson

Ethel L. Griffin

Cheryl E. Hammon

Ronald Vernon Harding Sr.

Tom L. Hawthorne

Dr. Charles E. Hurlburt

Jean Nutting Hurlburt

Raymond "Lee" Johnson

LaKesha Richardson Levy

Robert Lee Luster, Jr.

Aurelia Donna Luster

Rev. Gilbert X. Martinez

Cartney J. McRaven

Derwin W. Miller

Eula Leigh Mitchell

Emilio Tapia

Charlotte Andrea Lewis Thomas

Michael George Thompson

LaRue A. Treanor

Luther Treanor

Robert N. Walker, Jr.

Julie Marie Welch

W. Stephen Williams

Sharon Louise Wood-Chestnut

General Services Administration

Steven Douglas Curry

Michael L. Loudenslager

America's Kids Child Development Center

Miss Baylee Almon

Danielle Nicole Bell

Zackary Taylor Chavez

Antonio Ansara Cooper, Jr.

Anthony Christopher Cooper II

Dana LeAnne Cooper

Aaron M. Coverdale

Elijah S. Coverdale

Jaci Rae Coyne

Brenda Faye Daniels

Tylor Santoi Eaves

Tevin D'Aundrae Garrett

Kevin "Lee" Goushall II

Wanda Lee Howell

Blake Ryan Kennedy

Dominique Ravae (Johnson) London

Chase Dalton Smith

Colton Wade Smith

Defense Security Service

Harley Richard Cottingham

Peter L. DeMaster

Norma "Jean" Johnson

Larry L. Turner

Robert G. Westberry

Federal Employees Credit Union

Woodrow Clifford "Woody" Brady

Kimberly Ruth Burgess

Sheila R. Gigger Driver
(and Gregory N. Driver II)

Kathy A. Finley

Jamie (Fialkowski) Genzer

Linda Coleen Housley

Robbin Ann Huff
(and Amber Denise Huff)

Christi Yolanda Jenkins

Alvin J. Justes

Valerie Jo Koelsch

Kathy Cagle Leinen

Claudette (Duke) Meek

Frankie Ann Merrell

Jill Diane Randolph

Claudine Ritter

Christy Rosas

Sonja Lynn Sanders

Karan Howell Shepherd

Victoria Jeanette Texter

Virginia M. Thompson

Tresia Jo "Mathes" Worton

Department of Transportation/ Federal Highway

Lucio Aleman Jr.

Mark Allen Bolte

Michael Camillo

Larry James Jones

James K. Martin

Ronota Ann Newberry-Woodbridge

Jerry Lee Parker

Michelle A. Reeder

Rick L. Tomlin

Johnny Allen Wade

John A. Youngblood

U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion

Sergeant First Class Lola Bolden

Karen Gist Carr

Peggy Louise Holland

John C. Moss III

Victoria (Wickey) L. Sohn

Delores (Dee) Stratton

Kayla Marie Titsworth

Wanda Lee Watkins

Customs Office

Paul D. Ice

Claude Arthur Medearis S.S.A.

Department of Agriculture

Olen Burl Bloomer

James E. Boles

Dr. Margaret L. "Peggy" Clark

Richard (Dick) Cummins
Doris "Adele" Higginbottom
Carole Sue Khalil
Rheta Bender Long

U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting

Sergeant Benjamin LaRanzo
Davis, USMC
Captain Randolph A. Guzman, USMC

**Department of Housing and
Urban Development**

Ted L. Allen
Diane E. (Hollingsworth) Althouse
Peter R. Avillanoza
Andrea Yvette Blanton
Paul Gregory Beatty Bronxerman
David Neil Burkett
Donald Earl Burns Sr.
Kimberly Kay Clark
Kim R. Cousins
Diana Lynne Day
Castine Brooks Hearn Deveroux
Susan Jane Ferrell
Judy J. (Froh) Fisher
Linda Louise Florence
Colleen Guiles
Thompson Eugene "Gene" Hodges, Jr.
Dr. George Michael Howard DVM
Ann Kreymsborg
Teresa Lea Taylor Lauderdale
Mary Leasure-Rentie
James A. McCarthy II
Betsy J. (Beebe) McGonnell
Patricia Ann Nix
Terry Smith Rees

Antonio "Tony" C. Reyes
Lanny Lee David Scroggins
Leora Lee Sells
John Thomas Stewart
Jules A. Valdez
John Karl Van Ess III
David Jack Walker
Michael D. Weaver
Jo Ann Whittenberg
Frances "Fran" Ann Williams
Clarence Eugene Wilson

Drug Enforcement Administration

Shelly D. Bland
Carol June "Chip" Fields
Carrie Ann Lenz
(and Michael James Lenz III)
Rona Linn Kuehner-Chafey
Kenneth Glenn McCullough

U.S. Secret Service

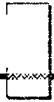
Cindy L. Brown
Donald Ray Leonard
Mickey B. Maroney
Linda G. McKinney
Kathy Lynn Seidl
Alan G. Whicher

**Oklahoma Water
Resources Building**

Robert N. Chipman
Trudy Jean Rigney

Athenian Building (Job Corp)

Anita Christine Hightower
Kathryn Elizabeth Ridley



Sarah E. Gegenheimer

04/12/2000 04:14:41 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Thomas L. Freedman/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Oklahoma City Memorial Background

The following is from the Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation web site:

<http://connections.oklahoman.net/memorial/>

Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation

When a massive bomb exploded in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Building on April 19, 1995, it shook our foundations, shocked the world and changed our lives forever. The blast ripped away almost half of the nine-story building, killed 168 children and adults, injured hundreds and left American feeling the security within its shores had been destroyed.

However, something unexpected also emerged that day in Oklahoma City and the days that followed: our response proved that this nation would not be defeated by forces that sought to divide us. Our spirit, our hope and our determination would not be stilled. Rather, Oklahoma City reminded us that we are a great nation, capable of repelling terrorism and its insidious effects, capable of great compassion and selflessness.

Mindful of the far-reaching impact of the bombing and aware of the historic nature of the event in June 1995, Oklahoma City Mayor Ron Norick appointed local attorney and civic leader Robert M. Johnson to head a 350-member volunteer task force charged with developing an appropriate and enduring memorial.

The Task Force was charged with insuring that everyone could participate in the planning process. Volunteers gathered extensive input from families, survivors and the public about what visitors to the memorial should think, feel and experience. Based on such input, a mission statement setting forth consensus objectives of the Memorial was unanimously adopted. Volunteers will carry out an international design competition process and, ultimately, develop a plan for construction, administration and maintenance of the Memorial, including citizen oversight during the construction. This process has been called "the most open and inclusive in the history of Oklahoma City."

The opening four lines of the Mission Statement are:

We come here to remember those who were killed,
those who survived and those changed forever.
May all who leave here know the impact of violence.
May this memorial offer comfort, strength, peace, hope and serenity.

The Oklahoma City Memorial will be designed in three components to ensure the criteria of the mission statement are met.

1. The first component will be a world class symbolic Memorial to be located on a three-acre space dedicated to the victims and survivors of the bombing. This area is bounded on the south by the north wall of the former Murrah Federal Building, on the North by the south wall of the Journal Record Building, on the West by Harvey Avenue and on the East by Robinson Avenue. The design of the symbolic element will be determined by an International Design Competition commenced in mid-November and will conclude with the selection of the final design for the Memorial in July 1997.

2. The second component of the Memorial Complex will be the Memorial Center. It will consist of a museum and visitor's center that will tell the story of the bombing, the stories of those most directly affected and the story of the Oklahoma Standard of response. The Memorial Center may be located in the Journal Record Building, if arrangements can be made to preserve this historic landmark.

3. The third component of the Memorial will be the establishment of the Oklahoma City Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism and Violence, envisioned to be a public/private research and assistance center unlike any in the world. The Institute, firmly rooted in the Oklahoma experience, will act as a common meeting ground for discussion among the public, the religious community, government and academic scholars. Interrelated academic disciplines may include the social and political sciences, the law, the humanities, the arts, religion and health sciences.

By design, each component is inextricably linked to the others. Acting in concert, the Institute, a strong symbolic Memorial and an interactive museum and visitor's center will not only memorialize the losses suffered in Oklahoma City but, moreover, will reflect our resolve that those losses were not in vain.

Effective as of September, 1996, the Task Force was transformed into the Oklahoma City Memorial Foundation, a 501 c (3) tax-exempt no-profit foundation. Staffed offices were opened at 420 N. Robinson Ave. in the Bank of Oklahoma Autobank lobby.

Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation
1 Leadership Square, Ste. 150
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Mailing Address:
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405.235.3313
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Oklahoma City National Memorial Announces Dedication Plans for April 19

(Oklahoma City, Oklahoma April 10, 2000)---On the fifth anniversary of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, families, survivors, rescue workers and the entire community will come together again, this time to dedicate the Symbolic Memorial.

Two ceremonies will be held beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 19. The first ceremony will be private, allowing the families, survivors and rescue workers personal time to reflect and experience the new Memorial in a private setting. A second public ceremony will be held at 5:00 p.m. The White House has been invited to attend the afternoon ceremony.

“We are pleased to be dedicating this Memorial. It is the culmination of thousands of volunteer hours by family members, survivors, rescue workers and community leaders,” said Robert M. Johnson, Chairman of the Oklahoma City National Memorial Trust. “We believe this will be a very special place for remembrance, reflection and education.”

The three-component Oklahoma City National Memorial has been developed and built over the past five years at a total cost of \$29.1 million. The Foundation has raised over \$26.5 million, leaving just \$2.5 million left to raise.

A three-day symposium, sponsored by the Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism and the Rand Corporation, begins the dedication week on Monday, April 17. Many leading authorities and governments have already committed to attend the symposium, which will focus on mitigating terrorism.

Media Note: For security reasons, all media representatives will be required to register and wear appropriate credentials issued by the Memorial. The credentials must be worn at all times during the dedication events. **For more information, please contact: Kari Ferguson Watkins at (405) 235-3313 or 830-6114.**

MEMORIAL INSTITUTE TO HOST NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON TERRORISM PREVENTION

(OKLAHOMA CITY, OK ---February 29, 2000) The causes and effects of terrorism will be the first international conference of its kind in the new millennium sponsored by the Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism and the Rand Corporation. Representatives from the academic community, the FBI and Scotland Yard will gather in Oklahoma City April 17-19. The symposium begins a week long of Dedication activities for the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

The goal of the three-day conference will assess developments in terrorism over the past two decades, map future directions and make policy recommendations for prevention and consequence management.

“Twenty years ago, the Rand Corporation took the lead in studying terrorism with their sponsorship of an international conference in 1980,” said Don Ferrell, who serves as the Chairman of the Institute. “We hope to attract many of the representatives who participated in Rand’s first effort, twenty years ago. We ask them to join us as we reflect on past experiences and expand our study. Through this effort, we hope to help those who teach about the political and social ramifications of terrorist acts, as well as those in government and the private sector who must deal with security issues and consequence management on a day to day basis.”

Ambassador Prudence Bushnell of Guatemala will be the keynote speaker for the closing luncheon on April 19. Bushnell was the Ambassador to Kenya at the time of the bombing of its Nairobi, Kenya Embassy.

Seating is limited and advance reservations are recommended. The symposium will be held in the Myriad Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City, just a few blocks from the Oklahoma City National Memorial.

Registration information is available from the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism by calling (405) 232-5121 or register on line at www.okcterrorisinstitute.com.

The Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism is the third component of the Oklahoma City National Memorial. The symbolic Memorial will be dedicated on April 19, 2000 and the Memorial Center museum will open in November later this year.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON D.C. 20503

OFFICE OF
THE DIRECTOR

Tom F

OK, City

Bruce,

3/10/00

Had tried to catch up
by phone, but not been able
to so I thought I would
send the emails I received.
let me know if you need anything
else.

Grant