

Statement by Thomas H. Kean, Chair, and Lee H. Hamilton, Vice Chair of the 9-11 Commission

October 10 – In connection with the Commission's Second Interim Report issued on September 23, 2003, we discussed the Commission's ongoing efforts to get prompt access to some key Executive Branch and White House documents that the Commission needs to complete its work on time. Although we can report substantial progress, the Commission is continuing to press for necessary access to some key items.

- During the two weeks since our Second Interim Report, many Executive Branch agencies have substantially completed production of the key high-level policy documents that the Commission has requested. The Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense have produced large numbers of important documents, but they have not completed production of the key policy documents. We are pressing these agencies to complete their efforts within a matter of days.
- The Commission has been making substantial progress in its efforts to gain access to key White House documents. The White House has recently produced a large set of sensitive policy documents that the Commission has been seeking.
- The White House has also agreed to brief all Commissioners on another set of highly sensitive documents. We will seek prompt resolution of remaining issues regarding access to these documents.
- As we have stated repeatedly, we will inform the public promptly if the Commission does not receive the access it needs.