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Memorandum on the Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System
June 25, 1996

Memorandum for the Attorney General

Subject: Development of a National Sexual Offender Registration System

One of the most important duties of government is to provide safety and protection for our children from sexual offenders. Sex crimes and sex offender recidivism present very real and substantial challenges to law enforcement in protecting vulnerable populations and preventing crime. Law enforcement data show that, as a group, sex offenders are significantly more likely than other repeat offenders to commit additional sex crimes or other violent crimes, and that tendency persists over time.

One of the most significant provisions in the "Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994" (Crime Bill) was the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act (Wetterling Act). It promotes the establishment by States of effective registration systems for child molesters and other sexually violent offenders.

In addition, I recently signed "Megan's Law," which builds upon the Crime Bill by making community notification concerning registered sex offenders mandatory. Megan's Law will require States to make public relevant information about child molesters and sexually violent offenders who are released from prison or placed on parole.

Sex offender registration systems can greatly assist the investigation of sex crimes. In addition, creation of State-based registration systems is crucial for enabling State law enforcement agencies to communicate with each other regarding sex offenders who cross State lines. When sex offenders move, the law should move with them.

It is time to take the next step. That is why I am directing the Department of Justice to develop a plan for the implementation of a national sexual predator and child molester registration system. This system should build upon the Wetterling Act—which is already establishing 50 separate sex offender registration and notification systems—by combining this information into a national system.

I want the Department to work with all 50 States, the Congress, the Judiciary, and all appropriate Federal agencies on a plan for such a system so that law enforcement officers at every level will have access to information on all sexual offenders in the United States and share this information with one another.

Please report to me in writing by August 20, 1996, on the specific steps you will take to develop this policy. Thank you for all the work you and the Department have done to date, and for the work it will take to put this important piece in place.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Remarks on the Terrorist Attack in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia
June 25, 1996

An explosion occurred this afternoon at the United States military housing complex near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

Our best information at this time is that there are many injured. There have been fatalities. We do not yet know how many. The explosion appears to be the work of terrorists, and if that is the case, like all Americans, I am outraged by it.

The cowards who committed this murderous act must not go unpunished. Within a few hours, an FBI team will be on its way to Saudi Arabia to assist in the investigation. Our condolences and our prayers go out to the victims' families and their friends. We're grateful for the professionalism shown by the Saudi authorities in their reaction to this emergency. We are ready to

work with them to make sure those responsible are brought to justice.

Let me say again, we will pursue this. America takes care of our own. Those who did it must not go unpunished.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 6:22 p.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House. The related proclamation of June 26 honoring the victims of the bombing in Saudi Arabia is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Memorandum on the Combined Federal Campaign
June 25, 1996

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: 1996 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area

I am delighted that the Secretary of the Treasury Robert E. Rubin has agreed to serve as the chair of the 1996 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area. I ask you to support the campaign by personally chairing it in your Agency and appointing a top official as your vice chair.

The Combined Federal Campaign is an important way for Federal employees to support thousands of worthy charities. This year our goal is to raise more than $38 million. Public servants not only contribute to the campaign, but assume leadership roles to ensure its success.

Your personal support and enthusiasm will help guarantee another successful campaign this year.

BILL CLINTON

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 26.

Remarks on the Terrorist Attack in Saudi Arabia and an Exchange With Reporters
June 26, 1996

The President. Good morning. As I leave for the G–7 summit, which is the fourth of my Presidency, I want to say a few words about yesterday's outrageous attack on Americans in Saudi Arabia. First, I ask every American to take a moment today to say a prayer for the victims and their families and to rededicate ourselves to the fight against terrorism.

Let me now tell you what we know, what we do not know, and what we are doing about the attack. Here's what we know about what happened: Saudi police were immediately suspicious of a truck which was parked outside the security perimeter of our base. They alerted an American patrol and began to warn the occupants of nearby buildings. As our patrol approached the truck, two of its occupants fled, and shortly thereafter, the bomb exploded. No person or group has claimed responsibility for the attack yet, and we do not know who is responsible yet.

As of this moment, 19 are confirmed dead, all Americans. Eighty people have been seriously wounded, including some non-Americans, and more than 200 people were treated for minor injuries. Secretary of State Christopher will fly to Saudi Arabia today. Last night, I directed an FBI team of 40 experts, investigators and forensic experts, to go there to work with the Saudi Arabian authorities. We deeply appreciate the cooperation of the Saudi Government.

Now as I head to Lyons, my first order of business will be to focus the strength and the energy of the G–7 on the continuing fight against terrorism. Let me be very clear: We will not rest in our efforts to find who is respon-