

**INFORMATION PAPER ON
USAF ASSISTANCE TO NEXT OF KIN AND INJURED
IN THE
17 APRIL TARNAK FARMS BOMBING**

The United States Air Force shall do all that is possible within limits of the law and available resources to assist victims and witnesses of misconduct. In all cases, victims and witnesses shall be treated with dignity and respect.

If the facts and circumstances of an incident warrant criminal action, victims and witnesses of the offenses which an accused is alleged to have committed, such as those physically injured as a result of the offense or the next-of-kin of those who perish as a result of the offense, shall have the right to:

- Be notified of court proceedings;
- Be present at all public court proceedings related to the offense, unless the court determines that testimony by the person would be materially affected if the person heard other testimony at trial or if the judge determined that the classification of the evidence to be discussed precluded the person's presence in the court;
- Confer with the attorney for the Government in the case;
- Be consulted concerning a decision to dismiss charges or enter into a pretrial agreement/pleas negotiations;
- Be provided information about any conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender; and
- Be permitted to have the convening authority consider victim statements on the impact of crime.

United States federal, state, and non-governmental agencies may be available to victims (to include next-of-kin) and witnesses in dealing with the actions of an alleged perpetrator. While these agencies generally limit the scope of their aid to instances of crime, which occur within the United States, many foreign governments have similar programs, which can aid victims of crime such as the provincial crime victim assistance programs in Canada. United States Air Force victim-witness assistance program coordinators will assist victims of crime in contacting such agencies. Each agency has the right to determine the scope of assistance it may give.

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