

Rice acknowledges nation not on ‘war footing’ during attack

WASHINGTON (AP) — National security adviser Condoleezza Rice testified Thursday “there was no silver bullet that could have prevented” the worst terror strikes in the nation’s history, adding that the United States was ill-prepared despite a threat that had been building steadily over two decades.

President Bush “understood the threat, and he understood its importance,” in advance, she told the commission delving into the attacks that killed more than 3,000, destroyed the twin World Trade Center towers in New York and blasted a hole in the Pentagon.

“He made clear to me that he did not want to respond to al-Qaida one

attack at a time. He told me he was ‘tired of swatting flies,’” she added in implicit rejection of claims made last month by former terrorism aide Richard Clarke.

In widely anticipated testimony, Rice offered no apology for the failure to prevent the attacks — as Clarke did two weeks ago. Instead, she said, “as an officer of government on duty that day, I will never forget the sorrow and the anger.”

Rice’s testimony, under oath and on live national television, came after weeks of White House resistance. President Bush yielded in response to repeated public requests from members of the commission — as well as quiet prod-

dings of Republicans in Congress — that an on-the-record rebuttal was needed in response to Clarke’s explosive charges.

The former White House aide testified last month that the Bush administration gave a lower priority to combatting terrorism than had former President Clinton, and that the decision to invade Iraq undermined the war on terror. In addition to raising questions about administration attention to the threat of terrorism, his remarks implicitly challenged a key underpinning of Bush’s campaign for re-election.

In her prepared testimony, Rice neither criticized Clarke nor offered a point by point rebuttal of his ap-

pearance.

She said she made the unusual decision to retain him when the new administration came into office, saying, he was an “expert in his field.”

She said confronting terrorists competed with other foreign policy concerns when the president came into office, but added that the administration’s top national security advisers completed work on the first major national security policy directive of the administration on Sept. 4. The subject, she said, was “not Russia, not missile defense, not Iraq, but the elimination of al-Qaida.”

Bush, she said, “understood the

threat, and he understood its importance,” she said.

“He made clear to me that he did not want to respond to al-Qaida one attack at a time. He told me he was ‘tired of swatting flies,’” Rice told the commission.

Rice slid into the witness chair before an audience that included relatives of victims of the attacks, in which terrorists flew hijacked jetliners into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. A fourth plane — presumably on course for the Capitol or another high-profile target in Washington — crashed into a field in Pennsylvania after passengers engaged in a struggle with the hijackers.

Commission chairman Thomas Kean extended a welcome to Rice, and the panel’s co-chairman, former Indiana Democratic Rep. Lee Hamilton, promised “some searching and some difficult questions.”

She sat alone at a witness table draped in red cloth, an American flag pin on the lapel of her gray jacket. In front of her sat the members of the commission. Behind her, in the front rows of the cavernous hearing room, sat relatives of some of the victims of the attacks. Bush was at his ranch in Crawford, Texas, and aides declined to say in advance whether he intended to watch an event with so much meaning for his political future.

Nanny likes her job, but growing tired of single dad flirting

DEAR ABBY: I have a dilemma. I work as a nanny for a single father. My boss has been hitting on me, even though he knows I have a boyfriend. I try to avoid my boss at all costs, which is pretty easy since he works until late at night and I’m usually in bed when he comes home.

But when I can’t avoid him, he flirts with me and rubs my shoulders.

I love this job and don’t know what to do. How should I handle this? Should I tell my boyfriend what’s going on?

—A NANNY IN TEXAS

DEAR NANNY: Rather than tell your boyfriend, first speak to your boss. Tell him that you like your job and love his children, but it makes you uncomfortable when he touches you. Your silence may have given him the false impression that his advances are welcomed.

P.S. I hope he listens to you. Good nannies are hard to find.

DEAR ABBY: I’m 15 and my boyfriend, “Jack,” is 16. We’ve been going out for a year.

Recently, I told him I wanted us to sign a “True Love Waits” card. (It’s a card saying that since it’s the right thing to do, we’re going to wait to have sex until we’re married.)

Jack was not thrilled about the idea. He said, “We already said we’d wait, so what’s the difference?” I’m afraid he’ll break up with me or cheat if I don’t keep him interested.

I hope he’ll sign the card AND be faithful to me, but I can’t be sure. And please don’t tell me to dump



Abigail Van Buren

• Dear Abby

him. I love Jack. He hasn’t done anything wrong yet — and we promised each other we’d always work out our problems together.

—CHASTE SOPHOMORE IN ARDMORE, OKLA.

DEAR CHASTE: Statistically, as sincere as high school romances may be, they do not usually lead to marriage. Contrary to what some people think, you cannot keep a man interested for long solely because of sex. If there isn’t mutual interest and sincere feeling, he’ll wander off to make another conquest.

I, too, hope your boyfriend will sign the card and abide by it. But if he doesn’t, it’s an indication that he doesn’t love you as much as you love him. Remember that.

DEAR ABBY: My husband, “Donald,” is working out of state. Last week when I called him on his cell phone, someone picked up and said nothing — but didn’t disconnect. So for the next hour, I listened to my husband in a bar with another woman.

I heard laughing, talking and glasses clinking. I heard them leave together to have dinner. Then the battery died.

I am hurt to the core. Donald swears nothing happened, that she was just his ride.

I’m trying hard to believe him, but when I question him further, he becomes upset and defensive. His answers — or lack of them — have destroyed my heart and soul.

Why can’t Donald say the right things to take my hurt away? Why doesn’t he understand? Abby, am I wrong to be so upset?

—DISCONNECTED IN DEER PARK

DEAR DISCONNECTED: You are not wrong to be upset. Your husband’s refusal to give you an adequate explanation speaks volumes.

Laughing, talking, glasses clinking could be considered a “date,” and if they were so loaded he didn’t realize he’d left the cell phone on, your marriage is in trouble for more than one reason. Schedule an appointment with a marriage counselor. If your husband refuses to go, go without him, because my intuition tells me you are going to need all the emotional support you can get.

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband, “Robert,” is a police officer. We have two children together. I am now remarried.

When my children visited Robert last weekend, my 8-year-old son, “Danny,” got into a fight with his stepsister. They started calling

each other names. This happened at Robert’s friend’s home, and the friend suggested the children drink vinegar as a punishment.

They taunted Danny, asking what color shot glass he wanted his vinegar in. He cried and begged his dad not to make him drink it. He said he wanted to come home to me. Robert screamed at Danny until he drank it.

When I picked my children up on Sunday night, Danny was distraught. He can’t seem to get over that incident.

I called my lawyer, who said that it is borderline abuse. He said to tell Robert if it happens again, we will file a petition for supervised visitation.

Robert thinks I’m being unreasonable. He can’t believe I would go that far, since he’s a police officer and it might hurt his job. I think he should know better because he is a police officer.

I failed to mention that Danny has Tourette syndrome. Stress makes it worse. He is a good boy, and I don’t feel he deserved this type of punishment. Am I being unreasonable?

—DISTRAUGHT

DEAR DISTRAUGHT: I don’t know what the children called each other that sent your ex off the deep end, but the punishment

Legal Notice

ORDINANCE NO. 1357

AN ORDINANCE REVISING ORDINANCE NO. 1345 DATED AUGUST 5, 2003, SECTION 8 “SEWER SERVICE CHARGES” AND REPEALING SECTION 8 “SEWER SERVICES CHARGES” IN ORDINANCE NO. 1345 PASSED AUGUST 5, 2003, OF THE CITY OF COLBY, COUNTY OF THOMAS, STATE OF KANSAS.

WHEREAS, the City of Colby, County of Thomas, Kansas, has in existence a wastewater treatment works; and

WHEREAS, the City must pay all expenses associated with said treatment works and charge the users of said treatment works accordingly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY, OF THE CITY OF COLBY, THOMAS COUNTY, KANSAS, THAT SECTION 8, “SEWER SERVICE CHARGES” BE REVISED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That SECTION 8. SEWER SERVICE CHARGES shall be amended to read as follows:

SEWER SERVICE CHARGES. Each user shall pay for the services provided by the City based on his use of the treatment works as determined by water meter(s) acceptable to the City.

(A) For residential contributors, monthly user charges will be based on average monthly water usage during the months of December, January, and February. If a residential contributor has not established a December, January, and February average, his monthly user charge shall be the average charge of all other residential contributors.

(B) For industrial and commercial contributors, user charges shall be based on water used during the current month. If a commercial or industrial contributor has a consumptive use of water, or in some other manner uses water which is not returned to the wastewater collection system, the user charge for that contributor may be based on a wastewater meter(s) or separate water meter(s) installed and maintained at the contributor’s expense, and in a manner acceptable to the City, or by filing a detailed report with the City and approved by the City which clearly indicates the expected amount of wastewater to be sewer.

(C) For contributors located within the city limits, the consumer charge per month shall be \$22.00 for the first 2,000 gallons of water used. In addition, each contributor shall pay a user charge rate or commodity charge of \$3.25 per 1000 gallons of water above 2,000 gallons for operation, maintenance, replacement, extension and debt retirement with the quantity of water to be as determined in sections 8(A) and 8(B) of this Ordinance. No user shall pay less than \$22.00 in any month. For contributors located outside the city limits, the charges shall be twice the charges for contributors located within the city limits.

(D) Any user which discharges any toxic pollutants which cause an increase in the cost of managing the effluent or the sludge from the City’s treatment works, or any user which discharges any substance which singly or by interaction with other substances causes identifiable increases in the cost of operation, maintenance, or replacement of the treatment works, shall pay for such increased costs. The charge to each such user will be as determined by the treatment plant operator personnel and approved by the City Manager. This charge will be in addition to the standard user charges as established in Article 8(C) of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. REPEALER. Section 8 “Sewer Service Charges” of Ordinance No. 1345, passed August 5, 2003, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official City newspaper. The sewer rates shall be in effect on utility bills dated May 1, 2004.

PASSED by the Governing Body and approved by the Mayor this 6th day of April, 2004.

Warren C. Hixson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beverly J. Stieben, City Clerk

SEAL

(Published in the Colby Free Press on April 9, 2004.)

Legal Notice

RESOLUTION NO. 895

A RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE ADVISABILITY OF THE MAKING OF A CERTAIN INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE CITY OF COLBY, KANSAS, AND SETTING FORTH THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE IMPROVEMENT, THE ESTIMATED OR PROBABLE COST THEREOF, THE EXTENT OF THE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT TO BE ASSESSED FOR THE COST THEREOF, THE METHOD OF ASSESSMENT, AND THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE COST BETWEEN THE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND THE CITY AT LARGE; AND AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE MAKING OF THE IMPROVEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FINDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY (STREET IMPROVEMENTS/GILMORE AND LARSON ADDITION AND WOOFER ADDITION).

WHEREAS, a Petition was filed with the City Clerk of the City of Colby, Kansas (the “City”), on the 11th day of March, 2004, proposing certain internal improvement; and said Petition sets forth: (a) the general nature of the proposed improvements; (b) the estimated or probable cost of the proposed improvements; (c) the extent of the proposed improvement to be assessed for the cost of the proposed improvements; (d) the proposed method of assessment; (e) the proposed apportionment of the cost between the improvement district and the city at large; and (f) a request that such improvements be made without notice and hearing as required by K.S.A. 12-6a04(1); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City hereby finds and determines that said Petition is sufficient.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLBY, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. The Governing Body of the City, hereby finds and finally determines that:

(A) It is advisable to make the following improvements subject to acquisition of all required permits for drainage:

Concrete paving, together with curb and gutter of Copeland Avenue from the intersection of West 5th Street, extending North to the intersection of West 7th Street, approximately 650’ in the City of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas.

(B) The estimated or probable cost of such improvements is: Thirty-eight Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$38,900.00).

(C) The extent of the improvement district in the City, to be assessed for the cost of the improvements is:

(1) Lots One (1), Two (2), Three (3), Four (4), Five (5), and Six (6), Block One (1), Woofier Addition to the City of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas;

(2) Lots Ten (10), and Eleven (11), Block Four (4); and Lots Ten (10) and Eleven (11), Block Five (5); Gilmore and Larson Addition to the City of Colby, Thomas County, Kansas.

(D) The method of assessment is: Equally per front foot.

(E) The apportionment of the cost of the improvements, between the improvement district and the City at large, is: One Hundred Percent (100%) to be assessed against the improvement district and Zero Percent (0%) to be paid by the City at large.

SECTION 2. The abovesaid improvements are hereby authorized and ordered to be made in accordance with the findings of the Governing Body of the City as set forth in Section 1 of this Resolution.

SECTION 3. K.S.A. 12-6a14 provides for the abovesaid improvements to be paid by general improvement funds available for such purposes.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be published one time in the official City newspaper, and shall also be filed of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Thomas County, Kansas.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of the City of Colby, on this 6th day of April, 2004.

Warren C. Hixson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beverly J. Stieben, City Clerk

(SEAL)

(Published in the Colby Free Press on April 9, 2004.)

Legal Notice

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Separate sealed BIDS will be received at the Thomas County Courthouse by the Thomas County Commissioners, in Colby, Kansas on May 3, 2004, until 11:00 A.M., Local Time, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud for furnishing all equipment, labor, materials and appurtenances required to excavate approximately 55,600 cubic yards of borrow material and 25 acres of topsoil salvaging and spreading, and other such work as may be incidental to THOMAS COUNTY LANDFILL – BORROW EXCAVATION PROJECT. Completion date for the aforementioned work will be November 1, 2004.

The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids; and to waive irregularities or informalities to accept the BID it deems most beneficial. Bids received after the specified time of closing will be returned unopened. The Owner will accept only those sealed bids, either hand delivered or received via U.S. Mail or other commercial carrier. Items transmitted by facsimile or electronically will not be accepted.

The Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

Miller & Associates
Consulting Engineers, P.C.
1111 Central Avenue
Kearney, NE 68847

Miller & Associates
Consulting Engineers, P.C.
109 East 2nd Street
McCook, NE 69001

Thomas County Courthouse
300 North Court
Colby, KS 67701-2494

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Miller & Associates, Consulting Engineers, P.C. located at 1111 Central Avenue, P.O. Box 306, Kearney, Nebraska 68847, Telephone 308/234-6456 upon payment of \$40.00 for each half-size set. Documents will not be available electronically. Any PLAN HOLDER, upon returning the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS within fourteen (14) days of the BID OPENING, and in good condition, will be refunded \$10.00.

Each BIDDER will be required to submit with his proposal, a certified check or bid bond made payable, without condition, to the Thomas County Clerk, Colby, Kansas, in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the proposal.

(SEAL) THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

County Clerk
(Published in the Colby Free Press on April 9, 16, and 23, 2004)

By
Chairman

COMMISSIONERS QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

January, February, March 2004	BALANCE	EXPENDITURES	RECEIPTS	BALANCE
FUND	252,389.89	439,684.05	649,344.92	462,050.76
TH CO SHYR FORFEITURE FD	31,012.71	103,996.52	128,809.98	55,836.17
TH CO SHTT FORFEITURE FD	166,071.25	5,147.74	38,817.47	199,740.98
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	47,416.16	4,822.64	35,569.28	78,162.80
NINE ONE ONE FUND	44,393.79	4,395.36	6,007.87	46,006.30
ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND	145,462.82	230,497.74	390,884.82	305,849.90
FREE FAIR	4,747.81	45,849.49	41,101.68	0.00
FAMILY PLANNING	20,018.64	11,031.35	7,313.63	16,298.92
CAR SEAT	958.43	274.84	320.00	1,003.59
HEALTH FUND	45,468.98	34,871.30	80,955.25	71,552.93
COUNTY ROAD LEVY	18,200.65	75,806.74	207,928.63	150,520.54
ELECTION FUND	4,065.12	2,125.03	8,793.98	10,734.07
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND	13,790.39	185,677.26	289,287.20	117,400.33
SANITARY COUNCIL	5,065.60	0.00	59,508.94	64,574.54
MENTAL HEALTH FUND	889.73	26,816.38	25,926.65	0.00
NOXIOUS WEED FUND	26,493.24	15,992.15	51,691.78	62,192.87
HISTORICAL SOCIETY	3,139.68	67,847.85	64,708.17	0.00
AMBULANCE FUND	91,698.08	69,845.08	93,399.11	115,252.83
MENTAL RETARDATION	5,053.30	51,119.06	46,065.76	0.00
MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH	5,828.49	12,698.59	7,778.00	907.90
SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FUND	482,403.70	0.00	0.00	482,403.70
SPEC. HIGHWAY IMPROV FUND	62,687.97	0.00	141,800.00	204,487.97
SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY	2,535.83	40,569.82	38,033.99	0.00
SPECIAL ALCOHOL FUND	4,920.88	14,101.06	9,180.18	0.00
COMMUNITY VAN	3,159.32	3,420.36	1,825.10	1,564.07
HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM	15,532.42	6,752.13	7,423.83	16,204.12
RE-APPRAISAL	38,672.74	21,043.66	39,898.02	57,527.10
SANITARY LANDFILL	53,152.82	77,284.58	105,676.19	81,544.43
SPECIAL LIABILITY	10,612.34	13,543.00	553.23	(2,377.43)
JUNIOR COLLEGE TUITION	5,130.44	204.00	572.78	5,499.22
TREASURER SPECIAL AUTO	16,454.32	10,478.84	14,755.25	20,730.73
LANDFILL NFW	703,796.05	16,785.49	90,335.91	777,346.47
REG OF DEEDS TECH FUND	23,638.57	0.00	2,598.22	26,236.79
TOTALS	\$2,354,860.89	\$1,592,472.11	\$2,666,863.80	\$3,429,252.58

A detailed statement of expenditures is available for public inspection at the county clerk’s office. Copies of such Statement shall be available upon request. K. S. A. 19-228

Tracey Perkins, COUNTY CLERK

(Published in the Colby Free Press on April 9, 2004)