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MEDIA ADVISORY

9/11 Commission to Close, Transfer Records to National Archives

August 20, 2004 — The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (9/11 Commission) will close tomorrow, August 21, pursuant to Public Law 108-207, which amended Public Law 107-306. This legislation stipulates that the legislative mandate and funding for the 9/11 Commission expires 30 days after the Commission's final report was presented to the President and the Congress. On this occasion, Commission Chair Thomas H. Kean and Vice-Chair Lee H. Hamilton have issued a statement, which may also be found on the Commission's website, www.9-11commission.gov.

The Commission gathered an enormous amount of information during its investigation, and we thank those who worked hard to assist us in that effort. As of tomorrow, all of the Commission's records will be transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Although the records of congressional investigations are normally closed to the public for a period of at least twenty years, the Commission has decided to make its records publicly available in less than four and a half years, on January 2, 2009. A letter from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission to NARA regarding this matter is attached.

A hardcover edition of the Commission's final report, with a full index, will be available in stores nationwide by September 7, 2004. The 624-page book will be available for \$19.95 or less. The authorized paperback copy remains available in stores or through the Government Printing Office.

The Commission's website, www.9-11commission.gov, will be maintained by NARA through at least December 2005, though no content will be added after tomorrow.

The Commissioners plan to continue working as a private, independent, bipartisan group to educate the country about the Commission's report and monitor the implementation of its recommendations. Information about the 9/11 Public Discourse Project may be found at www.9-11publicdiscourseproject.org or www.9-11pdp.org after August 23. More information about the 9/11 Public Discourse Project will be forthcoming at a later date.

Further queries regarding the Commission and the Commissioners' future activities as part of the 9/11 Public Discourse Project should be addressed to Al Felzenberg at 202-236-4878 or, by email, at afelzenberg@9-11pdp.org.

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