

But it is critical that the FBI be notified within 48 hours of the abduction. In 6 out of 10 recent cases, the FBI learned of the abduction from TV reports. We've got to do better. And we will.

Nearly all 16,000 police departments around the country have the capacity, through a state-of-the-art computer system, to report missing persons to the FBI. I have asked the Attorney General to make it the highest priority to make sure this system works as quickly as possible.

The Federal Government already works with States to establish clearinghouses for information on missing children. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, funded by the Justice Department, has helped establish clearinghouses in 47 States plus the District of Columbia. The Center also funds Project Alert, which uses the expertise of volunteer retired police officers to help search for missing children.

Now, it is time to do more to help families beat the race against time in searching for their missing children. Federal offices come into contact with thousands of citizens and workers every day. That gives the Federal Government a unique role to play in the search for missing children.

Today, I will sign an executive memorandum directing all agency heads to take the necessary actions to allow the posting of photos of missing children in Federal buildings. This Presidential action also directs agencies to appoint an action officer to maintain the space for these notices.

This memorandum is just one step—but it's a step in the right direction. There is more we can do—and we will.

The Federal Government is doing its part. But we know that the key to finding missing children is within their own communities. When these terrifying abductions occur, we have seen communities band together to distribute flyers, interview potential witnesses, and support the families. Unfortunately, sometimes a terrible tragedy brings out the very best in our communities and our country.

If we love our children, then we must do everything we can to help when they are in harm's way. Every one of us must take responsibility to do what they can to help find

our missing children. Please look twice at the photos of missing children you see in the mail, on your milk cartons, and now, in Federal buildings across the country. Everyone can make a difference—and everyone has an obligation to try.

## **Memorandum on Missing Persons and Missing Children**

*January 19, 1996*

*Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies*

*Subject: Missing Persons or Children Notices in Federal Facilities*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to provide for the posting of missing persons or children notices in buildings owned or controlled by the Federal Government, I hereby direct as follows:

**Section 1. Posting of Missing Persons or Children Notices in Federal Facilities.** Executive departments and agencies possessing custody or control over buildings or facilities occupied by Federal employees shall take such actions as are reasonable, necessary, and appropriate to provide for the posting of missing persons or children notices in public and other appropriate areas of such domestic buildings or facilities, as determined by the Federal official having primary responsibility for management and operation of the building or facility involved.

**Sec. 2. Duties of Federal Official.** Such official shall maintain, or shall designate a representative to maintain, the physical area upon which missing persons or children notices may be placed. The official or the designated representative shall give priority and special prominence to notices involving missing children who are believed to have been abducted by non-family members or otherwise are in imminent physical danger.

**Sec. 3. Exceptions.** Nothing in this memorandum shall require an executive department or agency to provide public access to its buildings or facilities if such access could impede or disrupt the performance of official duties by government employees or potentially be harmful to the national security.

**Sec. 4. Consultation.** Executive departments and agencies shall consult with the Department of Justice and the General Services Administration in carrying out the purposes of this memorandum.

**Sec. 5. Judicial Review.** This memorandum is intended only to improve the internal management of the Federal Government, and is not intended, and should not be construed, to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or its employees.

**William J. Clinton**

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **January 13**

In the morning, the President traveled from Aviano Air Base, Italy, to Tazsar, Hungary.

Later, the President traveled to Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, where he had meetings with a group of religious leaders.

The President then traveled to Zagreb, Croatia, where he met with President Franjo Tudjman.

In the evening, while returning from Zagreb to Washington, DC, aboard Air Force One, the President had a telephone conversation with President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia.

The President declared major disasters in the States of Kentucky, New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the areas struck by the "Blizzard of 1996," beginning January 6 and continuing.

#### **January 15**

In the morning, the President traveled to Atlanta, GA, where he laid a wreath at the tomb of Martin Luther King, Jr., and later

toured the Olympic Stadium under construction. In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

#### **January 16**

In the afternoon, the President met with Karekin I, Patriarch of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

The President announced his intention to appoint Thomas S. Foley as a member and Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard L. Morningstar to be Special Adviser to the President and the Secretary of State on Assistance to the New Independent States of the Former Soviet Union.

The President announced his intention to appoint Randall Forsberg and Patricia McFate as members of the Scientific and Policy Advisory Committee of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mary Burrus Babson and Robert B. Rogers to the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

#### **January 17**

In the morning, the President attended the funeral of Ambassador M. Larry Lawrence at Arlington National Cemetery, VA.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Republican congressional leaders to discuss the budget negotiations.

#### **January 19**

In the morning, the President met with Foreign Minister Yohei Kono of Japan.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ronnie Feuerstein Heyman to the National Council on the Arts.

The President appointed Peter B. Edelman to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services for Planning and Evaluation as a recess appointee.

The President announced his intention to appoint Frederick Pang to the National Partnership Council.

The President appointed Charles A. Hunnicutt as Assistant Secretary of Trans-