

1204

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Draft 4/2/99 4:55pm
Josh Gottheimer

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today at the National Abortion Federation's 23rd Annual Meeting.

As you know, my Administration has worked tirelessly to help preserve the right of women to make their own reproductive choices. Like the NAF, my Administration has fought to improve and expand family planning services and education programs, to prevent teenage pregnancies by teaching principles of personal responsibility, and to help our youth make the right decision. Working together, I believe we can reduce the number of abortions, strengthen America's families, and ensure that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

But we also are committed to making a woman's right to choose a safe option.

In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act which has been an effective deterrent to many acts of violence that take place at reproductive health care clinics. But with the bombings last year, it became apparent to me that more needed to be done to protect clinic staff, patients and facilities. That is why I supported Attorney General Reno's formation of a new national Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside \$4.5 million in the FY 2000 Budget for extra security to clinics at risk. These funds will be used to help you obtain needed equipment such as security cameras, bullet-resistant windows, and security systems.

Your tremendous strength and determination this past year in the face of these tragic events. Every day you work in the shadow cast by the violent incidences, and by continuing your efforts you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law.

I commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta, and your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema, and the entire membership for their outstanding dedication and work to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful and productive meeting.

JOSH G.

1

May 1, 1997

Warm greetings to everyone gathered in Boston for the 21st annual meeting of the National Abortion Federation.

① Since I took office ~~four years ago~~, my Administration has worked hard to ~~protect the right to choose guaranteed by Roe v. Wade~~. ~~to help preserve the right of women to make their own reproductive choices~~. I signed into law the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, reaffirming my determination to protect women's health centers from violence. But recent attacks at clinics serve as reminders of the obstacles we still face in defending a woman's constitutional right to privacy. No one has a right to use violence to advance his or her own convictions over the rights of others.

② But we are also ~~at the same time~~ committed to making abortion safe, legal, and rare. To this end, we have fought to improve and expand family planning services and education programs, to prevent teenage pregnancies by teaching principles of personal responsibility, and to help our youth make the right choices. Working together, we can reduce the number of abortions, strengthen American families, and ensure that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

Like you, my admin - has

I welcome your support as I work for these goals, and I stand with you in your efforts to protect the lives and health of women across our country. Hillary joins me in sending best wishes to all.

BC/SF/SR/MAH/lynn-ckb-mah (Corres. #3464379)
(4.naf.mah)
(Event: May 5, 1997)

BILL CLINTON

Mich

cc: Presidential Messages, 91 OEOB

*** DO NOT MAIL -- RETURN TO CARMEN FOWLER, 91 OEOB, FOR
DISPATCH TO ROBIN LEEDS, X67300 ***

Mich

**National Abortion Federation
Requested Annual Meeting Video Address**

Thank you for saying we got to speak at you today at the
 Warm greetings to everyone assembled in Atlanta for the National Abortion Federation's
 23rd Annual Meeting, *Creating Excellence: Abortion Care for the 21st Century.*

As you know, I have been committed to protecting a woman's right to choose and to
 (2) *putting an end to abortion-related violence throughout my Administration.* I am proud to
 have signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act, which has *proven to be an* effective deterrent to many of the acts of violence that take place at reproductive health
 care clinics. *I have been committed to*

Hillary and I were deeply saddened, however, by the tragic murders that took place last
 year. Two devoted husbands and fathers lost their lives because they were involved in
 the provision of a constitutionally protected medical service. *My thoughts and prayers*
 remain with the families of Officer Robert Sanderson and Dr. Barnett Slepian.

Just this past January, Hillary and I had the pleasure of meeting Lynn Slepian and her
 four sons in Buffalo. My heart goes out to them for the terrible loss they have
 experienced. They've shown tremendous courage during this difficult time. As I wrote
 to Lynn shortly after her husband's murder, in the face of taunts, threats, and violence,
 Barnett Slepian had refused to abandon the patients who trusted him and the families who
 needed his help. But while a cowardly and brutal act robbed the Slepian family of a
 beloved husband and devoted father and robbed his community of a skilled doctor and
 cherished friend, it did not erase the memory of Dr. Slepian's commitment or the
 compassion that made such a difference in so many lives.

pe member of the NAF
 You, the members of the National Abortion Federation, have also shown tremendous
 strength and determination this past year in the face of these tragic events. This nation
 cannot tolerate terrorism. After last year's murders, it became apparent to me that more
 needed to be done to protect clinic staff, patients and facilities. That is why I supported
 Attorney General Reno's formation of a new national Task Force on Violence Against
 Reproductive Health Care Providers. I know that the National Abortion Federation is
 working closely with Attorney General Janet Reno and the Department of Justice. Since
 you have invited the Attorney General to address your meeting, I will let her fill you in
 on the details of the Task Force's important work.

But I will tell you about some of our other initiatives. In addition to the creation of a new
 Task Force, I have reaffirmed my commitment to preventing further violence by setting
 aside \$4.5 million in the FY 2000 budget to provide extra security to clinics at risk. This
 \$4.5 million will be used to help you obtain needed equipment such as security cameras,
 bullet-resistant windows, security systems and motion detectors.

a) when were the bombings?

b) get potter statues

15) ~~I also share your determination to protect the health of women and their families. Like you, I'm committed to keeping abortion safe and legal and also rare.~~ ^{Each} I have worked consistently to implement policies that will expand the family planning services ~~and sex education programs~~ available to women. Every year, we've increased the money set aside for Title X family planning clinics in our budget. Early in my Administration, I lifted the ban on RU-486. We've also worked to continue funding international family planning, to ensure that women around the world have access to needed reproductive health care services. And here in the United States, because of the work of so many of you, abortion is safe and women no longer must jeopardize their lives or health when they face an unintended pregnancy.

I join you in commending your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta, and your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema, for their outstanding dedication and work to ensure a woman's right to choose. I appreciate the work that the National Abortion Federation has done with my staff at the White House on the many issues that affect women and their families. ~~I was very moved three years ago to meet the five families that the National Abortion Federation brought to the White House to share their stories about so-called "partial-birth abortions." As a result, I have twice vetoed that restrictive legislation and will continue to protect the health of women like those I met.~~

I am proud of the work that I, along with Vice President Gore and the rest of my Administration, have done over the last six years to preserve the rights of women and families, and to reduce the violence that you face. ~~As I said after the recent bombing of a family planning clinic in North Carolina, whether or not a terrorist's bomb achieves its deadly purpose, such cowardly and criminal acts strike at the heart of the constitutional freedoms and individual liberties all Americans hold dear. I will continue to work to preserve the values our nation most cherishes, those of personal privacy and family responsibility.~~ (2)

Hillary and I wish you a successful and productive meeting.

2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 AAP Information Services Pty. Ltd.
AAP NEWSFEED

January 30, 1998, Friday

SECTION: Western Australian Regional; Overseas News

LENGTH: 409 words

HEADLINE: US: ONE DEAD, ONE INJURED IN CLINIC BLAST

BYLINE: By Jay Reeves

BODY:

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama , Jan 29 AP - An explosion possibly caused by a bomb ripped through a US abortion clinic today, killing an off-duty police officer and injuring a nurse. An earlier report had indicated two people were injured.

Authorities evacuated students at nearby university dormitories out of concern a second bomb could detonate.

The blast shattered the New Woman All Women Health Care clinic adjacent to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB).

Fire Chief Ray Brooks said one person was confirmed dead and a second was taken to the hospital. FBI spokesman Jimmy Brown said the dead person was an off-duty police officer.

University of Alabama Hospital spokeswoman Laura Mansfield told CBS the injured person, who was in surgery, was a nurse.

"It was a bomb," said UAB deputy police chief David Strunk. "They're taking all precautions in case there was a second one." Brown said only that it was the FBI's working assumption that it was a bomb.

Windows in the two-storey clinic were blown out and an awning over the door was ripped apart. Black debris was blown into the street, and windows of an office building across the street were shattered.

Abortion has become a contentious topic in the United States with the rise of the Christian right, which would like to ban the procedure completely. Recent violence by anti-abortion demonstrators has included the slaying of two doctors and a large number of bombings. The US Supreme Court legalised abortion in 1973.

A block away, a second abortion clinic, the Summit Medical Care clinic, felt the impact.

"It knocked stuff off the wall," said Michele Wilson, a volunteer at the clinic. She said the Summit has not received any threats or unusual communications in the last few days.

Menzor Chadwick, a regular anti-abortion protester at the New Woman clinic, was across the street when the explosion occurred and was being questioned about what happened, said David Lackey, an anti-abortion leader who went to the scene. He called the explosion a "heinous act."

AAP NEWSFEED January 30, 1998, Friday

A year ago, two bombs went off an hour apart at a clinic in Atlanta; all seven injuries were in the second blast. That bombing is still unsolved.

Members of the Atlanta Bomb Task Force, which is investigating the clinic bombings as well as the bombing at the 1996 Olympics, were on their way to Birmingham to see if there could be any link with the Atlanta explosions.

AP hu

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 29, 1998

April 10, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO CARMEN FOWLER, Ph: 6-5505, Fax: 6-2806

FROM: BETSY MYERS, Ph: 6-7300, Fax: 6-7311

RE: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

We would like to have a presidential message written for:

Organization: National Abortion Federation

Event: The N.A.F.'s 21st Annual Meeting in Boston. Over 600 abortion providers and activists will gather to discuss their mission of providing safe and legal abortion services and for seminars on medical education, grassroots organizing and clinic administration. The message is to greet the physicians, nurses, counselors, administrators, and other health care professionals who risk their lives everyday to offer needed family planning and reproductive health services to women.

Date of Event: May 5, 1997

Date of Print: April 28, 1997

Contact: Robin Leeds

Phone: 6-7300

Comments: Please call me when the letter is ready for pick-up.

The President's pro-choice leadership has been an inspiration to health care providers and their patients. A Presidential letter would send a strong message of hope and support at NAF's first national meeting since the serious escalation of clinic violence. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me. Thank you for your assistance.

March 15, 1995

Greetings to everyone gathered in New Orleans for the nineteenth annual meeting of the National Abortion Federation.

Working to protect the safety and freedom of all Americans, the members of NAF offer an invaluable service to our nation. Through your steadfast commitment to providing factual information and support, you are helping to guarantee every woman safe access to high quality reproductive health care.

This year's conference presents an important forum for addressing the urgent need to stop the violence at family planning clinics across the country. Last year, I was proud to sign into law the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. On this occasion, I reaffirm my determination to enforce the laws of the land and to preserve the fundamental rights of all of our people.

Best wishes for a most successful meeting.

TS

238710
MED02

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 13, 1994

Greetings to everyone gathered in Cincinnati, Ohio, for the eighteenth annual meeting of the National Abortion Federation.

Since 1977, the members of your organization have worked to ensure that every woman has access to the safe, quality health care she needs. Setting a high standard of integrity and professionalism, your hard-working physicians, nurses, counselors, and administrators have provided services essential to guaranteeing women a wide range of reproductive choices.

The members of NAF well know the kinds of threats and harassment that abortion providers face every day, and I am pleased that you are continuing your efforts to stop the violence. By heightening public awareness of this tragic problem, you play a vital role in helping to protect every American's precious right to privacy.

Hillary joins me in extending best wishes to all for a most productive meeting.

Bill Clinton

ROUTING SLIP**DATE:** 4/1/97**FROM:** Stephanie Streett and Anne Hawley
Deputy Assistants to the President and Directors of Scheduling**SUBJECT:** message to NAI

Don Baer

X

Mack McLarty

Sandy Berger

John Podesta

Erskine Bowles

Bruce Reed

Peg Cusack

Dan Rosenthal

Rahm Emanuel

Charles Ruff

Maria Echaveste

Peter Selfridge

X

Jack Gibbons

Patti Solis-Doyle

Laura Graham

X

Craig Smith

Marcia Hale

Doug Sosnik

Nancy Hernreich

Gene Sperling

John Hilley

Todd Stern

Kitty Higgins

Ann Stock

Ron Klain

Kim Tilley

Ann Lewis

Jodie Torkelson

Bruce Lindsey

Melanne Verveer

Sylvia Mathews

Michael Waldman

X

Laura Schwartz

Mike McCurry

X

Maggie Williams

Betsy Myers

X**FILE:** Regret**COMMENTS:** work w/ communications to send letter

MAR 27 1997

VIDEO REQUEST PROPOSAL

MARCH 26, 1997

☐ ACCEPT

☒ REGRET

☐ PENDING

TO:

Stephanie Streett
Ann Hawley

FROM:

Betsy Myers

Betsy Myers for ME

REQUEST:

To have the President tape a video greeting for the National Abortion Federation's (NAF) 21st Annual Meeting on May 5, 1997, in Boston. Over 600 abortion providers and activists will gather to discuss their mission of providing safe and legal abortion services and for seminars on medical education, grassroots organizing and clinic administration.

PURPOSE:

To greet the physicians, nurses, counselors, administrators and other health care professionals who risk their lives everyday to offer needed family planning and reproductive health services to women. The recent attacks on choice in Atlanta, Tulsa and Virginia clinics demonstrate the grave threats faced by these medical professionals daily.

The President's pro-choice leadership has been an inspiration to health care providers and their patients. A Presidential video would send a strong message of hope and support at NAF's first national meeting since the serious escalation of clinic violence.

DATE AND TIME:

The video is needed by May 1, 1997 for use at NAF's annual meeting in Boston on May 5, 1997.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT:

NAF will finance the cost of production and duplication.

BACKGROUND:

The NAF played a key role in organizing support for the President's veto of the HR 1833 bill, (the late term abortion ban). The President declined the organization's request for a video last year.

DURATION:

Three to four minute video.

SCRIPT ATTACHED:

Script is attached.

STAFF CONTACT:

Robin Leeds, 456-7300.

ORIGIN OF PROPOSAL:

Vicki Saporta, Executive Director, National Abortion Federation

Send Video To:
Vicki A. Saporta
Executive Director
National Abortion Federation
1436 U St., NW
Suite 103
Washington, DC 20009

PROPOSED VIDEO SCRIPT FOR GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT CLINTON TO THE NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION'S 21st ANNUAL MEETING

I am pleased to join the members of the National Abortion Federation as you gather in Boston for NAF's 21st Annual Meeting.

Since I sent you my greetings a year ago, there have been many challenges for those of us who support a woman's right to choose. In legislatures and communities across America there has been a steady stream of attacks on the foundations of Roe V. Wade.

Acts of terrorism and violence against family planning clinics have been widespread. No one has the right to use violence in America to advance their own convictions over the rights of others. In Congress, legislation was passed that put at risk the lives and health of vulnerable women and families who face one of life's most difficult choices. This legislation would have taken away your right as medical professionals to determine the safest and most appropriate treatment for your patients - a dangerous and even deadly precedent.

As your President, I stood up against both of these kinds of extremism. I fought for and signed new legislation in 1994 to make it a federal crime to interfere with a woman exercising her constitutional right to visit a women's health center and called on the Justice Department to use all resources at its disposal to bring perpetrators of clinic violence to justice. I vetoed the so-called "Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act" - because I heard from you and your patients. I met with Coreen Costello, Tammy Watts, Mary-Dorothy Line, Vikki Stella, and Claudia Ades - women whose personal stories touched my heart. Despite opposition to my decision to veto this legislation, I have never wavered in my conviction that it was the right thing to do, and I will veto any such bill that does not protect the health of American women.

We can expect more challenges ahead. But I pledge that I will continue to oppose those who deny a woman's right to choose. We are deeply committed to the same goals: preserving women's health and protecting women's rights. I am proud to work with the members of the National Abortion Federation, your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta, and your President, Joan Coombs, toward achieving these goals, and creating a better future for women and their families.

I honor your commitment, compassion, and courage, and I wish you a successful and productive meeting.

NATIONAL
ABORTION
FEDERATION

February 28, 1997

Betsy Myers
Presidential Women's Initiative and Outreach Office
708 Jackson Place, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Betsy:

The National Abortion Federation will hold its 21st Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 5-6. Over 600 abortion providers and activists, representing virtually every state, will gather for medical education, organizing workshops, clinic administration seminars, and a chance to recommit themselves to their mission of providing safe, legal abortion services to women.

We have been honored to work closely with you and your office as the President has worked during his administration to protect the rights of women to choose abortion and physicians to offer that service in safety. NAF appreciates the President's continued commitment to this issue and to working with us to help assure that every child in America is born wanted.

We would be grateful if you could help facilitate a videotaped address from President Clinton to greet the providers assembled at this meeting. These courageous physicians, nurses, counselors, administrators and other health care professionals literally risk their lives every day to offer needed health care services to women. The recent bombings in Atlanta and Tulsa, along with an arson nearby in Falls Church, Virginia, demonstrated the grave threats faced by these medical professionals. The pro-choice voice of the Clinton administration has been a great inspiration to them, and to the women who seek their services. It would mean a great deal to them, particularly at this time, to hear from the President as they gather for their first national meeting since this recent spate of violence.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to a favorable reply to our request.

Sincerely,



Vicki Saporta
Executive Director

Executive Director: Vicki A. Saporta President: Joan S. Coombs Past President: Lynne Randall

Board Members: Catherine Albisa, J.D. Betsy Aubrey, R.N. Marilyn Buckham Julie Burton Maria Corsillo Bruce Ferguson, M.D. Carol Jaffe, Ph.D. Herbert C. Jones, Jr., M.D. Maureen Paul, M.D. Ashley E. Phillips Suzanne T. Poppema, M.D. Gary T. Prohaska, M.D. Jeri Rosmussen Bernard Smith, M.D. Cynthia Waters Spaulding Shauna Spencer Marcy Wilder, J.D.

Advisory Board: Janet Benshoof, Esq. Terry Beresford Glenna Halvorson-Boyd, Ph.D. Michael S. Burnhill, M.D., D.M.Sc. Rachel Benson Gold David A. Grimes, M.D. Warren M. Hern, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H. Koye McIntosh, R.N. William F. Peterson, M.D.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 3, 1995

STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT CLINTON ON VIOLENCE AGAINST ABORTION CLINICS

In America, the heart of constitutional government is the rule of law. Today, our commitment to the rule of law is being tested by those who believe that their opposition to abortion gives them the right to commit acts of violence, even murder, against their fellow citizens who seek only to exercise their constitutional right to choose, or to assist others in exercising that right.

I recognize and respect the range of deeply-felt beliefs Americans hold on abortion. A continued vigorous debate over abortion is proper. Violence against those who hold differing opinions is not.

Last year Congress passed, and I signed, a law prohibiting violent interference with Americans who exercise their rights in this area. Because of continued violations of this law and the Constitution, I have today instructed the Department of Justice to 1) direct each United States Attorney immediately to head a task force including federal, state and local law enforcement officials to formulate plans to address clinic security for all clinics in their jurisdiction; and 2) direct each U.S. Marshal to consult with all clinics in their jurisdiction to ensure that the clinics have all the information they need to communicate with appropriate federal, state, and local law enforcement officials on a timely basis about potential threats. I have also asked the Attorney General to consult with law enforcement officials on any further steps that might be taken to address this serious problem.

I applaud Americans of conscience who differ in their convictions on abortion but who stand united in their opposition to violence. As we begin a new year, let us all reaffirm our devotion to the rule of law and our respect for the diversity of opinion that rule protects.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 30, 1994

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CLINTON ON THE ABORTION CLINIC SHOOTINGS
IN MASSACHUSETTS

I strongly condemn the meaningless violence which abruptly ended the lives of two women and wounded five others in Massachusetts today.

Violence has no place in America. No matter where we stand on the issue of abortion, all Americans must stand together in condemning this tragic and brutal act. Nine years ago, President Reagan, a staunch foe of abortion, called for "a complete rejection of violence as a means of settling this issue." We would do well to heed those words today.

We must protect the safety and freedom of all our citizens. I am strongly committed to ending this form of domestic terrorism. I have called for a thorough investigation into this attack, and Attorney General Reno and FBI Director Freeh have already begun that task. I urge local officials to work closely with the Federal law enforcement community.

Hillary and I extend our deepest sympathy to the friends and families of those who were murdered. I speak for all Americans in expressing my hope for a full and complete recovery for those who were wounded.

45TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 McClatchy Newspapers, Inc.
Sacramento Bee

January 30, 1998, METRO FINAL

SECTION: MAIN NEWS; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 881 words

HEADLINE: CLUES SOUGHT IN CLINIC BLAST

BYLINE: Bee News Services

DATELINE: BIRMINGHAM, Ala.

BODY:

More than 100 bomb investigators from all over the country searched Thursday night for clues in an abortion clinic explosion that killed an off-duty police officer -- the first fatality in a clinic bombing in the 25 years since the Supreme Court legalized abortion.

A counselor also was critically wounded in the blast early Thursday at the clinic on Birmingham's south side. Federal agents were looking for clues that might connect the bombing to similar explosions in Atlanta, including a blast during the 1996 Summer Olympics and the bombings a year ago at an abortion clinic and a gay and lesbian nightclub.

Thursday's explosion at the New Woman, All Women Health Care Clinic, long a target of protesters, occurred about 7:30 a.m., just as the clinic was opening, said the city's police chief, Mike Coppage.

He said no one had claimed responsibility by Thursday evening.

The bomb, believed to have been a small, homemade device planted just in front of the clinic, killed Robert D. Sanderson, 35, who had been a police officer for eight years and was working part time at the clinic. Emily Lyons, 41, a counselor who was opening the clinic, was in surgery much of Thursday. She suffered facial wounds, and both legs were seriously injured.

Witnesses said Sanderson appeared to have been killed instantly, while the counselor lay injured in the yard as smoke rose from the blast. Her charred clothes were partly torn away.

The blast, which blew a crater in the ground and shattered windows and shook walls a block away, came just a week after the 25th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in Roe vs. Wade legalizing abortion.

"It felt like lightning had hit the building," said Lindsey Thompson, who was at a University of Alabama at Birmingham dormitory when she heard the blast.

Investigators would not say whether they had any suspects. One prominent abortion protester was taken in for questioning, then released.

Sacramento Bee, January 30, 1998

Coppage said there were no threats or warnings at the clinic, which is within a block of two University of Alabama at Birmingham college dormitories, a day-care center, an apartment for parents of critically ill children and some restaurants.

Jim Cavanaugh of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said the bomb appeared to be homemade and not intended to blow up the entire clinic. "It was a smaller device intended to kill or injure," he said.

FBI Agent Joseph R. Lewis said the bomb apparently was in a package, but it was not immediately known what kind.

If the bomb had gone off just a few minutes later, another clinic employee, Lisa Hermes, might have been one of the casualties. Hermes, a counselor, was about a block away, driving to the clinic with her husband, Terry, when they heard the blast.

"We were shaking. We were 30 seconds away from being in that parking lot," Terry Hermes said.

His wife, who has worked at several clinics, added: "I hope I can retain the belief that what I'm doing is right and not be scared off. After this, I don't know."

Although five people have been killed by gunfire at abortion clinics since 1993, Sanderson was apparently the first person to die in the bombing of a clinic, said ATF agents and Vicki Saporta, executive director of the National Abortion Federation, based in Washington.

"As we have continually said, clinics cannot continue to be bombed and burned without someone getting hurt," Saporta said. "It is with a heavy heart that we have now witnessed the grave truth of those words."

The investigation into Thursday's explosion was slowed because law-enforcement officials were afraid there might be a second bomb, as there had been in the bombing of the abortion clinic last year in Atlanta.

On Jan. 16, 1997, two bombs shook an office building containing Northside Family Planning Services, a women's clinic that performs abortions.

The first bomb blew through an outside wall of the building. As investigators, firefighters and reporters milled around the building about an hour later, a second bomb hidden in a corner of an adjoining parking lot exploded, injuring six people.

Investigators have said they believe those bombs were linked to the bombing of a gay and lesbian nightclub just a few weeks later and the blast that killed one person and injured 100 at Centennial Olympic Park during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games.

Federal agents from Atlanta rushed to Birmingham.

"At this stage of the game, we don't know," if there is a connection, said Bill King, an ATF agent in Atlanta.

Sacramento Bee, January 30, 1998

There have been 199 attacks, including nonfatal bombings, on abortion clinics since 1982, when the firearms agency first started to track them.

Clinic workers in Birmingham had feared some kind of attack last week, on the 25th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. More than 500 people demonstrated here last week outside this clinic.

President Clinton called the bombing "an unforgivable act."

Around the country, activists on both sides of the abortion issue rushed to condemn the bombing. The National Right to Life Committee, while supporting peaceful protest, condemned the bombing.

And Randy Tate, executive director of the anti-abortion Christian Coalition, joined in the condemnation, calling it a "reprehensible act of violence."

GRAPHIC: Associated Press photograph

A man attends to a counselor who was injured Thursday after a bomb exploded at an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Ala. An off-duty police officer working at the clinic was killed.

Gannett News Service, Associated Press graphic

Locator map of Alabama

(To view complete map please see microfilm)

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 31, 1998

34TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 The National Journal Group, Inc.
Health Line

January 30, 1998

SECTION: POLITICS & POLICY

LENGTH: 288 words

HEADLINE: CLINIC BOMBING: FIRST DEATH EVER IN ALABAMA

BODY:

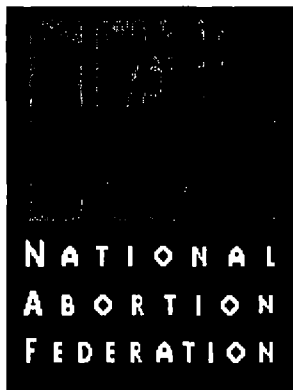
"A police officer ... was killed (yesterday) when a bomb ripped through a Southside abortion clinic," the Birmingham Post-Herald reports. "At least two other people, one believed to be a nurse, were injured" in the early morning blast. The explosion at the New Woman, All Women Health Care Clinic in South Birmingham represents the first fatality ever in a clinic bombing. The bomb went off at 7:30 A.M., about 30 minutes before patients normally start arriving. The Birmingham Post-Herald reported that "a suspect was taken into custody shortly after the bombing" (Rupinski, 1/29). However, today's New York Times reports that the suspect was later released and that investigators are not commenting "on what, if any, suspects they have." The Times further reports that the bombing "is believed to be the first fatal bombing of an abortion clinic in the United States." The victim was an off-duty police officer who worked part-time as a guard at the clinic (Bragg, 1/30).

POLITICAL REACTION

In a prepared statement, President Clinton said, "This bombing was an unforgivable act that strikes at the heart of the constitutional freedoms and individual liberties all Americans hold dear." He emphasized existing legislation that makes it a crime to interfere with a woman seeking to enter a family planning clinic, adding "We will continue to enforce that law to its fullest extent -- and to protect our nation's family planning clinics" (release, 1/29). Activists on both sides of the abortion debate condemned the act as wanton violence, which will not affect any positive discourse or change (multiple sources, 1/30).

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 30, 1998



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, May 21, 1998

CONTACT: Communications Director
202/667-5881

8 BUTYRIC ACID ATTACKS AT ABORTION CLINICS IN FLORIDA

THE NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION DENOUNCES RECENT TOXIC BOMBS AS LATEST IN ANTI-CHOICE ASSAULT ON ABORTION PROVIDERS

Eight butyric acid attacks have occurred in the last week at clinics in Florida providing abortion services. Five butyric acid attacks, or toxic bombs, have taken place in the last 24 hours. "We have not seen a rash of butyric acid attacks in the United States in over 4 years," said Vicki Saporta, Executive Director of the National Abortion Federation.

Butyric acid was introduced last night into the mail slots of two Miami clinics, Multiple Medical Services and Advance Women's Care Center. At a third clinic, A Choice for Women in South Miami, butyric acid was injected into glass doors. Today there have been two more attacks in Dade county, Florida. Two injuries of patients at those clinics are believed to have occurred. In addition to the five attacks that have taken place since last night, three acid attacks took place this past weekend at the Family Planning Center in Daytona Beach, the Women's Health Center in Daytona Beach, and the Central Florida Women's Health Organization in Orlando.

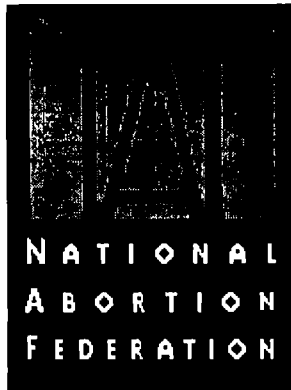
"The National Abortion Federation has been in touch with the FBI, as well as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and we have asked them to investigate these crimes," said Saporta. "We are also contacting all NAF member clinics in Florida and the surrounding states to put them on alert, particularly since we believe that today's toxic bombs may have been brought into the clinics."

Butyric acid is a poisonous, noxious and dangerous chemical. Overexposure to the vapor is irritating to the skin, eyes and mucous membranes. Inhalation of vapors may cause severe irritation of the respiratory system, nausea and vomiting. The chemical is readily absorbed through the skin and liquid can cause severe burns to the skin and eyes. The most recent butyric acid attack occurred in 1996, at a Morgentaler Clinic in Canada.

"We must call these toxic bombs what they are: a form of terrorism," said Saporta. "So far in 1998 anti-choice extremists have killed one person, and the total number injured has now risen to three." She added, "Despite this continued assault against abortion providers, all of the clinics attacked will re-open and continue providing reproductive health care services to women."

###

The National Abortion Federation is the professional association of abortion providers, with members throughout the U.S. and Canada. NAF is dedicated to ensuring that abortion remains safe, legal, and accessible.



About the National Abortion Federation

Making Choice Real

Founded in 1977, the National Abortion Federation is the professional association of abortion providers in the United States and Canada. The organization's mission is to preserve and enhance the quality and accessibility of abortion services. Our members include non-profit clinics, private physician's offices, for-profit surgi-centers, feminist women's health centers, Planned Parenthood affiliates, and hospital-based clinics.

Members of the National Abortion Federation **make choice a reality**. NAF sets standards for quality care, provides accredited continuing medical education, develops innovative training materials, offers accurate medical information about abortion, and provides details about funding sources and referrals to qualified abortion providers through our national toll-free hotline.

The National Abortion Federation is **the organization that speaks for abortion providers** and their patients. We produce informational and educational materials like the acclaimed "Truth About Abortion" series, advocate against burdensome anti-abortion restrictions in Congress and in state houses, and speak out on television and radio and in newspapers and magazines to bring the providers' perspective into the abortion debate.

The National Abortion Federation is an important **resource for abortion providers**. NAF members receive legal guidance from our Legal Clearinghouse, low group rates on medical supplies and equipment through our Group Purchasing program, insurance coverage as part of our Group Malpractice Insurance plan, technical support in coping with CLIA, OSHA, and other regulatory issues through our Member Services department, and assistance with responding to anti-choice violence from our Clinic Support program.

The National Abortion Federation is **working to end the practitioner shortage in abortion care**. Through our Access Initiative, NAF advocates for expanded abortion training opportunities, develops new training materials and sources, fosters the professional development of new providers, and educates the medical community about reversing the isolation of abortion practice and its important place as a part of mainstream medical care.

NAF is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible.



THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 24, 1998

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am outraged by the murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian in his home last night in Amherst, NY. The Department of Justice is working with state and local authorities to find the person or persons responsible and bring them to justice. While we do not have all the facts of this case one thing is clear, this nation can not tolerate violence directed at those providing a constitutionally protected medical service.

No matter where we stand on the issue of abortion, all Americans must stand together in condemning this tragic and brutal act. We must protect the safety and freedom of all our citizens.

Hillary and I extend our thoughts and prayers to the family of Dr. Slepian.

30-30-30

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 22, 1998

VIDEOTAPED REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN MESSAGE ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

THE PRESIDENT: On January 22, we marked the 25th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the landmark Supreme Court decision that affirmed very woman's right to choose whether and when to have a child, and in doing so, affirmed two of our nation's most deeply-held values, personal privacy and family responsibility.

Over the past 25 years, Roe v. Wade has had a major positive impact on the health and well-being of American women and their families. Safe, legal abortion has all but eliminated the dangerous, clandestine conditions that claim too many women's lives when the procedure was illegal.

I'm committed to keeping abortions safe, legal, and accessible -- and to making it more rare. Over the last five years we've led the way on policies to prevent unintended pregnancy by making comprehensive family planning and sex education programs more widely available. We've increased support for Title X family planning services every year in our budget. And I'll do so again this year.

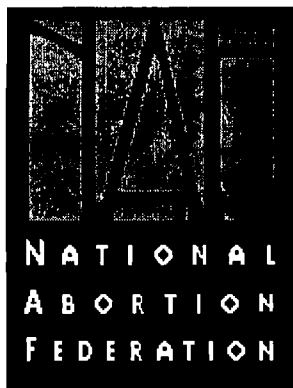
I fought to continue funding for international family planning, bringing much needed health care to women all around the world. Here, at home, by working together with health care professionals, community groups, schools and family planning agencies, we've made real progress in reducing teen pregnancy. And I was proud to sign legislation to protect the rights Roe established by protecting women's clinics from violence. We have enforced that law to its full extent.

I will continue to do everything I can to make sure that every child in America is a wanted child, raised in a loving, strong family. Ultimately, that idea is the anniversary of Roe v. Wade celebrates.

Hillary and I join with all of you in commemorating his milestone and pledge ourselves anew to protecting the right to choose.

Thank you and God bless you.

-30-30-30-



Chronology of Abortion-Related Murders and Shootings

March 10, 1993

Dr. David Gunn was shot to death by Michael Griffin in Pensacola, Florida.

Griffin is serving a life sentence for murder.

August 19, 1993

Dr. George Tiller was shot and injured by Rachelle Shannon at his clinic in Wichita, Kansas.

Shannon is serving an 11-year sentence for attempted first-degree murder. She is serving additional prison time for six arsons and two butyric acid attacks.

July 29, 1994

Dr. John Bayard Britton and his escort, James H. Barrett were shot and killed in front of a clinic in Pensacola, Florida by Paul J. Hill. June Barrett was also shot and injured in the incident.

Hill is in a Florida prison awaiting the death penalty.

November 8, 1994

Dr. Garson Romalis was shot and seriously wounded in his home in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Law enforcement officials are investigating.

December 30, 1994

Shannon Lowney and Leanne Nichols were shot and killed by John Salvi at two clinics in Brookline, Massachusetts. Five others were injured in the attacks.

Salvi was sentenced to two life terms but committed suicide in prison in November 1996.

November 10, 1995

Dr. Hugh Short was shot and injured in his home in Ancaster, Ontario.

Law enforcement officials are investigating.

October 28, 1997

An unnamed physician was shot at in his home in Rochester, New York.

•
Law enforcement officials are investigating.

•
November 11, 1997

Dr. Jack Fainman was shot and injured in his home in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Law enforcement officials are investigating.

January 29, 1998

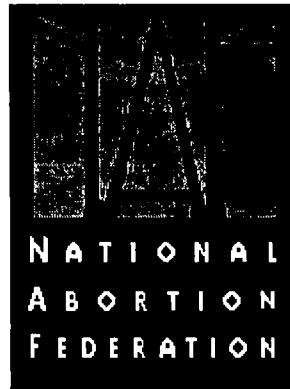
Officer Robert Sanderson was killed during an abortion clinic bombing in Birmingham, Alabama. Emily Lyons, a nurse at the clinic was severely injured in the blast.

Eric Rudolph, the prime suspect in the case, is being sought by law enforcement officials. The FBI has placed Rudolph on its Ten Most Wanted List and is offering a \$1 million reward for his arrest.

October 23, 1998

Dr. Barnett Slepian was shot and killed in his home in Amherst, New York.

Law enforcement officials are investigating.



EXTREME

VIOLENCE AGAINST ABORTION PROVIDERS

January 1, 1998 – December 31, 1998

MURDERS	2
ATTEMPTED MURDERS	1
ARSONS	4
BOMBINGS	1
BUTYRIC ACID ATTACKS	19
TOTAL NUMBER OF EXTREME INCIDENTS	27

FACILITY	CITY/STATE	DATE	INCIDENT(S)
New Woman All Women Health Care Center	Birmingham, AL	1/98	Bombing Murder of Robert Sanderson Attempted Murder of Emily Lyons
Pacific Beach Planned Parenthood Clinic	San Diego, CA	4/98	Arson
19 Clinics	Florida, Louisiana, Texas	5-7/98	Butyric Acid Attacks
Western Carolina Women's Medical Clinic	Ashville, NC	9/98	Arson
Hallmark Clinic	Fayetteville, NC	9/98	Arson
Carolina Women's Medical Clinic	Fayetteville, NC	9/98	Arson
Home of Dr. Barnett Slepian	Amherst, NY	10/98	Murder of Dr. Slepian

Produced by the National Abortion Federation
 1755 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 600
 Washington, DC 20036/98
 202-667-5881 phone, 202-667-5890 fax

Updated: 1/21/99

Final 04/05/99 10pm
Josh Gottheimer

Poppema

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

Since my first days as President, I have worked to strengthen America's families. By improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment. And we can all be glad that we are seeing a reduction in the number of abortions and teen pregnancies.

For six years now, I have also worked to ensure that women have available and safe access to health care -- including reproductive health care. In 1994, I signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been an effective deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our commitment to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose. *provide safety services provide services*

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

I'm glad to be in April

Draft 4/2/99 4:55pm
Josh Gottheimer

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today at the National Abortion Federation's 23rd Annual Meeting.

> *more values lang. on rt. to choose*

As you know, my Administration has worked tirelessly to help preserve the right of women to make their own reproductive choices. Like the NAF, my Administration has fought to improve and expand family planning services and education programs, to prevent teenage pregnancies by teaching principles of personal responsibility, and to help our youth make the right decision. Working together, I believe we can reduce the number of abortions, strengthen America's families, and ensure that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

But we also are committed to making a woman's right to choose a safe option. — *for patients and for health care providers.*

In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act which has been an effective deterrent to many acts of violence that take place at reproductive health care clinics. But with the ^{OK} bombings last year, it became apparent to me that more needed to be done to protect clinic staff, patients and facilities. That is why I supported Attorney General Reno's formation of a new national Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside \$4.5 million in the FY 2000 Budget for extra security to clinics at risk. These funds will be used to help you obtain needed equipment such as security cameras, bullet-resistant windows, and security systems.

you have shown
Your tremendous strength and determination this past year in the face of *terrible violence.* these tragic events. Every day you work in the shadow cast by the violent incidences, and by continuing your efforts you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law.

I commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta, and your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema, and the entire membership for their outstanding dedication and work to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful and productive meeting. Thank you.

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect ~~that right~~. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. ~~By teaching personal responsibility, we are reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies.~~ And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

*Side / feel me
Sally right mean
not to choose*

the right to choose
I am proud that America is reducing it
1994 6/2/98
It's good that Clinton should be supported
not

o.d. 7/2

Draft 4/2/99 4:55pm
Josh Gottheimer

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today at the National Abortion Federation's 23rd Annual Meeting.

As you know, my Administration has worked tirelessly to help preserve the right of women to make their own reproductive choices. Like the NAF, my Administration has fought to improve and expand family planning services and education programs, to prevent teenage pregnancies by teaching principles of personal responsibility, and to help our youth make the right decision. Working together, I believe we can reduce the number of abortions, strengthen America's families, and ensure that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

But we also are committed to making a woman's right to choose a safe option.

In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act which has been an effective deterrent to many acts of violence that take place at reproductive health care clinics. But with the bombings last year, it became apparent to me that more needed to be done to protect clinic staff, patients and facilities. That is why I supported Attorney General Reno's formation of a new national Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside \$4.5 million in the FY 2000 Budget for extra security to clinics at risk. These funds will be used to help you obtain needed equipment such as security cameras, bullet-resistant windows, and security systems.

Your tremendous strength and determination this past year in the face of these tragic events. Every day you work in the shadow cast by the violent incidences, and by continuing your efforts you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law.

I commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta, and your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema, and the entire membership for their outstanding dedication and work to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful and productive meeting. Thank you.

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

Since my first days as President, I have worked to strengthen America's families. By improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment. And we can all be glad that we are seeing a reduction in the number of abortions and teen pregnancies.

For six years now, I have also worked to ensure that women have available and safe access to health care -- including reproductive health care. In 1994, I signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been an effective deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our commitment to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

Since my first days as President, I have worked to strengthen America's families. By improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment. And we can all be glad that we are seeing a reduction in the number of abortions and teen pregnancies.

For six years now, I have also worked to ensure that women have available and safe access to health care -- including reproductive health care. In 1994, I signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been an effective deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our commitment to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

Since my first days as President, I have worked to strengthen America's families. By improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment. And we can all be glad that we are seeing a reduction in the number of abortions and teen pregnancies.

For six years now, I have also worked to ensure that women have available and safe access to health care -- including reproductive health care. In 1994, I signed the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been an effective deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our commitment to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect the right to choose. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. I am proud that America is reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies. And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect the right to choose. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. I am proud that America is reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies. And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect the right to choose. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. I am proud that America is reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies. And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect the right to choose. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. I am proud that America is reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies. And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###

Draft 04/05/99 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
NATIONAL ABORTION FEDERATION MEETING
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
April 25, 1999**

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak with you today.

As your work demonstrates, women's right to reproductive freedom is fundamental. Since my first days as President, I have worked to protect the right to choose. I have also worked to strengthen America's families. I am proud that America is reducing the number of abortions and teen pregnancies. And by improving the system of adoption, we are ensuring that more children have loving parents and a healthy home environment.

I remain committed to ensuring a woman's right to choose -- and to do so safely. In 1994, I was proud to sign the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. I believe it has been a powerful deterrent to the disruption of reproductive health care clinics. But with the violent acts of the past year, it was clear to me that we must do more to protect patients and personnel at these facilities. That is why, under the leadership of Attorney General Reno, our administration has created a new National Task Force on Violence Against Reproductive Health Care Providers. I have also set aside, in the year 2000 budget, \$4.5 million to provide extra security for clinics at risk.

You have shown tremendous strength and determination this past year, working every day under a shadow cast by acts of violence. And every day, by your efforts, you reaffirm our devotion to the rule of the law. I want to commend your Executive Director, Vicki Saporta; your Board President, Dr. Suzanne Poppema [POP-e-ma]; and your entire membership for working to enhance protection, strengthen prevention, and to ensure a woman's right to choose.

Hillary and I wish you a successful meeting.

###