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President William J. Clinton
Eulogy for Bombing Victims
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
April 23, 1995

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

~~My fellow Americans~~:

Honored Ex Pres – All Amer → Husband, Father, City

Today our nation is joined with you in grief. We mourn with you. We share your hope against hope that others have survived. We thank all who have worked so heroically to save lives and solve this crime. We pledge to do all we can to help you heal the injured, to rebuild this city, and to bring to justice those who did this evil ~~deed~~.

to Okla – all over Amer

wonderful

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This terrible sin took the lives of members of our American family. ~~Children~~. Innocent children, there only because their parents were trying to be good mothers and fathers and good employees. Citizens in the building going about their lives, and many Then who served us -- who worked to help the elderly, the disabled. To ~~fight~~ support for our veterans. To enforce our laws. And to protect us. They served us well.

They were ~~your~~ also neighbors and friends. Your brothers and sisters. ~~Your~~ sons and daughters.

church
curreclub
ball park - ~~[illegible]~~
PTA

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Though we share your grief, we know your pain is unimaginable, and we cannot undo it. That is God's work. ~~But God's work must be done~~.

~~It does not end here. It cannot end here. Though the souls of those we have lost have taken flight, the meaning of their lives is still unfolding -- in your lives.~~

Our words seem small beside the staggering loss -

~~Of all the letters~~ I have received many letters in these last terrible days, one stands out. It came from a young widow and a mother of three children whose husband was murdered with over 200 other Americans when Pan Am Flight 103 was blown up. Here is what she advised me to say to you:

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The anger you feel is valid. But you must not allow yourselves to be consumed by it. The hurt you feel must not be allowed to turn into hate, but instead into the pursuit of justice. The loss you feel must not paralyze your lives. Instead you must try to pay tribute to your loved ones by continuing to do all the things they left undone, thus ensuring they did not die in vain.

Wise words from one who knows

You have lost too much. But you have not lost everything. You have not lost ea. other You have not lost America. Today we kneel with you and pray. Tomorrow, and as many tomorrows as it takes, we will help you get to your feet and stand by you. Together, we will go forward.

Visited SS families – Protect Pres – Fam member
sd – last few days – seen for very evil person, I am good one
Think Am Linear & selfish
lost capacity to love & care
Come to Okla.

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To all my fellow Americans, I say: Let us purge ourselves of the dark forces which gave rise to this evil. The forces that threaten our common peace, freedom, and way of life.

Let us teach our children that the God of comfort is also the God of righteousness. Those who trouble their own house will inherit the wind. Justice will prevail.

Let our children know we will stand against the forces of fear. When there is talk of hatred, let us stand up and speak against it. When there is talk of violence, let us stand up and speak against it.

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In the face of death, let us honor life. ~~As Saint~~ Paul ~~admonished us: Do~~ Peter not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Yesterday, Hillary and I talked with children about this horror. One little girl ~~taught us~~ said something we will never forget. She said we should plant a tree in memory of the children lost here.

This morning, we did that. We planted a dogwood, at WB with its delicate flower and its deep, enduring roots.

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For it is written in the Psalms: The life of a good person is like a tree whose leaf does not wither, while the wicked are like chaff which the wind drives away.

This Sunday we mourn. Next Sunday, we can begin to honor life, perhaps even by planting more trees all across our country -- to remember the good people we have lost.

A tree ~~The trees will~~ take a long time to grow. ~~Our~~ W wounds ~~will~~ take a long time to heal. But we must begin.

Belong to God
Certain in an uncertain
Let our lives be their
legacy

May God bless you and keep you. May He bless the people of this good city. And may God bless America.

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