

REMARKS

OF

ATTORNEY GENERAL JANET RENO

ON PRESENTING \$515,000

TO THE PEOPLE OF OKLAHOMA

Capitol Hill

Washington, D.C.

Thursday, October 19, 1995

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO: Senator, thank
3 you so much. Mr. Baer, and all the participants
4 in the B'nai B'rith, thank you for this wonderful
5 opportunity. Mr. Chairman, Senator Hatch,
6 Senator Nickles.

7 It is a real privilege for me to be
8 here today to tell you of the strength and the
9 courage and the magnificent spirit of the people
10 of Oklahoma City that Sunday after the bombing.
11 I and Senator Nickles and others, including the
12 President -- when we walked into that great arena
13 to feel the spirit of people coming together, it
14 was symbol for me of how Americans must react to
15 help the victims and to help the survivors
16 understand the tragedy.

17 We will speak out against violence.
18 The people of the Oklahoma were just simply
19 magnificent in those days and since. It was
20 wonderful to walk into the command post and see
21 all of law enforcement there together -- Oklahoma
22 City police officers, state troopers, [inaudible]
23 helping to identify the problems. It was an
24 Oklahoma City trooper who apprehended one of the
25 subjects. It was a classic example of how

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1 federal, state, and local law enforcement working
2 together as partners and the FBI, which did such
3 a wonderful job, but it was critical for
4 everybody to be involved together.

5 But it was not just the people of
6 Oklahoma City that were so remarkable. I had a
7 chance to meet with fire fighters in Indianapolis
8 who had gone to Oklahoma City to assist in the
9 days following the bombing. They had made such a
10 commitment. And they came away, again, speaking
11 with spirit of the people of Oklahoma -- the
12 spirit of the people of Oklahoma City. But it
13 was so gratifying to then talk to police officers
14 here in Washington who had been out and to
15 recognize that not only the people of Oklahoma,
16 but Americans had come together to help those who
17 were so scarred by the tragedy begin to heal and
18 to help America.

19 I visited the U.S. Attorney's office
20 shortly thereafter. A grandmother of one of the
21 little children killed in the blast came up to me
22 and gave me a picture of her almost one-year-old
23 grandchild, Jason. Jason's picture sits in my
24 office to this day. I remember him and the
25 symbol that we must all pull together to continue

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1 to speak out against violence, to work together
2 in law enforcement efforts, to build partnerships
3 across this nation, to speak out against those
4 who will divide us and to move forward. It is so
5 important that we work together, as we have
6 worked in the Senate, to get laws passed so that
7 it can make a difference to law enforcement as it
8 tries to prevent this violence and it holds
9 people accountable for violent behavior.

10 But with the spirit of Oklahoma City,
11 this nation can move forward and begin to heal
12 its wounds and speak out against terrorism and to
13 speak out against violence and to represent the
14 spirit that made America the nation that it is
15 today.

16 (Whereupon, at 11:35 a.m. the program
17 adjourned.)

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