

For Six Month Period Ending FEB 28 2006
(Insert date)

I - REGISTRANT

1. (a) Name of Registrant (b) Registration No. 5669
Iler Interests, LLP d/b/a The Strategic Alliance
- (c) Business Address(es) of Registrant
12719 Trail Hollow Drive
Houston, TX 77024

2. Has there been a change in the information previously furnished in connection with the following:

- (a) If an individual:
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Residence address | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Citizenship | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Occupation | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
- (b) If an organization:
- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| (1) Name | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Ownership or control | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Branch offices | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- (c) Explain fully all changes, if any, indicated in items (a) and (b) above.

IF THE REGISTRANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL, OMIT RESPONSE TO ITEMS 3, 4, AND 5(a).

3. If you have previously filed Exhibit C¹, state whether any changes therein have occurred during this 6 month reporting period.
Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to the Exhibit C? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

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¹ The Exhibit C, for which no printed form is provided, consists of a true copy of the charter, articles of incorporation, association, and by laws of a registrant that is an organization. (a waiver of the requirement to file an Exhibit C may be obtained for good cause upon written application to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Internal Security Section, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20530.)

4. (a) Have any persons ceased acting as partners, officers, directors or similar officials of the registrant during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position Date Connection Ended

(b) Have any persons become partners, officers, directors or similar officials during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence Address Citizenship Position Date Assumed

5. (a) Has any person named in Item 4(b) rendered services directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal? Yes No N/A

If yes, identify each such person and describe his service.

(b) Have any employee or individuals, who have filed a short form registration statement, terminated their employment or connection with the registrant during this 6 month reporting? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Position or connection Date terminated

(c) During this six month reporting period, has the registrant hired as employees or in any other capacity, any persons who rendered or will render services to the registrant directly in furtherance of the interests of any foreign principal(s) in other than a clerical or secretarial, or in a related or similar capacity? Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name Residence Address Citizenship Position Date Assumed

6. Have short form registration statements been filed by all of the persons named in Items 5(a) and 5(c) of the supplemental statement? Yes No N/A

If no, list names of persons who have not filed the required statement.

II - FOREIGN PRINCIPAL

7. Has your connection with any foreign principal ended during this 6 month reporting period?
Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal

Date of termination

8. Have you acquired any new foreign principal² during this 6 month reporting period?
Yes No

If yes, furnish following information:

Name and address of foreign principal

Date acquired

9. In addition to those named in Items 7 and 8, if any, list foreign principals² whom you continued to represent during the 6 month reporting period.

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10. EXHIBITS A AND B

(a) Have you filed for each of the newly acquired foreign principals in Item 8 the following:

Exhibit A³ Yes No
Exhibit B⁴ Yes No

If no, please attach the required exhibit.

(b) Have there been any changes in the Exhibits A and B previously filed for any foreign principal whom you represented during this six month period? Yes No

If yes, have you filed an amendment to these exhibits? Yes No

If no, please attach the required amendment.

² The term "foreign principal" includes, in addition to those defined in section 1(b) of the Act, an individual organization any of whose activities are directly or indirectly supervised, directed, controlled, financed, or subsidized in whole or in major part by a foreign government, foreign political party, foreign organization or foreign individual. (See Rule 100(a)(9)). A registrant who represents more than one foreign principal is required to list in the statements he files under the Act only those principals for whom he is not entitled to claim exemption under Section 3 of the Act. (See Rule 208.)

³ The Exhibit A, which is filed on form CRM-157 (Formerly OBD-67) sets forth the information required to be disclosed concerning each foreign principal.

⁴ The Exhibit B, which is filed on Form CRM-155 (Formerly OBD-65) sets forth the information concerning the agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal.

III - ACTIVITIES

11. During this 6 month reporting period, have you engaged in any activities for or rendered any services to any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail your activities and services:

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See No. 12 below.

12. During this 6 month reporting period, have you on behalf of any foreign principal engaged in political activity⁵ as defined? Yes No

Identify each such foreign principal and describe in full detail all such political activity, indicating, among other things, positions, interests and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If you are a volunteer, sponsored or delivered speeches, lectures or radio and TV broadcasts, give details as to dates, places, delivery, and names of speakers and subject matter.

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See attached statement of details.

13. In addition to the above described activities, if any, have you engaged in activity on your own behalf which benefits any or all of your foreign principals? Yes No

If yes, describe fully.

⁵ The term "political activities" means any activity that the person believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to political or public interests, policies, or relations of a

IV - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

14. (a) RECEIPTS-MONIES

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal, any contributions, income or money either as compensation or otherwise? Yes [X] No []

If no, explain why.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies⁶

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
	The Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, through Qorvis Communications, LLC		
(See attached Statement of Income received.)			

<u>\$165,550.69</u>
Total

(b) RECEIPTS - FUND RASING CAMPAIGN

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received, as part of a fund raising campaign⁷, any money on behalf of any foreign principal named in items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes [] No [X]

If yes, have you filed an Exhibit D to your registration? Yes [] No []

If yes, indicate the date the Exhibit D was filed. Date _____

(c) RECEIPTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you received any thing of value⁹ other than money from any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement, or from any other source, for or in the interests of any such foreign principal? Yes [] No [X]

If yes, furnish the following information:

Name of foreign principal	Date received	Description of thing of value	Purpose
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6, 7 A registrant is required to file an Exhibit D if he collects or receives contributions, loans, money, or other things of value for a foreign principal, as part of a fund raising campaign. (See Rule 201(e).)
8 An Exhibit D, for which no printed form is provided, sets forth an account of money collected or received as a result of a fund raising campaign and transmitted for a foreign principal.
9 Things of value include but are not limited to gifts, interest free loans, expense free travel, favored stock purchases, exclusive rights, favored treatment over competitors, "kickbacks," and the like.

15. (a) **DISBURSEMENTS-MONIES**

During _____ month reporting period, have you

(1) disbursed or expended monies in connection with activity on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement? Yes No

(2) transmitted monies to any such foreign principal? Yes No

If no, explain in full detail why there were no disbursements made on behalf of any foreign principal.

If yes, set forth below in the required detail and separately for each foreign principal an account of such monies, including monies transmitted, if any, to each foreign principal.

Date	To Whom	Purpose	Amount
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See attached list of expenditures.

\$152,618.67
Total

(b) DISBURSEMENTS-THINGS OF VALUE

During this 6 month reporting period, have you disposed of anything of value¹⁰ other than money in furtherance of or in connection with activities on behalf of any foreign principal named in Items 7, 8, and 9 of this statement?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date disposed	Name of person to whom given	On behalf of what foreign principal	Description of thing of value	Purpose
---------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------

(c) DISBURSEMENTS-POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

During this 6 month reporting period, have you from your own funds and on your own behalf either directly or through any other person, made any contributions of money or other things of value¹¹ in connection with an election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election, convention, or caucus held to select candidates for political office?

Yes No

If yes, furnish the following information:

Date	Amount or thing of value	Name of political organization	Name of candidate
9/05	\$2,000	Nat'l Republican Senatorial Committee	N/A
11/05	\$1,000	Ralph Reed for Lt. Governor	Ralph Reed
11/05	\$ 250	Rick Perry for Governor	Rick Perry
11/05	\$2,500	David Dewhurst for Lt. Governor	David Dewhurst
12/05	\$1,000	Linda Lingle for Governor	Linda Lingle
12/05	\$2,000	Maverick PAC	N/A

V - INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

16. During this 6 month reporting period, did you prepare, disseminate or cause to be disseminated any informational materials¹²?
Yes No

IF YES, RESPOND TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN SECTION V.

17. Identify each such foreign principal.

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18. During this 6 month reporting period, has any foreign principal established a budget or allocated a specified sum of money to finance your activities in preparing or disseminating informational materials? Yes No

If yes, identify each such foreign principal, specify amount, and indicate for what period of time.

19. During this 6 month reporting period, did your activities in preparing, disseminating or causing the dissemination of informational materials include the use of any of the following:

- Radio or TV broadcasts
- Magazine or newspaper articles
- Motion picture films
- Letters or telegrams
- Advertising campaigns
- Press releases
- Pamphlets or other publications
- Lectures or speeches
- Internet
- Other (specify) _____

20. During this 6 month reporting period, did you disseminate or cause to be disseminated informational materials among any of the following groups:

- Public Officials
- Newspapers
- Libraries
- Legislators
- Editors
- Educational institutions
- Government agencies
- Civic groups or associations
- Nationality groups
- Other (specify) _____

21. What language was used in the informational materials:

- English
- Other (specify) _____

22. Did you file with the Registration Unit, U.S. Department of Justice a copy of each item of such informational materials disseminated or caused to be disseminated during this 6 month reporting period? Yes No
Attached materials dated August 25 were included in previous Supp. Statement (See Exhibit 1)

23. Did you label each item of such informational materials with the statement required by Section 4(b) of the Act? Yes No

¹² The term informational materials includes any oral, visual, graphic, written, or pictorial information or matter of any kind, including that published by means of advertising, books, periodicals, newspapers, lectures, broadcasts, motion pictures, or any means or instrumentality of interstate or foreign commerce or otherwise. Informational materials disseminated by an agent of a foreign principal as part of an activity in itself exempt from registration, or an activity which by itself would not require registration, need not be filed pursuant to Section 4(b) of the Act.

VI--EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, the undersigned swear(s) or affirm(s) under penalty of perjury that he/she has (they have) read the information set forth in this registration statement and the attached exhibits and that he/she is (they are) familiar with the contents thereof and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her (their) knowledge and belief, except that the undersigned make(s) no representation as to truth or accuracy of the information contained in the attached Short Form Registration Statement(s), if any, insofar as such information is not within his/her (their) personal knowledge.

(Date of signature)

(Type or print name under each signature¹³)

4-4-06

Meredith Iler

Meredith Iler

2006 APR 11 AM 8:55
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¹³ This statement shall be signed by the individual agent, if the registrant is an individual, or by a majority of those partners, officers, directors or persons performing similar functions, if the registrant is an organization, except that the organization can, by power of attorney, authorize one or more individuals to execute this statement on its behalf.

No. 12.

Radio Coverage

- WGAN Radio 560 AM, Portland, ME; *WGAN Morning News with Ken and Mike* at 8:08 a.m. on September 9.
- WESX Radio 120 AM, Salem, MA; one-on-one interview with Chris Culkeen at 8:30 a.m. on September 12.

Television Coverage

- WCSH TV Ch. 6 (NBC), Portland, ME; one-on-one interview with Kathleen Shannon, ran on *News Center 6 at 6* and *News Center 6 at 11* on September 8.
- Town Meeting Television on Ch. 17, Burlington, VT; re-play of September 7 event at the World Affairs Council of Vermont aired on September 10.
- WCSH TV Ch. 6 (NBC), Portland, ME; one-on-one interview with Kathleen Shannon, ran on *The 207 Show* hosted by Kathleen Shannon and Rob Caldwell at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 14.

Foreign principal interviewed with respect to above-radio and television coverage was Nail Al-Jubeir. Primary topic of interview was U.S. Saudi relations.

Print Coverage

- Nail Al-Jubeir, *Burlington Free Press*, "Saudi spokesman gives talk," by Victoria Welch on September 8.

2006 APR 11 AM 8:55
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No. 14.(a)

Date	From Whom	Purpose	Amount
Sep-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Expenses	1,816.27
Sep-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Fees	21,000.00
Oct-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Expenses	21,734.42
Oct-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Fees	27,000.00
Nov-05	Qorvis Communications	Educate Opinion Leaders	6,000.00
Nov-05	Qorvis Communications	Public Relations Fees	50,000.00
Dec-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Fees	19,000.00
Dec-05	Qorvis Communications	Event Fees	19,000.00
			165,550.69

No. 15.(a)
 (1 of 3)

Date	Outreach	Vendor	Purpose	Amount
September-05	Boston	Business Express	Printing	1.05
September-05	Boston	Kinkos	Programs/Handouts	146.27
September-05	Boston	JMN Productions	Videographer	200.00
September-05	Boston	Marie Owens	Temp Labor	210.00
September-05	Boston	Dante Photo	Photographer	215.00
September-05	Boston	Hyatt Regency Cambridge	Meredith Room Charges	593.00
September-05	Boston	Hyatt Regency Cambridge	Luncheon	6360.68
September-05	General	FedEx	Qorvis	13.49
September-05	General	Boston-Gas	Gas	15.89
September-05	General	FedEx	Qorvis	17.90
September-05	General	FedEx	Qorvis	27.53
September-05	General	FedEx	Qorvis	31.49
September-05	General	FedEx	Qorvis	34.11
September-05	General	FedEx	To Qorvis	36.10
September-05	General	Maine--Gas	Gas	45.67
September-05	General	Highlander Inn	Meredith's Room Charges	94.88
September-05	General	Hertz	Rental Car	527.98
September-05	General	Office Depot	Name Badges	647.23
September-05	General	Sign A Rama	Banners for all 3 cities	952.94
September-05	General	Continental	Meredith's Airfare	1468.00
September-05	Maine	Kinkos	Copies	8.63
September-05	Maine	David Murray Photo	Photographer	200.00
September-05	Maine	Luminosea Video	Videographer	210.00
September-05	Maine	Holiday Inn	Meredith's Room Charges	391.62
September-05	Maine	Holiday Inn	Maine Luncheon	2323.36
September-05	Vermont	Doubletree Hotel	Meredith's Room Charges	109.42
September-05	Vermont	Green Mountain Photo	Photographer	217.50
September-05	Vermont	Time Capsule Video	Videographer	250.00
September-05	Vermont	Kinkos	Programs/Handouts for both VT and Maine	269.64
September-05	Vermont	Café Shelburne	VIP Dinner Expenses	1492.80
September-05	Vermont	Doubletree Hotel	Vermont Luncheon	4658.34
October-05	General	FedEx	To Qorvis	17.99
October-05	General	FedEx	To Qorvis	29.45
November-05	Davenport, IA	Wolf Camera	Photos	23.12
November-05	Davenport, IA	Cab	Transportation	25.00
November-05	General	FedEx	Information to Jordan	18.08
November-05	General	FedEx	To Qorvis	27.00
November-05	General	Radisson Quad City	lodging	99.68
November-05	General	Bacon's	Media Information	103.60
November-05	General	Continental Airlines	Airfare for Meredith Iler	614.20
November-05	Houston	Continental Airlines	Airfare for Jordan	219.40
November-05	Springfield, MO	Wolf Camera	Photos	6.48
November-05	Springfield, MO	FedEx	TV Interview	23.14
November-05	Springfield, MO	FedEx	To Qorvis	27.99
November-05	Springfield, MO	Cab		30.00
November-05	Springfield, MO	Hertz	Rental Car	83.11
November-05	Springfield, MO	University Plaza Hotel	Lodging	135.78
December-05	General	Wolf Camera	Photos	6.48
December-05	General	FedEx	To Qorvis	30.78
December-05	General	International Video	Video Dupe	37.00
December-05	Nashville	Alamo Rental Car	Rental Car	61.30

No. 15.(a)
 (3 of 3)

February-06 Atlanta	The Palm	dining	250.60
February-06 Atlanta	FastSigns	Banner	432.00
February-06 Atlanta	Four Seasons	Lodging	1193.16
February-06 Atlanta	Ritz Carlton	Event Expenses	7500.00
February-06 Atlanta	Carey Limo	Transportation	426.87
February-06 Atlanta	Four Seasons	Event Expenses	31815.26
February-06 Atlanta	Continental	Airfare for Meredith Iler	570.10
February-06 Dallas	Kinko's	Copy Expenses	15.08
February-06 Dallas	Four Season		19.04
February-06 Dallas	Love Field Food	Lunch	20.43
February-06 Dallas	Kinko's	Copy Expenses	87.03
February-06 Dallas	Kinko's	Copy Expenses	89.15
February-06 Dallas	Hertz	Rental Car	199.50
February-06 Dallas	Visual Image Photography	Photographer	324.75
February-06 Dallas	Hyatt Hotel	Lodging	325.15
February-06 Dallas	World Affairs Council	Event Expenses	5000.00
February-06 Dallas	Hyatt Hotel	Event Expenses	6585.92
February-06 Dallas	Hyatt Hotel	Event Expenses	23495.00
February-06 Dallas	Bush Airport	Parking	13.00
February-06 General	FedEx	Shipping	12.83
February-06 General	FedEx	To Qorvis	16.07
February-06 General	FedEx	Shipping	25.58
February-06 General	FedEx	To Qorvis	38.58
February-06 General	FedEx	Shipping	61.31
February-06 General	Pat Leith	Calligraphy	61.70
February-06 General	FedEx	To Qorvis	66.51
February-06 General	Harvey Paper	Programs, Invitations	275.30
February-06 General	USPS	Stamps	390.00
February-06 General	Office Max	Print Cartidges	77.92
February-06 General	Office Depot	General	154.20
February-06 Houston	Lexis Florist	Flowers	119.08
February-06 Houston	Alexander's	Photographer	757.75
February-06 Houston	Jackson & Companyu	Event Expenses	5000.00
February-06 Houston	River Oaks Country Club	Event Expenses	7906.14
February-06 Houston	Kinkos	Copy Expenses	45.42
February-06 Houston	Kinkos	Copy Expenses	45.30
February-06 Phoenix	FedEx	To Qorvis	30.95
February-06 Phoenix	FedEx	Shipping	31.55
February-06 Phoenix	FedEx	Shipping	31.59
February-06 Phoenix	Alamo	Rental Car	53.07
February-06 Phoenix	FastSigns	Banner	101.18
February-06 Phoenix	Pointe Hilton Tapatio	Event Expenses	924.77
February-06 Phoenix	Ritz Carlton	Event Expenses	23452.81
February-06 Phoenix	Mark Squire Photography	Photographer	475.00
February-06 Phoenix	Staples	Supplies	37.82
TOTAL			152618.67

Exhibit 1

August 2005

Saudi Arabia's Progress on Economic, Educational and Political Reforms

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which has taken steps to promote reforms throughout the Arab world with an initiative entitled the 'Charter to Reform the Arab Position', has implemented a number of political, educational, and economic reforms to encourage citizen participation, provide young Saudis with appropriate education and expanded employment opportunities, and increase foreign investment. The following is a summary of facts relating to Saudi Arabia's efforts in this respect. For more detailed information on reform, please visit www.saudiembassy.net under 'Reports'.

POLITICAL AND EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

- Saudi Arabia held **municipal elections** between February and April 2005 for half the members in the 178 municipal councils in its 13 provinces. Although these elections were restricted to men, there is a proposal that women will be able to participate in the next elections in four years' time.
- The **National Human Rights Association (NHRA)** was established in March 2004 with a mandate to implement international human rights charters.
- The **King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue** was established in August 2003 to bring together leading personalities to discuss important issues facing the Kingdom. So far, four National Dialogues have taken place, covering education, extremism, the role of women and the problems facing young people. Preparations are under way for the Fifth National Dialogue Forum, which is scheduled to be held in Abha in December 2005 on the topic of international relations from a civic point of view
- The **Saudi Journalists Association** was set up in February 2003, to protect the rights of journalists in the Kingdom and coordinate their relations with the media establishment. A similar association for writers is being processed.
- **Curricula revision** is under way in the Kingdom's educational system, which has about five million students, half of them female, and one of the lowest student to teacher ratios in the world - 12.5 to 1.
- A **three-year enlightenment program** is being implemented by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Endowments, Call and Guidance, to educate imams, monitor mosques, and purge extremism and intolerance from religious education.
- **Judicial regulations** include the 2002 code of law practice to define the duties and rights of lawyers and the 2002 criminal procedure law regulating defendants' rights.
- **Major political developments** were introduced in 1992: the Basic Law of Governance, serving the function of a constitution; the Consultative Council (*Majlis Al-Shura*), this year with 150 members serving four-year terms, and an enhanced legislative role; and a system of provincial councils, composed of leading citizens who provide input for the local governments in each of the Kingdom's 13 provinces.

ECONOMIC INITIATIVES

- Recent steps towards privatization and market liberalization are aimed at accelerating Saudi Arabia's accession to the **World Trade Organization (WTO)**. The Kingdom is negotiating bilateral agreements with current WTO members while adopting the organization's various trade rules.
- In June 2003, the **Saudi Arabian Capital Markets Law** was enacted, setting up the **Saudi Arabian Securities and Exchange Commission (SASEC)** to protect investor interests; and formalizing the **Saudi Arabian Stock Exchange (SASE)**, whose capitalization as of June 1, 2005 was \$464 billion.
- **The Foreign Investment Law** allows foreign investors to own property, transfer capital and profits, and claim full ownership of their projects. In January 2004, the capital gains tax on foreign investors was cut from 45 to 20 percent.
- In January 2003, the **GCC Customs Union** was established by the Gulf Cooperation Council to standardize customs duties in the six member countries.

Economic Indicators

- The Kingdom's GDP increased from \$20 billion in 1970 to \$248.82 billion in 2004.
- Saudi Arabia was given 'A' credit ratings in 2003 and 2004 by Standard and Poor's.
- Today, Saudi Arabia is the world's 25th largest importer/exporter, with foreign trade of \$78 billion, and in 2004, over \$26 billion in trade with the United States.
- Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter and with the largest proven oil reserves, earned about \$115 billion in net oil export revenue in 2004.
- Over the past three decades, the non-oil sector of the Saudi economy has grown from 35% to more than 60% of total GDP.
- In the past decade, Saudi Arabia's 10 licensed commercial banks have seen a substantial growth in domestic banking. In 2004, combined capital and reserves of the banks increased to more than \$14 billion. An eleventh bank opened in 2005.
- The total population in Saudi Arabia increased from 12 million in 1980 to 22.7 million according to the census conducted on September 15, 2004. Of these, 16.5 million are Saudi nationals. The Saudi labor force was reckoned in 2002 to be 3.15 million.

Privatization and foreign investment

- **The Centennial Fund** extended its first grants in January 2005 to young Saudis who seek to achieve economic independence by setting up small business enterprises.
- By early 2005, foreign companies were expressing interest in the three rail projects approved by the **Supreme Economic Council (SEC)**, to connect Jeddah with Dammam, link Makkah and Madinah, and give access to mining projects in the north.
- In 2004, government shares in the National Company for Cooperative Insurance (NCCI) were offered for sale, following the **2003 Insurance Law**.
- By 2004, agreements worth more than \$7 billion had been reached with international oil companies for investment in the energy sector.
- Privatization of the Saudi Arabian Mining Company 'Ma'aden' was approved in 2004.
- The Kingdom has plans to privatize the Saudi Arabian Public Transport Company (SAPTCO) as well as Saudi Arabian Airlines (SAA) and the operation of its 24 domestic and 3 international airports, retaining control over airport security.
- The Ministry of Health supports privatization of some state-run hospitals. New laws allow foreign investors to own hospitals.
- In December 2002, the Saudi Telecom Company was privatized. The **Saudi Communications Commission (SCC)** had been established in December 2001, to facilitate foreign investment in the telecommunications sector. The responsibilities of the state-run postal services were transferred to the private sector in 2002.

This material is distributed by Qorvis Communications, LLC on behalf of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

August 2005

Latest Developments: Saudi Arabia's Progress in the War on Terrorism

Saudi Arabia is an active partner in the international coalition that was formed to combat terrorism and has been working diligently with the United States and other nations to destroy terrorist organizations and eliminate the threat they pose to the international community. The following is a summary of facts relating to Saudi Arabia's efforts in the war on terrorism. For the complete document on the War on Terrorism, please visit www.saudiembassy.net and access "Reports".

Suspects Killed, Arrested and Questioned:

- More than 90 militants have been killed in the past two years.
- The Ministry of Interior issued a new 36 most-wanted list on June 28, 2005. To date, three of the terrorists on that list have been arrested and one killed. Of the 26 on the most-wanted list issued on December 6, 2003, 23 are known to have been killed or are under arrest.
- Saudi security forces have succeeded in preventing more than 50 planned terrorist acts.
- More than 800 individuals have been arrested on suspicion of terrorist activity or support.
- During the past two years about 40 Saudi security officers have been killed and more than 200 have been wounded while carrying out their duties in terrorist-related incidents.
- Thousands of kilos of explosives, and large quantities of weapons and ammunition have been seized, as well as wireless communication devices, computers and related equipment, identity cards and leaflets calling for the perpetration of acts of terror.

International Cooperation:

- Saudi Arabia hosted the Counter-Terrorism International Conference in Riyadh February 5-8, 2005 attended by 51 countries and 9 international organizations.
- The United States and Saudi Arabia have established two joint task forces, one to allow law enforcement and intelligence agencies to work side by side and conduct joint operations in the fight against terrorism, and the other to combat the financing of terrorism.
- The Group of Eight's Financial Action Task Force (FATF) completed evaluations in 2003 and in 2004 and commended Saudi Arabia for implementing its 40 recommendations on money-laundering and 8 on terror financing.
- On April 29, 2004, the Office of the Coordinator for Counter-Terrorism of the U.S. Department of State released its 2003 'Patterns of Global Terrorism' report. The report praises the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for its "unprecedented" efforts to fight terrorism both inside its borders and abroad.

Regulating Charitable Organizations:

- In February 2004 the National Commission for Relief and Charity Work Abroad was created, with exclusive responsibility for all donations leaving the Kingdom.
- In January and in June 2004, Saudi Arabia and the United States announced that they had jointly designated as terrorist financiers a total of nine branch offices of the Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation under UN Security Resolution 1267.
- In December 2003, Saudi Arabia and the United States jointly designated the Bosnia-based Vazir and the Liechtenstein-based Hochburg AG organizations as financiers of terrorism under UN Security Council Resolution 1267.
- In May 2003, the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) instructed all financial institutions in the Kingdom to stop transfers by Saudi charities to any accounts outside the Kingdom.
- In December 2002, a special Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) was established to track charitable giving to ensure that no funds reach terrorists.

Combating Terrorist Financing and Money Laundering:

- In August 2003, the Council of Ministers approved new legislation that puts in place harsh penalties for the crimes of money laundering and terror financing.
- In February 2003, SAMA began to implement a major technical program to train judges and investigators on legal matters involving terrorism financing and money-laundering methods, international requirements for financial secrecy, and methods followed by criminals to exchange information.
- In May 2002, SAMA issued rules 'Governing the Opening of Bank Accounts' and 'General Operational Guidelines' in order to protect banks against money-laundering activities. For example, Saudi banks are not permitted to open bank accounts for non-resident individuals without specific approval from SAMA.
- Saudi Arabia took prompt action on September 26, 2001 requiring all Saudi banks to identify and freeze all assets relating to terrorist suspects and entities per the list issued by the United States government on September 23, 2001.
- In 1995, Saudi Arabia established units, with trained and dedicated specialist staff, to counter money laundering at the Ministry of Interior, in SAMA and in the commercial banks.
- SAMA and the Ministry of Commerce in 1995 issued guidelines to the Kingdom's financial and commercial sectors for combating money-laundering activities.
- Saudi Arabia was one of the first countries to take action against terrorist financing, freezing the assets of Osama bin Laden in 1994.

Other Initiatives Related to Fighting Terrorism:

Every 90 days, Saudi Arabia submits to the United Nations Security Council Committees a report on the initiatives and actions taken by the Kingdom in accordance with UN Security Council Resolutions on the fight against terrorism. The Kingdom has:

- frozen financial assets of the Taliban regime (Resolution 1267);
- frozen funds of listed individuals (Resolution 1333);
- signed the International Convention for Suppression and Financing of Terrorism (Resolution 1373);
- implemented Resolutions 1390 and 1368.

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**PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY SENIOR SAUDI OFFICIALS AND RELIGIOUS
SCHOLARS CONDEMNING EXTREMISM AND PROMOTING MODERATION
August 2005**

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia condemns all forms of extremism. Islam is a religion of peace, understanding and tolerance, not violence or hatred. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia strongly believes that those who resort to violence and extremism in the name of religion are deviants and criminals. Following are some of the public statements made by leading officials and religious scholars in this regard.

Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz, Minister of Interior, Arab News, July 25, 2005:

"We are now looking forward as an Arab and Islamic world to think and unite in fighting terrorism. These terrorist activities are targeting Islam and peace between people and countries of the world. If we do not move together, then terrorism will continue."

**Prince Turki Al-Faisal, Saudi Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Ireland and
Ambassador Designate to the United States, CNN, "Late Edition," July 24, 2005:**

"... Islam is a religion of peace and harmony, and understanding, and, therefore, if there is anybody who is misusing Islam for any purpose whatsoever, we cannot accept that. And we do not accept that."

**Shaikh Abdulaziz Bin Abdullah Al-Ashaikh, the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia and Chairman
of the Council of Senior *Ulema* [religious scholars], in a statement issued following the
terrorist attacks in London, July 8, 2005:**

"Killing and terrorizing innocent people and the destruction of property are not condoned by Islam. Attributing all these horrific incidents to Islam is unjust. Muslims should tell the truth and unveil falseness, and inform all people that Islam is a religion of righteousness, betterment and progress ... The unjust killing of a human being in Islam is forbidden."

**Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Ambassador to the United States, in a statement issued
following the terrorist attacks in London, July 7, 2005:**

"As victims of terrorism, the people of Saudi Arabia express their deepest sympathies to the families of the victims, as well the British people and government, and pray to Almighty God to bring those who carried out this barbaric act to justice."

**Prince Turki Al-Faisal, in a statement issued following the terrorist attacks in London, July
7, 2005:**

"In Saudi Arabia we have suffered at the hands of terrorists and we stand by the UK in every effort to bring the perpetrators of terrorism to justice. Saudi Arabia has always and continues to condemn all terrorism wherever it may be and whatever its cause."

Shaikh Saleh Al-Luheidan, Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, Saudi Press Agency (SPA), May 2, 2005:

“Shedding the blood of the innocents is prohibited everywhere, and whoever does not believe in its prohibition is a sacrilegious deviant.”

SPA, April 12, 2005:

Addressing the opening of the first year of the Shura Council's fourth four-year term, King Fahd ... reminded his audience that Islam is a religion that encourages benevolence and rejects evil; calls for peaceful co-existence among nations and civilizations; and prohibits aggression and corruption. Vowing that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will never allow the deviant group to destabilize the country, he declared that in Islam there is no room for violence, extremism, fanaticism, oppression, or terrorism; or for assault against people or confiscation of the property of others. The Saudi authorities, he said, are sparing no effort to confront all forms of terrorism, and pointed out that the Kingdom has been carrying out a fierce fight against terrorism within its borders, and is committed to the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in combating the phenomenon.

Adel Al-Jubeir, Foreign Affairs Advisor to Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard, Speech, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, March 7, 2005:

“ ... Saudi Arabia has taken steps to combat the mindset that instills and justifies acts of terror, hatred and violence. Islam is a religion of peace, benevolence and tolerance, and we will not allow deviants to corrupt our faith. ...

“ ... violence and extremism are not part of our Islamic faith or Saudi culture or traditions.”

Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz, Counter-Terrorism International Conference, February 5, 2005:

“In fact, terrorism is not just an act, but the product of an aberrant ideology that must be fought. That is why the onus of the responsibility lies with all societies, with all their institutions, to confront and combat terrorism since, just as the security institutions have their obligations, cultural - academic, mass media, and educational - institutions have a great responsibility to inculcate the right ideals and sound human values and to immunize societies against any delinquent ideas or evil deeds.”

SPA, February 4, 2005:

On the eve of the Counter-Terrorism International Conference that opens tomorrow in Riyadh, the Kingdom's Grand Mufti Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh has issued a statement condemning the "ugly acts of terrorism" and declaring that they must be confronted at all levels. In this context, he cited several verses of the Holy Qur'an and elaborated on sayings of the Prophet. The malicious acts of the terrorists, he said, include killing non-Muslims who are living in the Kingdom, accusing Muslims of being "infidels", and calling for them to be attacked. Such ugly crimes are in contravention of Islam. All Muslims should therefore cooperate to eradicate extremism and make young people aware of its dangers.

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Abdullah, excerpt from address to Hajj pilgrims, January 21, 2005:

“The world has witnessed acts of terrorism that aim at undermining the pillars of stability and security as well as intimidating innocent people. Unfortunately these acts have been perpetrated by people who claim they belong to Islam. We would like to make it clear that these terrorist acts in fact run counter to the teachings of Islam, and have been carried out by individuals whose ideas are deviant. Terrorism leads to corruption on earth and to destruction; the Kingdom has therefore been confronting it in its various forms, and working to uproot it, refuting the deviant ideas believed in by terrorists, and clarifying Islam’s position on terrorism.

“Saudi Arabia has called on all peace-loving countries to work together to combat the phenomenon of terrorism through a comprehensive plan based on the United Nations. It is essential to cooperate in the fight against terrorism. No country in the world should ever provide shelter to terrorists, nor should any country ever enable them to practice their subversive acts from its territory. In line with this policy, the Kingdom has called for an international conference on combating terrorism to be convened in Riyadh on February 5, 2005.”

Shaikh Abdulrahman Al-Sudais, imam at the Grand Mosque in Makkah, Arab News, January 21, 2005:

“Islam is a religion of moderation. There is no room for extremism in Islam ... Islam is a religion of peace that abhors attacks on innocent people.”

SPA, December 31, 2004:

At a Friday sermon in the Grand Mosque in Makkah, Shaikh Abdulrahman Al-Sudais said Saudi Arabia has no place for terrorists and criminals and condemned those who kill innocent people.

SPA, December 8, 2004:

The Kingdom's Grand Mufti Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh, in a statement published today in *Al-Madinah* newspaper, condemned and deplored Monday’s act of terrorism that targeted the U.S. consulate in Jeddah. Attacking a building, he said, and throwing explosives, killing innocent people, frightening the populace, and undermining the stability of society, run counter to the teachings of Islam. No Muslim scholar, he reiterated, has ever approved such shameful and criminal acts. He moreover affirmed the right of all those who have legally entered the Kingdom with the permission of its rulers, to live in a secure and peaceful environment.

SPA, July 10, 2004:

In his sermon at the Grand Mosque in Makkah yesterday, Imam Shaikh Saud Al-Sheraim called on members of the deviant group to surrender under a month-long amnesty announced by the government in late June, affirming the sincerity of the Saudi authorities in forgiving those who voluntarily surrender. Repentance, he said, is a praiseworthy Islamic principle, and urged all those who have deviated from the right path to return to the fold. He went on to stress the need for Muslims to seek advice in searching for the truth, and to embrace cooperation and reconciliation. The killing and terrorizing of the innocent that is taking place in Muslim countries, he stated, is something evil and a sign of great danger, saying: “Such acts must never be ignored or justified but confronted and stopped by all available means.”

King Fahd, addressing the Shura Council, June 20, 2004:

"We will not allow a wicked group driven by a deviant ideology to destabilize the Kingdom's security."

SPA, June 19, 2004:

Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz today received citizens expressing condemnation of terrorist acts. Crown Prince Abdullah, thanking them for their stance, urged all citizens to report abnormal behavior to the security authorities. He confirmed that leaders of the deviant group had been killed, and called on others involved to turn themselves in before they are annihilated, declaring that they are followers of Satan and enemies of religion and their country.

SPA, June 18, 2004:

Shaikh Dr. Salih bin Abdullah bin Humaid, imam at the Grand Mosque in Makkah, spoke out against terrorism at Friday prayer today, reiterating that any terrorist act is criminal and contrary to religion. The recent criminal acts in the Kingdom, he said, have targeted Muslims who thought themselves safe as well as non-Muslims, who are under protection through agreements with Muslims. The perpetrators of these acts, members of a deviant group, have killed and intimidated people, destroyed property, and wreaked havoc on earth; and therefore they will surely be punished in hell in the hereafter.

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, June 15, 2004:

Both abroad and at home, Saudi religious scholars are condemning acts of terrorism and promoting the Islamic principles of peace and tolerance.

At an Embassy press conference in London, U.K., Minister of Islamic Affairs, Endowments, Call and Guidance Shaikh Salih bin Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh stated that Saudi Arabia has achieved a great deal of success in combating terrorism, with many perpetrators killed or arrested. The Kingdom, he said, enjoys political, economic and social stability in spite of the terrorist incidents that have recently occurred. Islam, he reiterated, is a religion of love and tolerance that calls for dialogue with others.

Shaikh Abdulrahman Al-Sudais, one of the imams at the Grand Mosque in Makkah, led Friday prayers on June 11 with over 55,000 worshippers gathered in and around the East London Mosque. Calling for interfaith peace and harmony, he urged Muslims to be united in setting an example of "the true image of Islam" in their interactions with other communities. "The history of Islam," he declared, "is the best testament to how different communities can live together in peace and harmony."

In Saudi Arabia, a number of well-known Muslim scholars issued a statement on June 13 strongly condemning the recent incidents that led to the killing of people and the damaging of property as outrageous crimes forbidden by the Islamic religion.

According to Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar bin Sultan: "Senior religious scholars in Saudi Arabia have continually and unequivocally condemned terrorism. In our war against terrorism, these condemnations are a powerful weapon."

SPA, April 26, 2004:

The Council of Call and Guidance, in its meeting yesterday, condemned the explosion [at the General Department of Traffic in Riyadh on April 21, 2004], and urged confrontation of the deviant ideas that lead to such criminal acts. The Council, which comprises representatives from various areas of jurisprudence including the Islamic Affairs Ministry, the Presidency of the Two Holy Mosques, and the Islamic universities, called for fortifying young people against destructive ideas that run counter to the teachings of Islam.

SPA, April 22, 2004, the day after a suicide bombing in Riyadh:

Interior Minister Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz paid a visit yesterday to some of those injured in the blast, and reiterated that such acts of terrorism do not have anything to do with Islam, and appealed to those who are contemplating them to come to their senses and surrender, because they will be caught, and the resolve of the security forces has only deepened... [Meanwhile] Saudi Arabia's Grand Mufti Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh issued a statement today citing verses from the Holy Qur'an and the sayings of Prophet Muhammad that clearly stipulate such an act as "forbidden and highly sinful." He also declared that it is forbidden to cover up such acts, or to express justification for them, and whoever does so, is an accomplice to the crime.

King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, excerpt from address to Hajj pilgrims, February 2, 2004:

"The entire world, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has been harmed by many acts of terror intended to undermine stability, and spread fear and evil. Some of these events have been perpetrated by individuals unfortunately claiming to be Muslims. It is necessary to clarify the position of Islam concerning these events and their perpetrators. These acts, and those who carry them out, are deviant. It is important to oppose them. These acts are a function of false ideas, contrived by individuals who have strayed from the truth, and contradict the teachings of religion.

"The Kingdom opposes all forms of terrorism, and is fighting it locally and condemning it internationally, and is working to uproot it and expose its negative impact on society.

"The Kingdom urges the international community to vigorously confront the menace of terrorism, and supports all peace-loving countries in fighting and uprooting it. A comprehensive plan for combating terrorism by all countries must be implemented so that terrorists will not be allowed to conduct their subversive activities from any territory.

"Islam is a noble faith. It does not tolerate hatred and malice."

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, February 2, 2004:

Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh, the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of the Council of Senior Religious Scholars, delivered the sermon to almost two million pilgrims at the peak of the Hajj. As Saudi Arabia's highest religious authority, he used this important occasion to denounce terrorism and those who perpetrate it in the name of religion.

During his sermon he highlighted the importance of educating others about Islam, so that terrorists will not be able to claim that their reprehensible actions have anything to do with the true faith: "You must know Islam's firm position against all these terrible crimes. The world must know that Islam is a religion of peace and mercy and goodness; it is a religion of justice and guidance ... Islam has forbidden violence in all its forms. It forbids the hijacking airplanes, ships and other means of transport, and it forbids all acts that undermine the security of the innocent."

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, January 28, 2004:

Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh, Saudi Arabia's Grand Mufti and Chairman of the Council of Senior Religious Scholars, reaffirmed that Islam does not tolerate bloodshed and absolutely prohibits acts of terrorism against Muslims and non-Muslims.

During a lecture in Makkah, Shaikh Al-Ashaikh warned his listeners of the destabilizing effect that terrorism can have on society. Acknowledging that terrorism results from deviant ideas, Shaikh Al-Ashaikh emphasized the importance of educating and protecting the younger generation from such misguided thoughts. He remarked that terrorism is an aberration in a country like the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, because the country lives under Islamic law which forbids violence and terrorism. Shaikh Al-Ashaikh added: "The terror acts which earlier took place in Makkah, Madinah and Riyadh run counter to the teachings of Islam."

Shaikh Al-Ashaikh has always taken a strong stand against extremism, warning Muslims that extremism and fanaticism lead only to violence and the death of innocent people. "Islam is not a religion of violence. It is a religion of mercy for everyone," stated Shaikh Al-Ashaikh.

SPA, January 27, 2004:

In a lecture he gave yesterday in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's Grand Mufti Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh reiterated his condemnation of terrorism, declaring that Islam does not tolerate the shedding of blood and absolutely prohibits random killing of people, whether Muslim or non-Muslim. The terrorist acts that have taken place in Makkah and Madinah as well as Riyadh, he said, are contrary to the teachings of Islam, and can only have an adverse impact on society. He repeated that Islam repudiates terrorism, which is, he said, an alien phenomenon in a country like Saudi Arabia that unwaveringly implements Shariah [Islamic Law]. Terrorism, he declared, is a result of deviant ideas that destabilize society, and called for enlightenment of young people to protect them from such deviant ideas.

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, January 8, 2004:

The King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue recently concluded its Second National Forum for Intellectual Dialogue. The forum was entitled "Extremism and Moderation: A Comprehensive Approach." Some 60 participants, both men and women, discussed fifteen academic papers prepared by researchers on topics such as "Characteristics of the Extremist Personality" and "The Relationship Between Ruler and Ruled, Rights and Duties of Citizens and Their Relationship with Extremism."

Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard Crown Prince Abdullah emphasized the importance of dialogue when he stated: "I have no doubt that the establishment of the Center and the continuation of dialogue within its boundaries will become a historic achievement that contributes to the creation of a channel for objective expression that would have an effective impact in combating extremism and fostering a pure atmosphere that could give birth to wise positions and illuminating ideas that reject terrorism and terrorist thought."

Following the event, Crown Prince Abdullah hosted a reception on January 3 in honor of the participants, where he stressed the importance of tolerance and moderation in both public and private lives, stating: "Islam advocates moderation." Crown Prince Abdullah has repeatedly emphasized the need to address the underlying causes of terrorism. He has stated: "The bullets that kill women and children, terrorize those secure in their safety, and destroy innocent communities, come not only from rifles, but from deviant thoughts and misguided interpretations

of our great religion and its noble message." One of the goals of the Kingdom's initiative to promote open dialogue and national debate is the ultimate rejection of extremist ideology.

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, November 25, 2003:

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard, in a joint statement issued today, congratulated Muslims on the occasion of the blessed Eid Al-Fitr, and called upon them to "work for the stability and security of Islamic countries and the whole world and overcome the obstacles to world peace."

King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah said that the recent bombings in Riyadh had nothing to do with Islam and that Muslims should "work together to combat the roots of extremism." In their message, they stated: "We must intensify our efforts and stand united to rectify defects and distortions, correct erroneous understanding and lead delinquents to the right path." King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah also said that "a true Muslim does not spread corruption nor does he seek destruction," and urged Muslims to follow the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) who was an example of tolerance and mercy.

Arab News, November 8, 2003:

Shaikh Abdulrahman Al-Sudais, the imam of the Grand Mosque in Makkah, yesterday denounced plans by militants to destabilize the Kingdom and undermine its security. ...

"They have violated the sanctity of time and place and committed terrorism, violence, bombings, crime and corruption," the Makkah imam said while delivering his Friday sermon. ...

In his sermon, Shaikh Al-Sudais advised the faithful to make use of Ramadan to win God's forgiveness and mercy. He stressed the need to teach moderation to the youth. "This is the joint duty of mosque, family, school, university and the media," he explained.

Excerpts from Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, August 30, 2003:

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd bin Abdulaziz, in a message to the nineteenth session of the World Supreme Council for Mosques August 30, emphasized the important mission of the mosque in Islam, which is to promote peace, tolerance, moderation and wisdom. King Fahd added that fulfillment of this mission will help show the youth the correct path of Islam, distancing them from grievance, aggression and evil.

King Fahd condemned all forms of terrorism and warned that terror networks were using misguided Muslim youths to further their cause. King Fahd added: "By playing into the hands of terror networks, these youths have tarnished the image of Islam and Muslims."

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, August 21, 2003:

Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh, the Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of the Council of Senior *Ulema* [religious scholars], issued a statement today warning Muslims that extremism and fanaticism lead only to violence and the death of innocent people. Shaikh Al-Ashaikh emphasized that "Muslims must understand that the path of reform never comes through violence. Islam is not a religion of violence. It is a religion of mercy for everyone."

Shaikh Al-Ashaikh stated: "One of the fall-outs from extremism in understanding Islam is that some people call for jihad for the sake of God without justification... These people, who call for jihad, want to raise the banner of jihad to draw the youth into their ranks, and not to fight for the Almighty God."

Saudi Arabia's religious leaders have repeatedly and unequivocally condemned terrorism in all its forms. Following the Riyadh bombings on May 12, Shaikh Al-Ashaikh stated: "Terrorism has nothing to do with Islam... Islam should not be blamed for the acts of other people. People should be held responsible individually for their own acts."

Crown Prince Abdullah, Arab News, July 22, 2003:

"These misguided groups, whose members' minds have been possessed by the devil, will be punished and defeated, God willing, along with those who support them", he said.

Arab News, July 1, 2003:

Crown Prince Abdullah ... yesterday said Saudi citizens faced a huge responsibility to work together to stem terrorism, adding that the threat of extremist thought and ideology must be firmly resisted. "Our youth must be inoculated against alien ideas. Families, schools and mosques as well as the country's ulama and intellectuals and the media and every sincere person must contribute to this effort in order to expose alien thoughts and show the truth," Prince Abdullah told the weekly Cabinet session.

King Fahd, addressing the Shura Council, May 17, 2003:

"The people of Saudi Arabia oppose all forms of terrorism, and will never allow any faction of deviant terrorists to harm the country and undermine the safety of its citizens and residents. We will not allow any deviant ideology that encourages and feeds terrorism. This nation is determined to eradicate all forms of terrorism. ...

"It is the responsibility of our religious leaders to save our youth from the evil of destructive thoughts that propagate extremism and hatred and only result in devastation and ruin.

"No one can ignore the seriousness of our move toward reform. And I say to every citizen that each one of us has a role and a responsibility in this endeavor. I say to each government official that public service is an honor, which has obligations to the public good, but does not convey any special privileges. I say to every businessman that our economy is not just a source of capital and profit, but it is an investment in national security and safety. I say to every woman that this nation is for all and you will be a partner in making its future. And I say to officials in education that they are shapers of future generations. Good education promotes character and instills values in the young for the benefit of this nation.

"And I say to every citizen that one of the most important obligations is to confront narrow mindedness, regionalism and social division. Confronting these ills is a requirement of our faith and contributes to national unity.

"The world we live in is at a crossroads. We are part of this world and we cannot be disconnected from it. We cannot be mere spectators while the rest of the world is progressing towards a new global system. This country is the heart of the Muslim World, and the cradle of Arab identity. Therefore, we should rise to the challenges... and support each other in carrying out responsibilities and duties."

Crown Prince Abdullah, in an address to the nation, May 13, 2003:

“The tragic, bloody and painful events that took place in the heart of our dear capital, Riyadh, last night, in which innocent citizens and residents were killed or injured, prove once again that terrorists are criminals and murderers with total disregard for any Islamic and human values or decency. They are no different from vicious animals whose only concern is to shed blood and bring terror to those innocents under God’s protection.

“These tragic events should serve as a warning to the unwary, and should restore sanity to the deluded. The perpetrators are but a small group of deviants whose objective is to do harm to our society by doing damage to its security.

“On the other hand, the whole Saudi nation, old and young, men and women, stand shoulder-to-shoulder in condemning this heinous act and expressing their rejection of those who perpetrated it. We will be steadfast in defending our homeland, the cradle of Islam, and the heart of the Arab world.

“If these murderers believe that their criminal and bloody act will shake our nation or its unity, they are mistaken. And if they believe they can disrupt the security and tranquility of our nation, they are dreaming. This is because the Saudi people, who have embraced the Holy Book as their guide and the Shari’ah as their way of life, and who have rallied behind their leaders, who in turn embraced them, will not permit a deviant few to shed the blood of the innocent which God Almighty, in His infinite wisdom and justice, has sanctified. The entire Saudi nation, and not just its valiant security forces, will not hesitate to confront the murderous criminals.

“There can be no acceptance or justification for terrorism. Nor is there a place for any ideology which promotes it, or beliefs which condone it. We specifically warn anyone who tries to justify these crimes in the name of religion. And we say that anyone who tries to do so will be considered a full partner to the terrorists and will share their fate. As revealed in the Holy Qur’an: ‘If a man kills a believer intentionally, his recompense is Hell, to abide therein (forever): and the wrath and the curse of God are upon him, and a dreadful penalty is prepared for him.’

“Further, as revealed in the Holy Qur’an, the taking of an innocent life is a crime against all of humanity. In the words of the Prophet (God’s peace and mercy be upon him): ‘He who kills a resident living in peace among you, will never breathe the air of heaven.’

“I vow to my fellow citizens and to the friends who reside among us, that the State will be vigilant about their security and well-being. Our nation is capable, by the Grace of God Almighty and the unity of its citizens, to confront and destroy the threat posed by a deviant few and those who endorse or support them. With the help of God Almighty, we shall prevail.”

Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Ambassador to the United States, in a statement issued following the terrorist attacks in Riyadh, May 13, 2003:

“The terrorist attacks on Saudi Arabia May 12 are evil and unforgivable crimes. I send my deepest condolences on behalf of the people of Saudi Arabia to all of the American victims and their families and to the Saudi, European, Arab and Asian families. My government promises that we will not rest until, together, we hunt down these criminals and bring them to justice. And when we do, their punishment will be swift and severe.

“No words can express our feelings for the loss of the innocent people who were murdered and injured. Those victims were Arabs, Americans, Europeans, and Asians. They were Muslims as well as Christians. The attack was an attack on humanity. We reject the terrorists who express their hatred for our people and our friends through such cowardly actions. These terrorists have

turned their backs on our people and they have perverted our faith; they do not in any way represent Islam. They only represent hatred towards all of humanity. As a nation of peace, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will work to protect our citizens and our friends who live and work in our country, American, Arab, European, African or Asian, Muslim or non-Muslim; and we are determined to eradicate the terrorists who bring violence and hatred to the whole world, as Crown Prince Abdullah declared today.

“The target of the Al-Qaeda terrorists is Saudi Arabia and the United States and the 70-year relationship that has benefited both our peoples; and at a time when we are working together to bring peace and stability to the people of the Middle East, their aim is to destroy our alliance through violence. But they will not succeed. We say to the people of the United States, as your friend and ally, you can rely on us to do our part as we have done in critical times in the past. We will continue to hunt down the criminals, we will continue to cut off their finances and we will bring them to justice.

“On this day, grief and pain weigh on our hearts. I pray that God Almighty continues to give us the wisdom and courage that will lead our nations and the world into a new era of peace and prosperity for all mankind, of all faiths.”

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, February 11, 2003:

Saudi Arabia’s Council of Senior Ulema (religious scholars) has issued an edict condemning attacks and other violence against innocence. The edict also conveys that it is a crime to randomly judge people as “infidels” and target them for violence.

The Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of the Council of Senior Ulema Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh said that this is a very serious matter as it relates to the shedding of innocent blood, the bombing of buildings, and the destruction of public and private installations. The edict issued by the Council on this matter is as follows:

“The acts of shedding the blood of innocent people, the bombing of buildings and ships, and the destruction of public and private installations are criminal acts and against Islam. Those who carry out such acts have deviant beliefs and misguided ideologies and are to be held responsible for their crimes. Islam and Muslims should not be accountable for the actions of such people. Islamic Law clearly prohibits leveling such charges against non-Muslims, warns against following those who carry such deviant beliefs, and stresses that it is the duty of all Muslims all over the world to consult truthfully, share advice, and cooperate in piety and righteousness.”

King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, excerpts from a statement from the Holy Site of Mina on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha, February 10, 2003:

“This religion [Islam] is a religion of peace and tolerance, ease in the implementation of religious teachings, duties and rites; and tolerance in day-to-day dealings with people. ...

“The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has often condemned terror in all its forms. It has taken a leading role in urging the international community to challenge this sinister world phenomenon.”

Excerpt from Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, February 4, 2003:

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah recently urged a gathering in Riyadh of young people from around the world to shun extremism, saying: "Ours is a tolerant and temperate faith and we must conduct ourselves accordingly. There is no room for extremism or compulsion in Islam. In fact, it violates the tenets of our faith and the traditions of our Prophet."

Press Release, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, Washington, DC, December 7, 2002:

In an official letter to Saudi religious leaders, Shaikh Saleh Al-Ashaikh, Minister of Islamic Affairs, said restrictions have been put in place to prohibit unauthorized persons from making speeches at mosques. The order, distributed as part of a new program for the care of mosques and their workers, warned speakers at mosques against making provocative speeches and inciting people.

The letter said that mosques are meant only for prayer, guidance and other pious activities and should not be used as political platforms.

Al-Ashaikh warned speakers against misusing mosques to make provocative speeches or incite people or exploit mosques by reciting poems in praise of some misguided people. Violators of the order can be subject to severe punishment, including removal from office.

Al-Ashaikh also commended the efforts of the imams and khuttab in fulfilling their religious duties by leading people in prayers and providing advice and guidance. He also called upon the imams and khuttab to serve as models for others by spreading love and brotherhood.

Crown Prince Abdullah, excerpts from a letter to President George W. Bush, September 10, 2002:

"On the eve of the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks against the American people, I take the opportunity to renew to you and the families of the victims and indeed the entire American nation, the sincere condolences and sympathy of the Saudi people and myself. ...

"The target of the terrorists who engineered this crime was humanity at large. They hoped that this outrageous act would incite and ignite bloody strife among different faiths and civilizations. But their evil was turned against them, for all humanity united to fight terrorism, and wise voices from all corners of the world arose to echo your declaration that terrorism has no religion or nationality; that it is pure evil, condemned and abhorred by all religions and cultures.

"We in Saudi Arabia felt an especially great pain at the realization that a number of young Saudi citizens had been enticed and deluded and their reasoning subverted to the degree of denying the tolerance that their religion embraced, and turning their backs on their homeland, which always stood for understanding and moderation. They allowed themselves to be used as a tool to do great damage to Islam, a religion they espoused, and to all Muslims. They also aimed at causing considerable harm to the historic and strong relationship between the American people and the people of Saudi Arabia. I would like to make it clear that true Muslims all over the world will never allow a minority of deviant extremists to speak in the name of Islam and distort its spirit of tolerance. Your friends in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia denounced and condemned the September 11 attacks as strongly as did the American people. We, like you, are convinced that nothing can ever justify the shedding of innocent blood or the taking of lives and the terrorizing of people, regardless of whatever cause or motive. Therefore, we do not simply reiterate sincere and true condolences to the relatives of the victims, but assure all of our continued will and determination to do our utmost to combat this malignant evil and uproot it from our world."

SPA, March 24, 2002:

Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz received in Jeddah yesterday the participants of the seminar 'Islam and dialogue among civilizations' organized by the King Abdulaziz Public Library. ... In his address to the gathering, Crown Prince Abdullah stated: "Islam, as you know, does not advocate terrorism; and the hurting or killing of human beings is not acceptable by anyone whether he is a Muslim or not."

SPA, December 4, 2001:

"Any attack on innocent people is unlawful and contrary to Shariah," [Shaikh Muhammad bin Abdullah Al-Subail, imam of the Grand Mosque of Makkah and member of the Council of Senior Islamic Scholars] said in a statement to the Saudi Press Agency today. "Muslims must safeguard the lives, honor and property of non-Muslims who are under their protection and with whom they have concluded peace agreements."

Shaikh Abdulaziz Al-Ashaikh, in a statement issued September 15, 2001:

"The recent developments in the United States constitute a form of injustice that is not tolerated by Islam, which views them as gross crimes and sinful acts."

Shaikh Salih Al-Luheidan, Chairman of the Supreme Judicial Council, in a televised statement on September 14, 2001:

"As a human community we must be vigilant and careful to oppose these pernicious and shameless evils, which are not justified by any sane logic, nor by the religion of Islam."



Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia
Information Office
601 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20037
www.saudiembassy.net

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST EXPERT, LES JANKA,
TO DISCUSS THE US-SAUDI ARABIA RELATIONSHIP AT
SPRINGFIELD SOUTHEAST ROTARY**

Who: Les Janka, President, Les Janka International

Where: Springfield Southeast Rotary
St. John's Cancer Center at Campus of St. John
2005 South Fremont

When: Noon-1:05 pm, Thursday, November 3, 2005
Available for one on ones from 11:45-Noon and 1:20-2:00pm

What: The long standing friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is being tested now more than at any time in its history. Thus questions arise, such as: How might the U.S./Saudi relationship evolve as we tackle the war on terrorism together, increase the exchange of ideas on business opportunities and cultural issues, explore the energy issues, and strengthen the partnership in the years ahead?

Les Janka, President of Les Janka International in Washington, D.C., will be in Springfield, Missouri on November 3rd to discuss these very important issues. Members of the media are invited to a rare opportunity to hear about the reforms underway in the Kingdom and the current assessment of the U.S./Saudi alliance.

About Les Janka:

After 25 years' experience in the US Government, international business and academia, Mr. Janka founded Les Janka International, a Washington DC consulting firm assisting US corporations operating in the Middle East.

In the US Government, Mr. Janka served in the White House under three Presidents: as a Senior Staff Member of the National Security Council and Special Assistant to Dr. Henry Kissinger under Presidents Nixon and Ford, and as Deputy Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs under President Reagan. He also served in the Pentagon as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Near Eastern Affairs.

Mr. Janka holds a Masters Degree in Middle East Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies where he also served as Assistant Dean for several years.

Mr. Janka's public service continues in his serving as Vice President of the National Council for US-Arab Relations, as Founder and Chairman of the Council for American-Saudi Dialogue and as Chairman of the Board of American Near East Refugee Aid.

Les Janka is a frequent lecturer on the Washington political scene, Middle East affairs and the formulation of US national security policy at such institutions as the National Defense University, the Foreign Service Institute, the Woodrow Wilson Center, the Brookings Institution and World Affairs Councils across the United States. In 2004, the Rotary Club of Chicago selected him as the first of its Centennial Speaker Series. His articles have appeared in *Armed Forces Journal*, *Foreign Policy and Defense Review*, *The Ripon Forum* and *The Washington Times*.

This advisory is distributed by The Strategic Alliance on behalf of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**SAUDI OFFICIAL IN BURLINGTON TO DISCUSS THE
FUTURE OF U.S. – SAUDI RELATIONS**

Who: Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

Where: Doubletree Hotel, 1117 Williston Road, Burlington, VT

When: Noon-1:30 pm, Wednesday, September 7, 2005

What: The long standing friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is being tested now more than at any time in its history. Thus questions arise, such as: How might the U.S./Saudi relationship evolve as we tackle the war on terrorism together, increase the exchange of ideas on business opportunities and cultural issues, and strengthen the partnership in the years ahead?

Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C., will be in Burlington, Vermont on September 7 to discuss these very important issues. Members of the media are invited to a rare opportunity to hear about the reforms underway in the Kingdom and the current assessment of the U.S./Saudi alliance.

About Nail Al-Jubeir:

Nail Al-Jubeir was born near Riyadh and received a B.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in International Affairs from American University's School of International Service in 1985 and 1987, respectively.

Mr. Al-Jubeir served as a Capitol Hill correspondent for the Saudi daily *Al-Jazeera*, covering the 1984 U.S. presidential elections and analyzing the implications of legislative actions on United States policy in the Middle East. In 1989, he joined the staff of Saudi Arabia's Information Office in Washington D.C. as a Senior Information Officer, supervising the collection and dissemination of information about the Kingdom. He subsequently became a senior research analyst, responsible for U.S. domestic political issues and the monitoring of news reports. During the 1990-91 Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm campaign, he was assigned to the team establishing the Joint Information Bureau that became the media center in Dhahran.

In 1997, he joined the Saudi Arabian Foreign Service and served in the Office of the Assistant Minister for Political Affairs in Riyadh until his posting to the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 5, 2005

Contact: Matt J. Lauer or Jennifer Stoltz
202-496-1000

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**SAUDI OFFICIAL IN PORTLAND TO DISCUSS THE
FUTURE OF U.S. – SAUDI RELATIONS**

Who: Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

Where: Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, Maine

When: Noon-1:30 pm, Thursday, September 8, 2005

What: The long standing friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is being tested now more than at any time in its history. Thus questions arise, such as: How might the U.S./Saudi relationship evolve as we tackle the war on terrorism together, increase the exchange of ideas on business opportunities and cultural issues, and strengthen the partnership in the years ahead?

Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C., will be in Portland on September 8 to discuss these very important issues. Members of the media are invited to a rare opportunity to hear about the reforms underway in the Kingdom and the current assessment of the U.S./Saudi alliance.

About Nail Al-Jubeir:

Nail Al-Jubeir was born near Riyadh and received a B.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in International Affairs from American University's School of International Service in 1985 and 1987, respectively.

Mr. Al-Jubeir served as a Capitol Hill correspondent for the Saudi daily *Al-Jazeera*, covering the 1984 U.S. presidential elections and analyzing the implications of legislative actions on United States policy in the Middle East. In 1989, he joined the staff of Saudi Arabia's Information Office in Washington D.C. as a Senior Information Officer, supervising the collection and dissemination of information about the Kingdom. He subsequently became a senior research analyst, responsible for U.S. domestic political issues and the monitoring of news reports. During the 1990-91 Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm campaign, he was assigned to the team establishing the Joint Information Bureau that became the media center in Dhahran.

In 1997, he joined the Saudi Arabian Foreign Service and served in the Office of the Assistant Minister for Political Affairs in Riyadh until his posting to the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 5, 2005

Contact: Matt J. Lauer or Jennifer Stoltz
202-496-1000

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**SAUDI OFFICIAL IN CAMBRIDGE TO DISCUSS THE
FUTURE OF U.S. – SAUDI RELATIONS**

Who: Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

Where: Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA
President's Ballroom

When: Noon-1:30 pm, Friday, September 9, 2005
One on One's scheduled from 11:30-Noon or 1:40-2:00pm by calling
Meredith Iler at 832-647-8683

What: The long standing friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is being tested now more than at any time in its history. Thus questions arise, such as: How might the U.S./Saudi relationship evolve as we tackle the war on terrorism together, increase the exchange of ideas on business opportunities and cultural issues, and strengthen the partnership in the years ahead?

Nail Al-Jubeir, Director of the Information Office of the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C., will be in Cambridge on September 9 to discuss these very important issues. Members of the media are invited to a rare opportunity to hear about the reforms underway in the Kingdom and the current assessment of the U.S./Saudi alliance.

About Nail Al-Jubeir:

Nail Al-Jubeir was born near Riyadh and received a B.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in International Affairs from American University's School of International Service in 1985 and 1987, respectively.

Mr. Al-Jubeir served as a Capitol Hill correspondent for the Saudi daily *Al-Jazeera*, covering the 1984 U.S. presidential elections and analyzing the implications of legislative actions on United States policy in the Middle East. In 1989, he joined the staff of Saudi Arabia's Information Office in Washington D.C. as a Senior Information Officer, supervising the collection and dissemination of information about the Kingdom. He subsequently became a senior research analyst, responsible for U.S. domestic political issues and the monitoring of news reports. During the 1990-91 Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm campaign, he was assigned to the team establishing the Joint Information Bureau that became the media center in Dhahran.

In 1997, he joined the Saudi Arabian Foreign Service and served in the Office of the Assistant Minister for Political Affairs in Riyadh until his posting to the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Washington, D.C.

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