

M Bruce

call me (62546) or Alan (65706) w/
changes

--Liz

Crime -
POTUS
speeches

July 27, 1994, 11pm

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EVENT
JULY 26, 1994

[Acknowledgements: TBA]

We are on the verge of a major victory for America. For too long the people who work hard and play by the rules in this country have fought crime with one hand tied behind their backs. Well, we are about to even up the odds.

After six long years, we are very close to enacting the toughest, largest, smartest federal attack on crime in history. We are united, and we are going to keep pushing until this Crime Bill is the law of the land.

I say to Chairman Biden and Chairman Brooks and Members of Congress from both Parties -- in the name of every child whose playground has turned into a battleground, in the name of every senior citizen who is afraid to walk home alone, and in the name of every citizen paralyzed by fear -- thank you for your hard work, and for moving America forward into a safer future.

This Victory for law-abiding Americans is a fundamental part of the vision at the very heart of my Administration: to put people first again.

Everything we have done, we have done so that our citizens can live the American Dream again. Every step we take is about making it possible -- at a time of rapid, often remarkable change here and around the world -- for our people to build good lives for themselves and to pass the chance of better lives onto their children.

In this great country, why has this been such a huge challenge? Because for more than a decade our leaders mismanaged our country, especially the economy. And the result was that our middle class worked harder for less, and as they did, our social fabric weakened. But the American people demanded better. And for 18 months, I have devoted myself to an aggressive strategy for economic and social renewal.

That strategy started where it had to: with putting our economic house in order by coming to grips with the soaring deficit. Barely a year ago, we enacted the biggest deficit cut in our history, including \$255 billion in specific spending cuts. Those tough decisions mean that our deficit is now going down for three years in a row for the first time since Harry Truman was President.

We had to out. But we also had to invest so that every American could compete and win in the most competitive global

economy ever. From the first day of preschool to the first day on the job to the last day before retirement and beyond, the American people should know this: whatever the world brings, they and their children will be prepared.

Fulfilling our strategy has meant change -- which isn't always popular in Washington. But we have fought very hard, and it's working. Our economy is coming back, with 3.8 million jobs produced since I took office. Unemployment has fallen by more than 1.5 percent, and inflation is the lowest in two decades. We will do more, but this is an extraordinary start on our journey of renewal.

I am very proud of all this, and the American people should be proud of themselves. And, yet, none of this is enough to restore the American Dream. Not if we don't defeat the crime and violence that is pulling our people apart when we should be coming together to face our common challenges as one.

This nation cannot work if Americans aren't safe in their homes, or if the schools are too violent for our children to learn. For six years we have debated crime endlessly and fought it fitfully. But today's agreement changes that: it is not about debate and delay; it's about hope and progress. It is about putting 100,000 more police officers on our nation's streets, helping our communities to restore themselves. It will make Americans safer, and more productive. Surely there is no more important piece in our strategy for national renewal.

No one has believed in community policing more than Chief Moose, who moved with his wife into a high risk neighborhood that he helped make safer. Perhaps the most compelling argument for this law is that this is the crime bill that law enforcement demands -- and that's the way it should be.

But it hasn't been easy. No matter how tough and smart this bill is, everytime we turned around, someone said it couldn't or it shouldn't be done. So we had to stand up to all those skeptics and critics who were standing in the way of this bill.

We stood up to the NRA to win the historic ban on assault weapons. We have finally put the public interest ahead of the special interest, and when this bill becomes law 19 kinds of assault weapons will be banned for the first time.

We stood up to the view that prevailed for too long in my own Party about tougher punishment. Now, we will have capital punishment for anyone convicted of killing an officer. And violent repeat offenders will be sent to jail for life. As I promised, "three-strikes-and-you're-out" is going to be the law of the land.

We stood up to the forces in Washington opposed to cutting government to pay for our fight on crime. There's not a penny of new taxes in this bill. Instead, there will be fewer bureaucrats and more police.

And we stood up to the people who said that crime prevention programs are nothing but pork barrel politics. To anyone who says that, I say: tell it to our nation's police officers. They are the ones who wanted recreation programs like the midnight basketball league the Attorney General visited last week. They are the ones who want safer schools -- as more than 100,000 kids carry guns to school each day. And they are the ones who say our kids need more mentors and the police need more resources to help families in crisis.

Now, we are going to fight to make sure this bill becomes law in just a few short days. But we have to remember that a law is only a tool, a piece of paper. For it to make a difference, every single American must make it work.

Every one of us must take responsibility for making this a stronger country. When we see a youth from a tough neighborhood who is desperate for that first job, we have to reach out with opportunity. When we know a police officer is trying to turn a gang member into a productive citizen, we have to do our part. And when we see a child in trouble, we have to take personal responsibility for getting that child back to school and into the programs that can turn their lives around.

We have stood up to all the forces that counted us out so many times on this Crime Bill, and we are about to win. Let that be a lesson to all those who have already written us off on our campaign to guarantee health care for all Americans. If we are really serious about renewing the American Dream, we must do this. It's the only way we can open up new opportunities for all Americans to learn and work and realize their God-given potential.

How do I know we can reform health care? Because I've heard the naysayers before, and I know how far we have come to give America the Crime Bill it has needed for so long. And because I know that, having come this far, we will not turn back on our vision of restoring the American Dream.

We have faced plenty of tough fights before. And we'll have plenty more ahead of us. But they are all worth it if they bring us to a day like this one. We must face all our challenges with the same confidence and spirit of common purpose that has brought us here today. That is what has always built America. And that, I promise, is what will renew America for yet another generation.

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MORE CRIME RHETORIC

Our crime bill takes some of the money that your government has been wasting all these years and uses it to uphold government's first responsibility, which is to keep its citizens safe here at home.

We can put 100,000 new police on the street -- which will do more faster than anything else we can do to reduce the crime rate. We can help states build more boot camps -- like we did in Arkansas -- so we can take young criminals off the street and teach them respect for the law. And we can have more drug courts like the one the Attorney General started in Florida and the one my Administration is helping to launch here in D.C. -- so we can stop sending tens of thousands of criminal addicts back onto the street every year where they'll commit more crimes if they don't get treatment first.

Crim -
POTUS speeches

A Vision for America: A New Covenant, Remarks at the Democratic National Convention, 7/16/92

"He won't streamline the federal government, and change the way it works; cut 100,000 bureaucrats, and put 100,000 more police officers on the streets of American cities. But I will."

Remarks at Community Picnic, Baldwin Park, CA, 9/16/92

"We are going to cut billions of dollars in inessential spending for the federal government. We're going to replace by attrition, reduce by attrition, not by firing anybody, but by phasing them out, 100,000 federal employees, and take that money, and put 100,000 police officers on the street in America to protect America."

Scott Fleming
AA - Rep Lenny

COMMUNITY POLICING GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT

Wednesday, February 9, 1994

* Mayor Daley, Mayor White, Mayor Rice, Mayor Minor, I want to commend you for all that you're doing to help make your communities and our country safe again. Violent crime and the fear it provokes are ripping this country apart, and every one of us is going to have to work night and day -- the way you are -- if we're going to restore the basic freedoms of civilized society.

* Today, I am proud to announce that the four cities on the phone and 30 other cities and towns across the country will receive the second round of grants from my administration to put more police on the street and expand community policing. The Justice Department received applications from some 3,000 communities across the country; we have now awarded grants to more than 100 cities and towns nationwide. Every city in America is coming to the same conclusion: more police on the street -- done right -- equals less crime.

* These grants are another downpayment on my pledge to put 100,000 new police officers on the streets of America. We've got to do that and more. I've told Congress that I want them to send me a comprehensive crime bill as soon as possible that puts 100,000 more police on the street, bans assault weapons, expands boot camps and prisons and drug courts, and says to violent offenders: Those who commit crimes will be punished, and those who commit a third violent felony will be put away, and put away for good. The American people need that crime bill, and we need it now.

* On Monday, we announced our budget plan for this year, which sets up a five-year, \$22 billion Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund that takes the money we save from reducing the federal bureaucracy and sets it aside for the purpose of fighting crime. Earlier today, Lee Brown and I announced our new Drug Control Strategy, which expands drug treatment programs that will keep hardcore addicts off the street. Two items in our budget this year got bigger increases than almost anything else: one was community policing (which went up \$1.7 billion) and the other was the drug budget (which went up \$1 billion).

* But you know as well as I do: this isn't just about money. It's about parents teaching their children right from wrong, individuals taking personal responsibility for their own lives, communities giving our young people something to say yes to, and neighborhoods working together with the police as partners against crime.

* In my State of the Union Address, I singled out a brave young officer named Kevin Jett, whose beat is 8 square blocks in one of the toughest neighborhoods in New York City. I read about him in the paper, and I asked him to come down here to stand and be recognized for what he and so many others do to restore sanity and safety and a sense of values to the people whose lives he protects. What we're doing here today is to help make it possible for officers just like him to walk beats in your cities, working with your people, to take this country back, neighborhood by neighborhood and block by block.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ON CRIME (since Memphis, 11/13/93)

REMARKS AT EAST LOS ANGELES CHURCH SCHOOL

Los Angeles, California

November 21, 1993

I talked to people who are worried about the violence and the crime, about the pressures on the families and the dangers for the children. And I want you to know that every night when I go to bed in the White House, I think of the children of this country, of their future, of the dangers and the problems, of the hopes and the dreams. We are working now in Washington to pass a bill which will make a big step toward making our streets safer, something that Mayor Riordon ran on when he ran for mayor. If the bill passes, the crime bill which has now passed both houses of the Congress, we may be able to give our cities in this country up to 100,000 more law enforcement officers to protect people, to keep crime from occurring in the first place.

All these things will help, but in the end, my fellow Americans, we have to take our communities back community by community, neighborhood by neighborhood, block by block, family by family, child by child. Our disregard for life in this country is seen coast to coast.

What we want America to look like is what we see here today: the faces of these children safe and secure, learning and whole, looking towards the future, believing in their lives, living by their values. That's what we want America to look like. So I tell you we are doing everything we can to try to give you the tools you need to make your community safer, but we have to make up our mind that we will no longer tolerate children killing children, children having guns and being better armed than police officers, neighborhoods unsafe. We can do better, and we're going to have to do it for all of our people without regard to race or income or region. You deserve as much. And we have to do it.

REMARKS AT EVENT FOR SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN

San Francisco, California

November 21, 1993

You know, sometimes I feel like I'm in a time warp. We live in a wonderful country, but there are a lot of kids in trouble, and you've got streets where the gang members are better armed than the policemen and innocent people are getting shot in the crossfire.

You listen to these debates on the Crime Bill, the kinds of things we're trying to do, and it sounds like some people are just literally in another world. Well, I've got to give the Senate and the House credit. They passed the Brady Bill, they passed the Crime Bill that will give the cities of our country the actual means to reduce the crime rate. Don't let anybody kid you that more police officers properly deployed won't reduce the crime rate -- not just catch criminals, but reduce the crime rate. There is no question that it will work.

This will make a difference, this Crime Bill. But it makes a difference also that there are boot camps as opposed to prisons for youthful offenders to give them a chance to do something constructive with their lives, and it makes a difference that the Brady Bill passed.

SATURDAY RADIO ADDRESS
November 27, 1993

The Crime Bill has been passed in both Houses. It will put more police officers on the street -- up to 100,000 of them; build more prisons; establish boot camps for young, first-time offenders. It will ban assault weapons.

We're making progress in the fight against crime. Just before the Congress left, it adopted legislation requiring a five day waiting period before anyone can purchase a handgun, so there can be a check for someone's age, mental health history, and criminal record. This action was a national victory in the fight against crime and violence, and a very personal victory for Jim and Sarah Brady. Their family, touched by violence, who turned tragedy into crime by fighting for seven long years to pass this important legislation to protect the rest of us from individuals who shouldn't be permitted to possess or use handguns.

We have to be concerned that, in both our cities and our rural areas, the value of life has been cheapened, that too many children are killing children with weapons of destruction that are even more efficient and sophisticated than the police -- who are supposed to protect the people -- have.

**REMARKS TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
THE DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**
The Sheraton Washington
Washington, DC
December 3, 1993

We recognized in this organization a long time ago that if people didn't feel a certain level of basic security, it was very difficult for them to make the changes we need to make. If you want to challenge people to seize opportunities and to assume more responsibility, if you want people to be able to live with, basically, the chaotic nature of the world in which we find ourselves -- a very exciting world if you can figure out to win in it -- there has to be some sense that the basic fabric of society is being maintained, that there is some order, some security, some discipline which we need to observe.

That is why this crime and violence issue is so important. Huge increases in violent crime in many communities in this country. Police at an increasingly disadvantageous issue -- now over three violent crimes for every police officer in the country, where it used to be the reverse, three police officers for every crime just 30 years ago. And all the stories you know about children killing children, or young teenagers being better armed than police officers.

We know there are some things that work. We know -- the DLC does, we've been advocating this for years -- that community policing works. Mayor Lanier, in Houston, just proved it in the ultimate way, by getting over 90 percent of the vote. I was trying to think of who else could get 90 percent of the vote for anything. It

tells you how passionately people care about this public safety issue.

We are trying our best in these difficult budget times to get a crime bill out that will produce 100,000 new police officers. But they must be properly trained and properly deployed. That is a challenge for you in the DLC. It is a challenge for us as Americans to make sure not only that we pass a bill in Congress that provides the police officers, but that when they get down to whatever town or city they're in, that they are properly trained and properly deployed. Community policing works. You can lower crime, not just by catching more criminals, but because it actually helps to prevent crime from occurring in the first place. It really matters.

There are some other things we ought to do in that crime bill, too, and I'll just mention two. We need to provide alternative punishments for youthful offenders so that we can use the prison space we have to keep people who shouldn't get out for as long as they should stay in. The boot camp proposals are in this crime bill, another DLC idea that we have advocated for years and years, something that I tried to do at home when I was a governor. And it's an important part of the bill.

There are two other things in the bill. Senator Kohl, from Wisconsin, has put an amendment in to ban the ownership of handguns by young people under 18, and to limit access to them to properly control circumstances by minors. And it passed overwhelmingly.

Then there was an amendment by Senator Feinstein to ban several assault weapons and to specify a number of hunting weapons that cannot be restricted at all because they're hunting rifles and they are things that people use for sporting purposes. I think it is a good, balanced amendment and I hope it will be in the final provision of the crime bill.

REMARKS DURING CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY RECEPTION
Beverly Hills, California
December 4, 1993

We have to face the fact that millions and millions and millions of our fellow Americans are caught, not only in an economic under class, but almost in an outer class totally apart from the life that the rest of us take for granted. And it is because they are the ones who have been hardest hit by the combined force of a loss of economic opportunity, the destruction of community support, and the erosion of family itself. And the vacuum that is created has been filled for all too many of them by organized violence, organized around guns and gangs and drugs with no offsetting forces.

Some of that has been aggravated by the fact that there are not sustaining forces in our culture, which tend to offset that. As I told the ministers in Memphis a few weeks ago at the Church of God in Christ Convention, when they invited me into the pulpit where Martin Luther King gave his last sermon, there are problems this nation has that cannot be fixed by the passage of a law, or by an official decree from the President of the United States. They require us to change from the inside-out and to change family by family, community by community.

I have a good friend with whom I grew up at home who wrote me of a

conversation she had with some other people who were bemoaning the fate of all these kids in trouble, and this person said, well, how in the world are we going to save these kids? And my friend said, we're going to save them the same way we lost them, one at a time. If you think of that -- if you think of that, society is largely organized around work and family. We have too many people today living in this world without either. And nature, and to be sure they represent nature, abhors a vacuum. And that vacuum is being filled by all kinds of forces which are fundamentally destructive of those people ever becoming what they ought to be.

Now, we are trying to deal with that as much as we can through public policy -- through the Brady Bill and through Senator Feinstein's effort to ban assault weapons. And I met your distinguished police chief for the first time tonight, even though I've been bragging on him for years now. Through the effort to provide another 100,000 police officers in properly-trained, properly-deployed in community policing settings throughout the country, because that will actually diminish crime and provide alternative role models for young people.

There are a lot of other things we are trying to do. But I am telling you, the fact is it is awfully hard to put lives back together in an environment in which there are no lives organized fundamentally by work, by family, and by other community organizations that shape values and behavior.

When impulses govern the lives of young people who cannot even fully understand the implications of what it means often to pick up a gun and pull the trigger; and when madly we permit many of these children, who themselves were never even given the fundamental basics of self-esteem and self-control and respect for others, weapons that make them better armed than the police who are supposed to be patrolling their streets.

But the fundamental problem is what has happened to all of them inside, and what does not happen to them day by day. One hundred and sixty thousand kids in this country stay home from school every day because they are afraid of being shot or not knifed on the way to school or in the schoolhouse.

Now, what's all that got to do with you? First of all, you have the capacity to do good -- culturally to help to change the way we behave, the way we think of ourselves. You have, clearly, many of you, reinforced the awareness of our obligations to our environment and we have begun to change in fundamental ways. Look at the way we changed our ideas about smoking in recent years. Culturally, not because laws made us do it but because as a people we just decided to move in a different direction....

But you think of it.... How is our life organized? We spend most of our time working. We spend a lot of free time, most of us, with our families. We have other ties to a community which shape our values, our conduct, our priorities, what we do with our money, how we think about our obligations. But what might be entertaining to us -- a violent, thrilling movie or television program, a torrid but fundamentally amoral use and manipulation of people in what may be for us just an entertaining 30 minutes or an hour. If it's 10 or 11 hours a day of relentless exposure into the minds of people who have never been taught to understand the consequences of their action, never had any kind of internal

structure motivated and driven by seeing their parents go to work everyday and having a regular relationship with family and having other institutions, then these things can unintentionally can set forth a chain reaction of even more impulsive behavior, even more inability to deal with conflict in nonviolent ways and to pass up the aggressive influences and impulses that all of us feel but most of us learn at some point in our lives not to act on. And it all gets worse if the void left by the loss of family and work and other institutions is filled by gangs and guns and drugs.

So, what I ask you for tonight is not to wear a hair shirt and say, mea culpa, I wish I hadn't done this, that or the other thing, but to recognize that what may be one person's moment of entertainment, even exhilaration, that's taking your mind off the pressures of the day, can, when multiplied by 1,000, have a cumulative impact that at the very least does not help to bring a whole generation of people back from the brink. I'm telling you, if we don't find a way to deal with this, the rest of these endeavors ultimately will fail. We will not be able to make a strength out of our diversity. We will not be able to restore the ladder from poverty to the middle class that can be climbed through work and education. We will not be able to put our people back together again and use our money on education and opportunity instead of crime and jail.

So what I ask you to do is to join a partnership with me, not to stop entertaining or even titillating, not to stop frightening or thrilling the American public, but to examine what together you might do to simply face the reality that so many of our young people live with, and help us as we seek to rebuild the frayed bonds of this community; as we seek to give children nonviolent ways to resolve their own frustrations; as we seek to restore some structure and some hope and some essential dignity and purpose to lives that have been dominated by chaos of worse.

We must do this. Make no mistake about it. No society, no society can prosper allowing huge pockets of people to go on forever without the opportunity to work; allowing huge pockets of children to go on without the opportunity to get a decent education; allowing huge sections of cities to be no-man's lands, where the law of the automatic assault weapon controls. We cannot do well if we permit that to happen...

For 30 years the American family has been under assault. The assault attacked black families first because they were most vulnerable economically. The same thing is now happening to other families. More and more children are born out of wedlock. More and more children are being born without parents, more and more children being abandoned, more and more kids growing up in violent neighborhoods. The racial differences were largely determined first because of economic vulnerability. But now it is happening to everybody. So 30 years of family assault, 20 years where most working people had stagnant wages, 20 years of developing huge pockets where no one had a job. There have always been poor people in this country, but most of them have always been able to work. Twelve years in which we exploded public debt by consuming in the present instead of investing more in the future. These things happened over a long period of time.

And so I ask you, while you entertain the rest of us, let us together do something

to rebuild the bonds of community; to restore the spirit of these children; to give people a chance to build whole lives around solid values so that they, too, will have internal structures that will permit them the luxury of the diversion some of us call entertainment.

We must rebuild this country fundamentally. And we have to have the support of people who can shape our culture to do it. It is our job, and if we do it, we will be proud we did.

REMARKS TO PRESS POOL
The Blair House
December 8, 1993

Q Give us your reaction, sir, to the shootings on Long Island -- in the shootings.

THE PRESIDENT: First of all, it's a terrible human tragedy and my sympathies go out to all the families involved.

I will say, I think we have to note that the gun that was used contained, apparently, two 15-round clips that were expended while this man, in a manic state was walking down the subway aisle. And one of the reasons we ought to pass the crime bill is that Senator Feinstein's amendment to limit assault weapons would make those 15-round clips illegal. They're not necessary for hunting or sports purposes, and it simply -- allows you to shoot and wound more people more quickly.

So, I hope that this will give some more impetus to the need to act urgently, to deal with the unnecessary problems of gun violence in the country.

The second thing I would say is that while no one believes that there is anything we can ever do to solve every problem of someone who snaps mentally and does something terrible like this, and we have to acknowledge that honestly, there are a lot of things that we're going to have to do in this country to get violence under control that relate to rebuilding our communities and healing across racial lines and economic lines. But we need to start with public safety. Put those 100,000 police officers on the street. Pass this ban on assault weapons and these multi-round clips. And let's get about the business of making the country safer.

Q-- requirement for licensing and testing to purchase a gun?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that was recommended to me, as you know, by the Mayor-Elect of New York and the Mayor of Los Angeles, and I've asked the Attorney General to review it and make a recommendation to me on it. I think I should wait to hear from her on it. It is interesting that -- how we regularly have requirements, for example, for getting and driving cars that don't apply to the use of guns that -- when I was a boy and first started to hunt, you know, one of the first things I was told was you have to learn how to use a gun safely and responsibly. And it's something I think we ought to look at. But I want to ask

the Attorney General for an opinion before I discuss it further.

REMARKS IN MEETING WITH MAYORS AND CHIEFS OF POLICE
The Indian Treaty Room
December 9, 1993

I believe that this nation is really prepared in a way that it has not been before, at least in my experience, to do something about violent crime; to do something about all of its causes; and to try to come together across the lines of region and party and the size of the units in which we live to deal with these things that are tearing the heart out of our country.

I think the rapid change of opinion and movement on the Brady Bill at the end of the last session is an example of that. I think the size of the margin by which Senator Feinstein's amendment was added to the crime bill in the Senate to ban 35 kinds of assault weapons was evidence of that. And so I think we are prepared to begin.

The first thing is that it is important that we get a good crime bill out early when the Congress comes back. And we'd like your help in defining what that is.

The Senate and the House versions are different. The most clearly manifest difference is that the Senate version has more money in it, and therefore would enable us to fund in this crime bill the full 100,000 extra police officers that I have supported since I began running for President.

As you point out in your report, it will take some time to train and deploy those people, but I know that it makes a difference. I think the margin of Mayor Lanier's reelection is evidence that people know that if you properly deploy trained personnel, not just -- it just doesn't serve to catch criminals quicker, but because of the relationships they develop in the community and their visibility, it actually reduces crime. I think there should be some alternative punishments for youthful offenders -- boot camps and perhaps other things. I think that is very important.

Beyond that, we ought to talk about what else we do and where we go. But I want to emphasize that this -- even with intense commitment in this city, you have to do the things that are before you. You have to get done what you can do at the moment, and then move on to what's next on the agenda. So I think it is imperative that we move on the crime bill and the 100,000 police officers in the street and the boot camps as soon as we can when the Congress comes back.

I also think we ought to recognize that we don't have all the money in world, and we don't want to spend a lot of money on things that will be of marginal significance. I was glad to see you advocating this paper. I've just been skimming it over -- that we ought to give attention to drug treatment as well as drug enforcement, that we needed to deal with supply and demand in an evenhanded way. We need some more investment to do that.

The last point I want to make is that this is the first step, but only the first step we have to take in restoring the conditions of civilized life to a lot of our cities.

The reason a lot of these things are happening is that there has been a simultaneous decline of work, family and community -- the things that really organize life for all the rest of us. And we are going to have to rebuild them all. And it is not going to happen overnight, because these deteriorations have happened over a period of decades. But people can sense whether you are going in the right direction or the wrong direction, and I think we have to work together to change the direction. I am confident that we can.

There are also maybe some things we can do administratively. And you have the people here who want to hear from you about that, and we want to go forward with that.

And finally I want to say that I think we ought to set up an ongoing relationship so that you can continue to work with us, get input and help us to work through some of the difficult decisions that are always required when you move from the level of speaking to doing. And so we would like very much to have some sort of ongoing mechanism that this administration can relate to from the membership of this group.

Lastly, let me say that I'm grateful for the participation here, not just of the mayors but of the several police chiefs. It's good to see all of you here. I think we can do something. I think the American people are tired of hurting, and tired of feeling insecure, and tired of the violence, and it makes such a huge gap between what we say, and what we do, and how we want to live and how we are forced to live. And it's affected now so many more people beyond the immediate victims of crime. It's changing everyone's life in ways that are quite destructive. We have to move. And I think we're prepared to move. And I think with this document you've given us a good basis to begin.

SATURDAY RADIO ADDRESS
The Oval Office
December 11, 1993

This morning I want to talk to you about crime and violence and what we can all do about it.

On Tuesday evening in Garden City, New York, a gunman shot and killed five rush hour commuters on the Long Island Railroad, and wounded 20 others.

On Thursday night in California, there was a memorial service for 12-year old Polly Klaas. She'd been kidnapped from her bedroom two months ago. Her little body was found last Saturday.

These tragedies are part of the epidemic of violence that has left Americans insecure on our streets, in our schools, even in our homes. The crime rate has hit every American community from our oldest cities to our smallest towns to our newest suburbs.

As a suburban California woman, the mother of a 10-year old girl, said a few days

ago, "There's no safe place to go. There's no place that's safe."

If our nation is to find any meaning in these tragedies, we must join together to end this epidemic of violent crime and restore the fabric of civilized life in every community. There is now some hope amidst the horror because decent people are fighting back against crime.

Just before Thanksgiving I signed the Brady Bill into law. It requires a five-day waiting period before anyone can purchase a handgun so there can be a check of someone's age, mental health and criminal record. The Brady bill became law because you, the American people, were stronger than the gun lobby.

On Thursday, together with Attorney General Janet Reno, FBI Director Louis Freeh and Drug Policy Coordinator Lee Brown, I met with mayors and police chiefs from 35 cities. They told me they need more police on the streets, a ban on assault weapons and action to keep drugs and guns away from vulnerable young people. And I intend to give the folks on the front lines the resources and the support they need to win the fight against crime.

I call upon Congress when they return in January to pass promptly a strong crime bill that will put 100,000 more police officers on the street, prohibit assault weapons and provide fundings for more boot camps for first-time offenders.

I want to put 100,000 new police officers on the streets of our communities so they can walk their beats and work with neighborhood people. Putting more police on the streets will do more to reduce crime than anything else we can do.

The ban on assault weapons and the restrictions on semi-automatics are important because they'll stop criminal gangs from being better armed than the police. And these restrictions would have prevented the gunman on the Long Island Railroad from having two 15-round clips of ammunition that enabled him to maim and kill so many people with such deadly speeds. Assault weapons and 15-round clips have nothing to do with hunting or sports. They just let criminals shoot people more quickly. A recent study in one of our major cities showed that the increasing death rate among young people hit with gunshots was due almost entirely to the fact that the weapons themselves were more likely to be semi-automatic and, therefore, more deadly.

Boot camps have been endorsed by every major law enforcement organization in America. They give first offenders a second chance to learn some discipline. And they open more space in the prisons for hardened, violent criminals.

Now that Congress is home for the holidays, tell your senators and representatives to pass a strong crime bill so your family can be safer. You know, the new year begins just three weeks from today. I'd like to suggest a new year's resolution for every senator and every representative: let's pass the crime bill as soon as you return.

There's so much more we're doing and more we need to do. Under the leadership of Dr. Lee Brown, our drug policy director and the father of community policing, we're strengthening enforcement and prevention. We're increasing the focus on

hard core users who fuel the crime and violence and the tragic waste of human lives.

Next summer, in our National Service program, AmeriCorps, thousands of young people will help with community policing, escort older people and board up abandoned buildings so they can't be turned into crack houses. The young people in the Summer of Safety will be an inspiring example for Americans of all ages to work together to make our streets safer by acting on our finest values.

Let's face it -- drugs and guns and violence fill a vacuum where the values of civilized life used to be. Work and family and community are the principles, the institutions, upon which the great majority of Americans are building their lives. We need to restore them, and the sense of hope and discipline that will give every man and woman, every boy and girl the opportunity to become the people God intended them to be.

In recent weeks, I've spoken to leaders from the religious community and the entertainment community about the obligation we all share to fight violence with values. Last week I was proud to hear that the Inner City Broadcasting Corporation of New York, which owns five radio stations throughout the country, will no longer play songs that advocate violence or show contempt for women. And I understand that two stations in Los Angeles -- KACE, owned by former Green Bay Packer Willie Davis and KJLH, owned by Stevie Wonder -- have also adopted this policy.

Whether we're ministers or moviemakers, businesspeople or broadcasters, teachers or parents, we can all set our sons and daughters on a better path in life so they can learn and love and lead decent and productive lives.

In this holiday season, as we rejoice in the love of our families and hold our children a little closer, we should also strengthen the bonds of community. We can make our neighborhoods and our nations places of shared responsibility, not random violence. The tragedies of this week remind us that there is no place to hide. The lessons of our history remind us that Americans can accomplish anything when we work together for a common purpose.

As we begin this season of celebration and rededication, let's remember the words of Theodore Roosevelt, a great president who was once a police commissioner, too: "This country will not be a good place for any of us to live in, unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in."

REMARKS AT RECEPTION FOR SENATOR MOYNIHAN

The Waldorf Astoria Hotel

New York, New York

December 13, 1993

The economic opportunities that once beckoned people to our cities have long gone for many middle-class people who didn't have a lot of education. When you lose both family and work -- the two things that most of us organize our lives around -- you create a vacuum in any society. And, as with any other vacuum, nature

abhors it; it will be filled. People cannot live in total chaos. Some alternative organizations will take root. And what has happened in our country is that in places which we have permitted to be without family and work, where the community organizations have folded up tent and left behind them, where very often only the churches are there standing alone against the deluge, and the people in the social services overpowered, and the police outmanned, what happens is that gangs take root as a form of social organization and drugs take root not just as a form of self-destruction, but as an economic endeavor.

And then, as an enforcement mechanism, violence comes along in even greater amounts. And now, because we have permitted by a flight of -- in my view -- collective insanity, even teenagers to be better armed than police in most of our big cities, you see a dramatic increase just in the last decade in the death rate of young people who are shot. Why is that? Because they're more likely to be shot by assault weapons like the kind that was used on the Long Island Railroad a few days ago.

A study came out right after that horrible incident, chronicling one of our biggest cities in the Middle West, saying that 100 percent of the increase in the death rate from gunshot wounds among teenage boys was due to the use of assault weapons with rapid cartridges so they had more bullets in their bodies. It wasn't very complicated.

So I would argue to you we have, first of all, seen a vacuum develop. It happened over a generation and anybody that tells you it can be turned around with a lot of words or even good actions in a moment is wrong. There are good people out there now standing against the tide doing their best. I call to your attention the article on the cover of the New York Times Sunday Magazine yesterday about that brave policeman. If you haven't read it, you ought to go read it; talking about how one person still can make a difference in restoring some sanity and safety and reinforcing values in people's lives...

I don't want to get into a lot of programs tonight. We got the Brady Bill done. We've got the crime bill coming up. It really does make a difference how many police are on the street if they are well trained. We have to do more on the drug front. We have to deal with health care in part, because this crime and violence is a public health problem. But I don't want to talk so much about programs. It is just to ask you to leave here tonight, if you are really going to give your money to re-elect this man, which you must do because he is a national treasure -- you should leave here tonight determined to do what you can to create a political constituency to make it possible for him to make the ideas that have been popping in his mind for a generation real in the lives of our people.

In other words, what I'm asking you to do tonight is you don't have to agree that whatever we decide to do on the assault weapons ban is right around the edges, or whatever. But you should leave here tonight far more intolerant than you came here of some of the conditions which obtain in this country. Last winter Senator Moynihan wrote, and I quote, "We have been redefining deviancy so as to exempt much conduct previously stigmatized." We have been, quote, to use his phrase -- "defining deviancy down" below the threshold of acceptability. Then he said in more blunt language, "We're getting used to a lot of behavior that is not good for

us."

Why aren't we free enough to know that we have got to invest in policies that will promote work over welfare and family over solitude, and community over division? We know better than this. And we have just become so callous because basically, this country has worked pretty well for the rest of us. But I'm telling you, it's coming back on the rest of us.

REMARKS IN CONFERENCE CALL WITH MAYORS

The Oval Office
December 20, 1993

Today I'm proud to announce that the six of you on this phone, along with the leaders of 68 other cities and towns all across the country, will receive the first grants to put more police on the street and expand community policing.

The Justice Department received applications from more than 1,000 communities across our nation, and the proposals we got for community policing from your police departments were truly outstanding. I know these grants are simply a down payment on our pledge to put 100,000 new police officers on the streets. It's just the beginning. As soon as Congress comes back in 1994 I want them to send me a crime bill that finishes that job and puts 100,000 more police on the street, expands boot camps and drug courts like the one the Attorney General started in Miami, gets handguns out of the hands of minors, and bans assault weapons.

Earlier this month, as all of you know, I signed the Brady Bill which broke seven years of gridlock on this issue. And we just can't afford to wait any longer for the crime bill. In the meanwhile I'm excited about what you're doing because we know community policing works. It worked for our Drug Director, Lee Brown, in Houston and New York, and it's working all across the country.

So I want to just thank all of you very much and say that I wish I could be there with you today. I wish I could see your police officers, and I hope you'll tell them all that help is on the way and we'll do our best to be there for you, to be good partners with you. And I know I'm speaking for the Vice President, the Attorney General and Lee Brown in saying we'll stay after this until the job is done.

BILL SIGNING OF THE NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION ACT

White House
Washington, DC
December 20, 1993

The holiday season is a time for sharing the warmth of human contact with families and friends, and making this a joyous and safe time for children everywhere is important. That makes this legislation, the National Child Protection Act, especially significant. With it we can give a great gift -- a much improved system for protecting our children from being abused or harmed by those to whom we have entrusted them. Not unlike the Brady bill, this law creates a national data base network. This one can be used by any childcare provider in America to conduct a background check to determine if a job applicant can be

trusted with our children and, if not, to prevent that person from ever working with children. For the first time, we'll have a system in place to protect the many millions of American children who receive care and supervision in formal day care and in other settings from other organizations. This law will give us the tools we need to safeguard children from those who have perpetrated crimes of child abuse or sex abuse or drug use or those who've convicted of felonies. It's very important that we give working parents peace of mind about childcare. The majority of mothers with young children now work outside the home. Six million children are placed in formal day care settings every day. Balancing work and family is hard, and parents are worried about their personal security and the security of their children in an increasingly violent world. Like the Brady bill and the Crime bill, which I hope and believe will pass soon, this act will help us to take our streets, our neighborhoods, the institutions we rely on back for American values and American children. There's nothing more important that our government could be doing now.

SATURDAY RADIO ADDRESS

January 1, 1994

After seven years of gridlock, Washington finally awoke to the growing fear of violence on our streets, when Congress passed and I signed the Brady Bill. All over America, beyond Washington, people are beginning to take more responsibility for themselves, for their children, and for their communities, working to save jobs, improve schools, and make our streets safer. In 1994, we must resolve to do even more to help the middle class with more jobs and with income growth, to help the poor who are trapped in whole neighborhoods where there's no work, few stable families, and where violence is the norm. There's still a great deal to do. So, in 1994, let us resolve to improve the health security, the personal security, and the job security of the American people who work hard and play by the rules. With all the changes sweeping our nation and the world, let us resolve to make these changes our friends and not our enemies. ...

I want Congress to pass the crime bill without delay. Our proposal will put 100,000 more police officers on the street, expand boot camps for young offenders, get handguns out of the hands of minors, ban assault weapons, and have stiffer sentences for violent repeat offenders.

In 1993, I met a lot of Americans who made a vivid impression on me and whose impression caused me to redouble my determination to face the problems which our country has too long ignored. I met a young man in California who changed schools to go to a safer school, but whose brother was shot standing in front of him in the safer school as they tried to register.

The stories of real people inspire the struggles and the efforts that drive my administration. We've got to keep working to rebuild the American economy, to revive the middle class life and middle class values in America, and to restore our sense of community. We have to recognize that all these problems are interrelated. You can't just solve one without the other. We have to remember that these problems developed over a long period of time; they can't be solved overnight. We have to remember that government can't do everything alone; everyone must play his or her part. But we must remember, too, that we can

make a difference and we can do better.

PRESIDENT CLINTON ON CRIME

Inaugural Address, January 20, 1993

When most people are working harder for less; when others cannot work at all; when the cost of health care devastates families and threatens to bankrupt our enterprises, great and small; when the fear of crime robs law-abiding citizens of their freedom; and when millions of poor children cannot even imagine the lives we are calling them to lead -- we have not made change our friend. We know we have to face hard truths and take strong steps.

Remarks at a Town Meeting in Detroit, Michigan, February 10, 1993

Let me tell you where I think we ought to begin. We ought to begin by passing the crime bill that nearly passed last year, which does two things: It gives the urban areas of this country more police officers for the streets. I have been in areas that were dominated by drugs, by weapons, and by murders, which are now virtually crime-free because they have enough policemen. They have neighborhood policemen walking the streets on every block, working with their neighbors. That's the first thing.

The second thing that bill has is the Brady bill that would require a waiting period before people could buy handguns.

And the third thing we probably ought to do is do what Governor Wilder in Virginia is trying to do. It takes a lot of guts to do that, but he's trying to pass a law which says that you can't buy a handgun more than once a month. Try to stop all these people that go to legal stores and buy guns and then turn around and just give them to kids like they're going out of style.

So those are three places that I think we ought to start. And if you've got any other ideas, I'd like to have them. I think the problem of violence among young people, particularly in our inner cities and not all big cities, is maybe the biggest problem we've got today in terms of their future and the future of our cities.

... I do not believe that we're well served by having a bunch of 14- or 15-year-old kids out there with handguns shooting each other because of blood battles between gangs or because they're mad or because they're high on drugs. It's wrong. We've got to do something about it.

Address to Joint Session of Congress, February 17, 1993

And I ask you to help to protect our families against the violent crime which terrorizes our people and which tears our communities apart. We must pass a tough crime bill. I support not only the bill which didn't quite make it to the President's desk last year but also an initiative to put 100,000 more police officers on the street, to provide bootcamps for first-time nonviolent offenders for more space for the hardened criminals in jail, and I support an

initiative to do what we can to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. Let me say this. I will make you this bargain: If you will pass the Brady bill, I'll sure sign it.

Remarks at Adult Learning Center, New Brunswick, NJ, March 1, 1993

I've got young Americans now in Somalia trying to create conditions of peaceful existence there in a country where it is difficult. But there are a lot of young Americans who are living in neighborhoods today that are about as dangerous or worse than what kids are facing in Somalia in terms of shots.

Remarks at 250th Anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's Birth, Washington, April 13, 1993

But I think [Jefferson] would be appalled at the lack of self-respect and self-control and respect for others which manifests itself in the kind of mindless violence to which this city and others have been subject for the last several years, and appalled at the millions of young people who will never know the full measure of their freedom because they have been raised without order, with love, without family, without even the basic safety which people need to be able, almost, to take for granted in order to be citizens of a real Democracy. In short, I think Thomas Jefferson would tell us that this is one of those times that we need to change.

Remarks to Law Enforcement Organizations, Rose Garden April 15, 1993

[On April 15th, the President called on Congress to dedicate \$200 million in the supplemental appropriations bill being considered to hire more police officers. This proposal was signed into law in June.]

At a time when too many of our people live in fear of violent crime, when too many businesses have closed and too many people have lost their jobs because people are afraid to leave their homes, rehiring thousands of officers is one of the best investments America can make. And I ask both houses of Congress to make that investment in our people's safety and in their peace of mind.

Announcement of Lee Brown as ONDCP Director, Rose Garden, April 28, 1993

As Americans who care about our future, we can't let drugs and drug-related crime continue to ruin communities, threaten our children even in schools and fill up our prisons with wrecked and wasted lives...We must do more to protect law-abiding citizens from those who victimize them in the pursuit of drugs or profit from drugs.

...It has to start with community policing, with more police at the local level, working with our neighbors and the children and the friends to prevent crime and to quickly punish criminals...

The most basic responsibility of the government is to protect the American people. It's our sacred duty to do our best. I believe we have a good program. It can be a great program if it can come alive in America in every community in this country.

Remarks at the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, Washington, May 13, 1993

More than 13,000 law enforcement officials have fallen in the line of duty. This memorial was dedicated to them more than a year and a half ago. Tonight we note the names of 328 more who will be newly etched on these marble stones. But our tribute will ring hollow tonight unless we recommit ourselves to do whatever we can to keep the remainder of these stones as smooth as possible, to support the men and women who keep our society more lawful and our lives more secure, to help them as enforcers and to keep them from becoming victims.

Satellite Feed to the U.S. Conference of Mayors, June 22, 1993

I want to empower communities to protect themselves, and I'm fighting for \$200 million to help you hire back police officers you've had to lay off. I want to put 100,000 more police on our streets and promote community policing programs. That's the best anti-crime program we can have... It's one thing we can do that will literally change the lives of most Americans who live in the communities affected by it.

Remarks to the National Association of Police Organizations, June 24, 1993

There are a lot of people in this country who are genuinely insecure today. That shooting at the swimming pool here in Washington, DC, that I'm sure all of you read about, is a horrible example of the kind of mindless behavior that is ripping at the fabric of society. And now I think many children are afraid to go back to the pool, a place where wholesome recreation will occur, a place where kids can stay out of trouble and in water at summertime; how many of their parents might be afraid for them to go back. That is the sort of thing that I hope we can keep in the minds of our policymakers as we deal with the crime bill and deal with these other issues.

Swearing-In Ceremony for Lee Brown, July 1, 1993

You know the insecurity most Americans feel, without regard to income or race, is a truly appalling thing. And anything we can do, not only to give lives back to children who might otherwise become involved in drugs, but to give the streets and the safety of the streets back to ordinary American families of all kinds is a service well done; and it might mean more to them than anything else this government could produce during my tenure in office and for the foreseeable future.

This is a fight that can unite us all, across the boundaries of party and race and region and income. We are fighting for our families, our children, our communities and our future.

Each and every American -- make no mistake about it -- also bears a personal responsibility to play a role in this battle.

Remarks to the National Urban League, Washington, August 4, 1993

We have to move on to the crime bill, which will do a great deal to help us to put more police officers on the streets in community policing settings where we will be working with people in the community to make them safer and to prevent crime from occurring in the first place. We need to pass the Brady Bill. We have fooled around with this too long. It is time to pass it.

I had a heartbreaking conversation over the weekend with a friend of mine who is a Member of Congress who had a friend whose son was shot in one of these blind, mad encounters between children over the weekend where four young boys got in a fight with four others, and they didn't know the other guys had guns. And finally they just took out the guns and started shooting them. This is crazy. This is crazy.

Our television new is filled at night with horrible incidents of violence in Bosnia and other places in the world that break our heart. Twenty-four people were killed in this town, our Nation's Capital, in one week last month. We have to get on with that.

Remarks Announcing Anti-Crime Initiative, Rose Garden, August 11, 1993

[The day after he signed the budget agreement, President Clinton outlined an anti-crime initiative in the Rose Garden with Judiciary Committee Chairmen Biden and Brooks, representatives from the National Association of Attorneys General and the National District Attorneys Association, and Boston Police Commissioner Bill Bratton.]

The first duty of any government is to try to keep its citizens safe, but clearly too many Americans are not safe today. We no longer have the freedom from fear for all our citizens that is essential to security and prosperity. The past four years have seen 90,000 murders in this country. Last month in this city, our Nation's Capital, in one week 24 murders were committed. When our children must pass through metal detectors to go to school or worry that they'll be the victim of random drive-by shootings when they're playing in the swimming pool in the summertime, when parents are imprisoned in their own apartments behind locked doors, when we can't walk the streets of our cities without fear, we have lost an essential element of our civilization.

Many of you have heard me tell many times over the last year and a half or so of the immigrant worker in the New York hotel who said that if I became President he just wanted me to make his son free. And when I asked him what he meant, he meant that his son couldn't walk to school two blocks without his walking with him, his son couldn't play in the

park across the streets from their apartment house with his father being there. He said his son was not free.

It's time to put aside the divisions of party and philosophy and put our best efforts to work on a crime plan that will help all the American people and go beyond the cynicism of mere speeches to clear action.

Radio Address, Oakland, CA, August 14, 1993

But there's another threat to our security, to our economic revival and our most basic values. It's the crime that's ravaging our neighborhoods and communities...There's a virtual war on our streets, and crime has become a national security issue to millions of Americans...We in government can start by ensuring that the criminal justice system reflects our values and restores people's confidence in the government's ability to prevent and punish crime...But the power of every individual to influence those around them is also very strong, and it's also a power we must turn to if we're going to turn the crime problem around.

With the economic plan in hand and a very tough anti-crime bill on the way, we can truly say our country is headed in a new direction -- more responsibility, more opportunity, a deeper sense of community and restoring the American Dream.

Address to a Joint Session of Congress on Health Care Reform, September 22, 1993

In short, responsibility should apply to anybody who abuses this system and drives up costs for honest, hard-working citizens and undermines confidence in the honest, gifted health care providers we have. Responsibility also means changing some behaviors in this country that drive up our costs like crazy. And without changing it we'll never have the system we ought to have, we will never.

Let me just mention a few and start with the most important: The outrageous costs of violence in this country stem in large measure from the fact that this is the only country in the world where teenagers can rout the streets at random with semiautomatic weapons and be better armed than the police.

Remarks in St. Petersburg, FA, September 23, 1993

When Michael Jordan's father was killed recently, a nation grieved, but no one knew the names of the other 22 people who died in that country this year. This is a national problem.

When I was born in 1946, homicide wasn't even in the top ten leading causes of death in America. In fact, listen to this, throughout my lifetime homicide never made the top ten until 1989. And yet, now, homicide is the second leading cause of death among Americans age 15 to 25. And more of our teenage boys die from gunshots now than any other cause.

Remarks to the Democratic National Committee Breakfast, at the Washington Sheraton, October 8, 1993

We've got to know, how old are these people buying these guns? Who are they? Do they have a criminal record? Do they have a mental health history? It's a big deal.

The states can do something. 17 states have said kids can't own handguns unless they're out with their parents on a hunting trip or a target practice. A lot of states have tried to set up laws licensing gun dealers, but the federal law will give you a license for ten bucks, and the states can't overturn it yet.

You got hundreds of gun dealers out there and there's no system about it. And maybe the most important thing of all is, you've got a lot of these people, most of them very young, a lot of them with drug problems, nearly all of them with no real connection to the rest of society, who have easy access to rapidfire assault weapons, the sole purpose of which is to kill people quicker, in greater numbers.

Look at New York. One of the few big cities in the country, where for two years running, there's been a decline in the crime rate in all seven major FBI categories because they went to a community policing system. Look at Houston, where the mayor there, Bob Lanier, got elected on a commitment to put the equivalent of 655 more police officers on the street, and to concentrate them in areas of high crime, and they had a 17 percent drop in the crime rate the first year they did it. You can do this. And we ought to be about the business of helping our places become more safe. This is a huge deal. And the Democratic Party ought to do it. If we were the party of social security, why can't we be the party of health security, and personal security, and freedom from fear?

Remarks on Health Care and Violence in America, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ, October 8, 1993

And so, I tell you, my fellow Americans, we have a decision to make. And this is the time to make it. We can't keep saying that we deplore these things and it's terrible and keep extolling our American values on how much more law-abiding we are than other people and put up with this. We either need to say this is a level of chaos and human degradation and waste of human potential and incredible cost in society that we are willing to tolerate because we cannot bear to do something about it; or we need to get up, stand up and be counted and do something about it.

We need a national law to do what New Jersey has done here with the assault weapons. Again because we have a constitutional right to travel in this country. New Jersey can make a big dent in New Jersey's problems by abandoning these weapons here, and then by setting up a system to try to collect them, but people are still crossing the state line all the time.

We need national legislation. There are several bills in the Congress, and arguments about which one is better than the other one, but I will guarantee you they are all better than nothing. And the Congress should pass one of those bills and send it to me this year. It would be a great Christmas present to the American people to stand up for safety.

Finally, let me just say that each of us in our own way are going to ask ourselves what we can do to deal with this. We have a culture of violence. We glorify it. I was delighted to see some of the television networks voluntarily say that they were going to do their best to try to monitor the content of violence and reduce it, and degradation of people during prime time television.

We have got to take a whole generation of young people who have very short attention spans for whom the future has no claim because they cannot even imagine the future, and slowly, carefully, and one-on-one, neighborhood by neighborhood, community by community, help them rebuild the kind of inner strength and sense of values and discipline and control and hope that will permit us to go where we need to go. No law will do that, but that is not an excuse not to pass these laws.

And let us have the courage to admit that some of these problems we will never fix until we change our ways as a nation, and let's start with violence, begin with guns, and prove that we can do in America what you are doing here in New Jersey.

Radio Address, October 9, 1993

And the blanket of security for Americans has another side to it: personal security. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live, work, play and go to school. But too many of our people are denied that right. I've talked with parents who are afraid to send their children to schools where other kids carry guns. I've talked with children who were so afraid of becoming caught up with gangs, they didn't even want to leave their homes. I've talked with police officers who felt anger and frustration at trying, sometimes against overwhelming odds, to stem an epidemic of violence, especially from children, better armed than police, who shoot other children. And, most importantly, I've talked with the victims.

My visits with these victims made me more determined than ever to win passage of our crime bill. This bill will help to restore a system where those who commit crimes are caught, those who are found guilty are convicted, those who are convicted are punished -- sometimes by the imposition of the death penalty for especially serious crimes. I support that. Two months ago I asked Congress to pass a tough crime bill. This month your lawmakers will consider it. And they should pass it this year.

Remarks by the President at Yale Alumni Luncheon, October 9, 1993

The second thing I want to mention is violence. This is the only country in the world where police have to go to work every day on streets with teenagers better armed than they

do. This is the only country in the world that would be fiddling around after these years -- how many years has it been since Jim Brady got shot in the attempt to assassinate Ronald Reagan, and we still haven't passed the Brady bill, because people are fiddling around the edges of it making parliamentary arguments because they're trying to find some way to please the people who don't like it. It's unconscionable.

How can I preach to people about NAFTA, education, think of the future, and you've got to worry about whether your kid's going to get shot going to school? We can do something about it. And it is time to close the massive yawning gap between our rhetoric and the way we are organized in this society.

Remarks at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, October 12, 1993

Most of our people are law-abiding citizens who love their families more than their own lives. But America leads the world in violent crime, has the highest percentage of its people behind bars, has 90,000 murders in the last four years and more and more of our children are born into and grow up in family situations so difficult that it is hard even to make the arguments that the rest of us have taken for granted all of our lives.

And this last point I would make to you -- if we are to be personally secure enough to make the changes and meet the tests of this time, we must protect our people better against the ravages of violence. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live, where they go to school and where they work.

My fellow Americans, I was in California the other night and I talked to people all across the state in a hooked up town hall meeting. And this young African American boy, a junior high school student, said, "Mr. President, my brother and I, we don't want to be in gangs, we don't want to have guns, we don't want to cause any trouble. We want to learn, we want a future. And we thought our school was too unsafe, so we decided to go to another school and enroll in it because it was safer. And on the day we showed up to register for school, my brother was standing right in front of me and he was shot," because he got in a crossfire of one of these mindless, arbitrary, endless shootings that occur among children on our streets and in our schools today. We have to stop this. We cannot let those children be robbed of their future.

I know this state grieved recently when your native son Michael Jordan's father was killed. And I know we all wish him well as Michael embarks on a new journey in his life. But let us not forget that 22 other men and women were killed in that same county in your state this year. Ten foreign tourists were killed in Florida this year, and the state grieved over it. But in our nation's capital, in one week this summer, more than twice that many people were killed. They were not famous, but they were the President's neighbors.

Remarks in Interview With Radio Reporters, October 18, 1993

[The President was asked about the Chafee bill to ban all handguns.]

I think it might go a little far if it bans all handguns, just because I think that there is a lot of evidence that Americans have used handguns responsibly for sporting purposes, that they're not all used as weapons for committing crimes or killing people. I do believe, however---and let me say first---secondly, as a practical matter, I have not yet been able to get Congress to vote on the crime bill, including the Brady bill and the vote to ban a comprehensive list of assault weapons.

I also know that I heard that Senator Kohl has an amendment, which I encourage, which would make national the ban on ownership or possession of handguns by minors unless with their parents or another supervising adult in an appropriate setting, which might be the way to go on the issue that Senator Chafee is concerned about. Nonetheless, I hold him in the highest regard. He's, I think, an extremely responsible person, and I welcome the hearings on his legislation. But I would have a little problem with a total ban on handguns. I would have a problem with that based on what my understanding of the situation is.

Again, we ought to focus on the Brady bill, the assault weapons ban, and banning possession by minors right now. Since I have been working on this in the last several months, one of the multitude of statistics that's made the biggest impression on me is the one that we were told a couple of weeks ago, that now someone shot in a criminal encounter is 3 times more likely to die from a gunshot wound because they're likely to have nearly three bullets in them, as opposed to only 15 years ago. That is a huge statistical change. And of course, as I pointed out, these wounds and the homicides put an enormous financial burden on this country, on the medical system, on the criminal justice system.

But mostly, it's an incredible human problem. We've got 90,000 people in the last 4 years murdered in America, most of them by gunshots. That's more in any single year than were ever lost in a single year in the war in Vietnam. I think the time has come to do something about this. And I'm hopeful that both Houses of Congress will act on the crime bill and on the assault weapons bill before the end of the year. I hate to keep coming back to this, but right now I don't know that we have the votes to pass the assault weapons ban in the Congress. And I hope we can get the votes to do that and to pass the limitation on minors and possession or ownership of handguns. I think if we push those now in the Brady bill, then the Congress could really make a dent on the exposure of Americans to lethal violence.

Remarks at a Democratic National Committee Fundraiser, October 21, 1993

And finally, let me say, I believe we will never meet our challenges at home and abroad until the American people are more secure on their own streets again. For all the violence in the Middle East, my friends, we can read stories every day on every street in America that rivals anything you can read about in the Gaza in the toughest times. If you

look at what has happened, 90,000 murders in 4 years in America, more in any given year than ever happened at the height of the war in Vietnam; you look at the fact that this is the only advanced country in the world, the only one where we don't even check your criminal record or your mental health history in some States to see if you can get a gun and where people seriously argue that infringes on constitutional rights. This is the only country in the world where police go to work on mean streets every day and confront young people who grew up in chaotic circumstances who are often better armed than they are.

...We are breeding generation after generation of people who have no claim to the mainstream of this society and on whom the future has no claim. We are breeding so many people who are so alienated and who have no sense of all these things that you and I came here to celebrate tonight. Just 3 weeks ago, a little girl named Launice Smith was shot and killed in this city. She was on a playground 3 1/2 miles from this wonderful building. She was 4 years old, one of 1,500 people who are shot in this town every year, our Nation's Capital. Her father could not go to her funeral because he's in prison for shooting another 4-year-old on another playground several years ago when he was 19 and got in an argument over hair barrettes. He got angry, and another kid handed him a gun, and he used it.

Remarks in the Radio Address, October 23, 1993

One of the problems in inspiring that confidence in America is that we've become the most dangerous big country in the world. We have a higher percentage of our people behind bars than any other nation in the world. We've had 90,000 murders in this country in the last 4 years. The American people increasingly feel that they're not secure in their homes, on their streets, or even in their schools. This explosion of crime and violence is changing the way our people live, making too many of us hesitant, often paralyzed with fear at a time when we need to be bold. When our children are dying, often at the hands of other children with guns, it's pretty tough to talk about anything else. Today, there are more than 200 million guns on our streets, and we have more Federally licensed gun dealers---from your Federal Government for only \$10---than we have gas stations.

It's prompted the corner grocer to shut down because he feels threatened. It's made the shopper afraid to enter a parking garage at night. It's made children think twice about going to school because classmates have been shot there. It's made parents order their children inside in broad daylight because of gunfire.

Nothing we aspire to in our Nation can finally be achieved unless first we do something about children who are no longer capable of distinguishing right from wrong, about people who are strangely unaffected by the violence they do to others, about the easy availability of handguns or assault weapons that are made solely for the purpose of killing or maiming others, about the mindless temptations of easy drugs.

Every time we feel the need to view strangers with suspicion or to bar our homes and cars against intrusion or we worry about the well-being of the child we send off to grade

school, we lose a little part of what America should mean. Some of these problems were decades in the making, and we know we can't solve them overnight, but within adversity there is some hope today:

...We are dedicated to restoring and expanding personal security for people who work hard and play by the rules. We're dedicated to insisting on more responsibility from those who should exercise it. We have a comprehensive crime bill that says we need more police, fewer guns, tougher laws, and new alternatives for first offenders. We're asking for a new direction in the control of illegal drugs to make our streets safer. We're asking all our people to take more personal responsibility for their health, their lives, and the well-being of their children.

I believe the American people have decided simply and finally they are sick and tired of living in fear. They are prepared to reach beyond the slogans and the easy answers to support what works, to experiment with new ideas, and to finally, finally do something about this crime and violence. If we do it together, we'll make America more prosperous and more secure. We'll have the courage, the self-confidence, the openness to make the other changes we need to make to put the American people first in the months and years to come.

Remarks at the National Italian-American Foundation Dinner, October 23, 1993

We have a whole generation of children growing up who will not be able to tell these stories, who shoot each other on the street, who have access to guns in a way they would not have access in any other country in the world. We say we're a law and order country. We're the most religious, big country in the entire world, by far, and we're the only ones that let teenagers be better armed than police, who have no structure, order in their lives, who have no identity with a future, who impulsively do things that destroy others and themselves.

Remarks Announcing Federal Procurement Reforms and Spending Cut Proposals, October 26, 1993

...We ought to take some of that money that your Government has been wasting all these years and use it to uphold Government's first responsibility, which is to keep our citizens safe here at home. With that money, we can make our crime bill even stronger.

...I want Congress to pass this crime bill and pass the savings I've asked to help pay for it. I want them to know that if these cuts aren't passed, I'm going to come back with more cut. And if those aren't passed, I'll come back with still more. I'll keep coming back until we have the money we need to make America safer.

Remarks to the Medical Community at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md, October 28, 1993

It goes way beyond that. We have certain group behaviors in this country that are imposing intolerable burdens on the health care system, which will never be remedies. And we must recognize every time another kid takes another assault weapon onto another dark street and commits another random drive-by shooting and sends another child into the Johns Hopkins emergency room, that adds to the cost of health care. It is a human tragedy. It is also the dumbest thing we can permit to continue to go on for our long-term economic health. Why do we continue to permit this to happen?

And most important of all, we have got to do something about the rising tide of violence in this country. There's a crime bill that Congress can give you for a Christmas present that includes the Brady bill and more police officers on the street and alternatives for kids, and we ought to pass it. We ought to pass it before the Congress goes home.

Remarks on Signing the Executive Order on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, November 1, 1993

I'd like to close by mentioning a very disturbing article that appeared in the morning paper here. You may have seen it, about children in our Nation's Capital, not even teenagers, discussing their own funerals, planning their funerals, thinking about what they would wear and what music they hope would be played. I am profoundly concerned as we take up the debate this week on the crime bill, on the Brady bill, on the establishment of boot camps as alternatives to prison for young people, on trying to get more law enforcement officers on our streets, that we not underestimate the gravity of the task before us. Somehow we have to get those young people to you, and through you, to the world.

I say that not to end this on a down moment but to remind you of just how important this is, what you are doing. A lot of these kids still won't have a chance if you don't do your job well. And we have to find a way for you to reach them at an even earlier point. And if we want to make it, we've got to find a way to remind the rest of America that we are really all in this together. We cannot afford to have 11-year-olds thinking about their funerals. They need to be thinking about their children. You can do that.

Remarks in Photo Opportunity with Jim and Sarah Brady, November 2, 1993

[The President was asked about the impact of the Brady Bill.]

What the Brady bill would do, it would make uniform the requirement -- the losing battle a lot of states are fighting now because they're all alone to at least check those people who do buy from registered gun dealers. And there are an enormous number of people who do have criminal backgrounds, who have mental health problem, who don't even meet any kind of age requirement. We would be able to check all that, uniformly nationwide.

We find now that in a lot of states that have pretty strict gun laws, an enormous percentage of the guns that are confiscated by law enforcement officials every year come from other states that don't. So we do have some evidence that these laws work, that it's not the end all and be all. We've got a couple hundred million guns out there. There are a lot of other problems that we need to deal with in terms of minors in possession, in terms of assault weapons, in terms of the way the permitting process works for federal arms dealers.

But the Brady bill is the first step. And we are going to pass it this year, I believe because the American people finally have heard the long call of Jim and Sarah Brady. They've been out here on this for years and years and years, often times alone with no support. And finally, thanks to the leadership of the members of Congress who are here and others, we're going to be able to put it over.

...And you read all these stories, like the story that was in *The Washington Post* yesterday of the children planning for their funerals, I think it's going to be very difficult got the Congress to justify continued inaction on what millions of Americans believe is the number one problem in their lives.

Remarks to Bipartisan Congressional Leadership Meeting, November 5, 1993

[The President made this comment the day after the Byrd amendment, increasing the crime bill's funding to \$22 billion, was attached to the crime bill.]

I am delighted that now both Houses have acted on the crime legislation. I congratulate the House and Senate, and I look forward to working with them on getting the strongest possible crime bill out we can; and hopefully meeting the goal that I have had for a long time now putting another 100,000 police officers on the street, which I am convinced will do more in less time to lower the crime rate than anything else. I also hope that we can now move forward to a debate in the Senate and the House on the Brady Bill. And I hope that it will pass before the Senate goes home and the House goes home.

Remarks by the President on "Meet the Press," November 7, 1993

We ought to pass our crime bill here and put another 100,000 police on the street and do it right in community policing. But we have to get work back into the lives of people. you know you can't have generation after generation not knowing work and expect there to be structure and order in people's lives...

I think this country needs a community strategy which deals with the crises of drugs, violence, crime, the family and work. And we need to go not only nationally, but at the grass-roots level. And we need to understand that there's some basic things we have to do. If you want families to stay together, you've got to make it possible for people to be successful workers and successful parents.

Remarks at NAFTA Press Conference, November 10, 1993

[The President was asked about what he would do about crime and violence, beyond the crime bill.]

We have to rebuild families and communities in this country. We've got to take more responsibility for these little kids before they grow up and start shooting each other. We have to find ways to offer hope and to reconnect people. When children start shooting children the way they're doing now, and little kids go around planning their own funerals, what that means is that they're a whole lot of people, millions of people in this country, who literally are not even playing by the same set of rules that all the rest of us take for granted. And we have learned in this country to accept many things that are unacceptable. And I think the President has a pulpit, Teddy Roosevelt's bully pulpit, that I have to use and work hard on and try to live by to try to help rebuild the conditions of family and community and education and opportunity.

...First of all, the Attorney General and Secretary Cisneros and a number of other people are now working in our administration on how we can develop a comprehensive approach to the whole issue of violence in our society and how we can merge that with what we want to do in terms of community empowerment, and how it will fit with all the things that we are now doing. And I think what you will see from us over the next several months is a sustained, organized, disciplined approach so that we don't just respond to the horror we all feel when a little kid gets shot after being picked up off the street like happened here last weekend, or when the children plan their funerals. I want to give -- I want to put this right at the center of what we're doing.

I have spent years going to neighborhoods and talking to people and dealing with issues that most politicians in national government have not talked a lot about. I care a great deal about this. There is a lot of knowledge in this town about it. Senator Moynihan wrote a very powerful article just a couple of weeks ago on how we have defined deviancy down. I think there's an enormous bipartisan willingness to face this. What I think I have to do is to mobilize every person in my government to do what can be done to address these problems. And you will see that coming out after the Congress goes home and in my address to the people next year when the Congress begins.

**Remarks at the Mason Temple Church of God In Christ, Memphis, Tennessee,
November 13, 1993**

But I guess what I really want to say to you today, my fellow Americans, is that we can do all of this and still fail unless we meet the great crisis of the spirit that is gripping America today.

...If Martin Luther King, who said, "Like Moses, I am on the mountaintop and I can see the promised land, but I'm not going to be able to get there with you, but we will get

there," -- if he were to reappear by my side today and give us a report card on the last 25 years, what would he say?...He would say, I did not live and die to see the American family destroyed. I did not live and die to see 13-year-old boys get automatic weapons and gun down 9-year-olds just for the kick of it. I did not live and die to see young people destroy their own lives with drugs and then build fortunes destroying the lives of others. That is not what I came here to do.

I fought for freedom, he would say, but not for the freedom of people to kill each other with reckless abandon; not for the freedom of children to have children and the fathers of the children walk away from them and abandon them as if they don't amount to anything. I fought for people to have the right to work, but not to have whole communities and people abandoned. This is not what I lived and died for.

My fellow Americans, he would say, I fought to stop white people from being so filled with hate that they would wreak violence on black people. I did not fight for the right of black people to murder other black people with reckless abandon.

...The freedom to do that kind of thing is not what Martin Luther King lived and died for. It's not what people gathered in this hallowed church for the night before he was assassinated in April, 1968. If you had told anybody who was here in that church on that night that we would abuse our freedom in that way, they would have found it hard to believe. And I tell you it is our moral duty to turn it around.

...How would we explain to him all these kids getting killed and killing each other? How would we justify the things that we permit that no other country in the world would permit? How could we explain that we gave people the freedom to succeed and we created conditions in which millions have used that freedom to destroy the things that make life worth living and life itself? We cannot.

And I say to you today, my fellow Americans, you gave me this job. And we're making progress on the things you hired me to do. But unless we deal with the ravages of crime and drugs and violence and unless we recognize that it's due to the breakdown of the family, the community and the disappearance of jobs; and unless we say some of this cannot be done by government because we have to reach deep inside to the values, the spirit, and the soul and the truth of human nature, none of the other things we seek to do will ever take us where we need to go.

So in this pulpit, on this day, let me ask all of you in your heart to say we will honor the life and the work of Martin Luther King; we will honor the meaning of our church; we will somehow, by God's grace, we will turn this around. We will give these children a future. We will take away their guns and give them books. We will take away their despair and give them hope. We will rebuild the families and the neighborhoods and the communities. We won't make all the work that has gone on here benefit just a few. We will do it together by the grace of God.

March 24, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR RAHM, BRUCE

FROM: RON

SUBJECT: CRIME POINTS FOR TONIGHT'S PRESS CONFERENCE

Here are the points I would like to see the President make tonight in his Press Conference:

- The Republicans are letting politics stand in the way of progress on the Crime Bill. Last November, the Senate passed a version of the Crime Bill I support -- and all through this month, the House Committees have been working hard to move it through that body.
- Yesterday, the Republicans voted in lockstep to try to prevent it from even being debated in the House. They've pledged to slow its consideration, to try tie it up in procedures -- and now the House is going to go out for its Easter recess without acting on this bill.
- This is a smart, tough, substantial Crime Bill. It includes:
 - The first 50,000 police on the way to putting 100,000 more police on our streets;
 - Tough punishments for violent criminals, like "three strikes" and the death penalty for cop killers;
 - An attack on youth violence, with boot camps, drug courts -- and something for these kids to say "yes" to: like Boys/Girls Clubs, and keeping schools open later, Midnight Basketball, and job training and placement;
 - A plan to prevent and reduce crime before it happens;
 - And \$3 billion to open new prisons to lock up the most dangerous offenders out on the street.
- I can't imagine why -- other than politics -- that the Republicans wanted to block this bill. They wanted to offer amendments -- we said, "go ahead, offer a dozen, offer two dozen," -- and they said, "nope, not enough."
- The time for delaying and posturing on crime is over. I have met with Speaker Foley, and Majority Leader Gephardt, and asked them to make the Crime Bill the first order of business when the Congress returns. And I have asked them to keep the House working on this bill -- through weekends, late at night, whatever -- until it is done.

- And I have asked the Attorney General, Janet Reno, who, with the rest of my Cabinet, has been working hard this past month to get the bill passed -- to travel the country during the Congressional recess, and explain to the American people just why this bill is so important.
- I want this bill passed by the House by April __, the end of National Victims of Crime Week. And I want a Conference Report on this bill, passed by both the House and the Senate, and ready for my signature, by May 15th, the National Law Enforcement Memorial Day -- the day on which we remember the heroic men and women who have fallen in the line of duty.
- The American people will accept no less -- I will accept no less.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF KEY ADMINISTRATION-SUPPORTED
PROVISIONS IN THE HOUSE CRIME BILL**

- **More Police and Community Policing:** The House bill funds 50,000 new police officers -- evenly-divided between large and small cities -- deployed in community policing programs.
- **"Smart and Tough" Approach to Youth Crime and Violence:** This bill focuses on youthful violence in numerous ways:
 - With proven and extensive crime prevention programs (as discussed below);
 - With boot camps for youthful offenders, as a second-chance for kids who get off-track;
 - With drug courts to get young drug users turned around before it is too late;
 - With a ban on juvenile gun possession;
 - And, for hardened young criminals, the authority to try 13-year olds as adults.
- **Measures to Stiffly Punish Violent Crime:** The bill includes several important steps, including:
 - The President's "three strikes and you're out" proposal for repeat violent offenders;
 - The death penalty for the most heinous of murders, including killing a federal law enforcement officer;
 - A \$3 billion plan for grants to state and local governments to expand prisons to hold 30,000 more violent offenders and criminal aliens.
- **A Substantial Crime Prevention Agenda:** The bill includes almost \$5 billion in crime prevention programs, including:
 - The President's "YES" program (Youth Employment Skills), to get job training and opportunities to kids in hard-hit, high-crime areas;
 - Ounce of prevention programs to keep schools open after hours, and to expand after-school activities like Boys and Girls clubs, that keep kids off the streets;
 - Innovative alternatives, like Midnight Sports and Police Partnerships with youths.
- **Attack on Violence Against Women:** The bill includes this plan to increase penalties and prevention efforts aimed at domestic violence and sexual assaults.
- **Much, Much More:** Among the many other administration-backed provisions are laws to promote victims rights; to prevent child abuse; to provide a mandatory minimum "safety-valve" for non-violent offenders; and to increase penalties for hate crimes.



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET

DATE:

3/24/94

TO:

Bruce Reed

FACSIMILE NO.

456-7431

TELEPHONE NO.

456-6575

FROM:

Ron Klain

FACSIMILE NO.

574-9077

TELEPHONE NO.

574-6909

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET _____

COMMENTS:

REED

The President of the United States
8pm DRAFT: Rally to pass the crime bill
South Lawn
April 14, 1994

Largest police rally -

I want to thank all of you on the front lines of the fight against crime for coming to Washington today.

Behind me stand the heroes who stand behind us every day, the people who wake up every morning, put on a uniform and put their lives on the line to protect our safety. There are 100 of them from every state in America. They do good work, and that's why we want to put another 100,000 like them on our streets over the next five years. To them, and to you mayors, I want to say thank you for bringing and holding America's communities together.

Last week, I was in communities like yours across the country. The Attorney General was too. And everywhere we went, people wanted answers to the crime problem. We've got to give our people hope so we can take away their fear.

[News] At one public housing project in Chicago, three people just died in a single weekend in which 300 shootings were reported to local police. In trying to solve this problem, Vince Lane, the head of the Chicago Housing Authority, has become a hero to public housing residents. But a week ago today, the Authority's search and sweep policy was declared unconstitutional by a federal district judge.

Every law abiding American -- rich and poor alike -- has a right to raise their child in safety. To live out of the line of gunfire. And away from the shadows of criminals who invade their halls and terrorize their homes. Not just a few Americans. Not just some Americans. But all Americans. Every American. Everywhere.

So, today, I am announcing a new nationwide policy to help the residents of America's public housing take back their homes from crime:

[Tenants] First of all, it puts tenants first. It will give residents of public housing more responsibility in managing the places they call home. The criminals have been running the show for too long. It's time to put the good people back in charge.

[Secure] Second, this policy will secure public housing to protect the safety of the residents. HUD will work with local housing officials, police departments and tenant associations to put more guards in public housing, to fill up vacant apartments where criminals nest, to put metal detectors at the entrances and to make lobbies and hallways and other public spaces safe.

[Search] Third and finally, this policy allows for legal searches to maintain safety. The lease of every public housing tenant will say officials can search for illegal weapons -- in apartments or on suspects -- during an emergency when residents are in danger. And we will give tenants' groups the authority to make rules even more strict where they choose to.

[Crime Bill] When you go to Capitol Hill today, tell Congress to do their part, too. Tell them to give you the tools you need to do your job, to make our communities safe. Tell them to say yes to the crime bill without delay. With your help, we're going to make the crime bill the law of the land.

[Police] These officers behind me deserve our support. Tell Congress that you and I want another 100,000 police on the streets. Tell them that once they pass the crime bill, I'm going to cut through the bureaucracy and cut the red tape so that 20,000 new officers are hired, trained, and ready to go within the first year.

When deployed right, more police out in our communities means less crime. In Los Angeles, after the earthquake in January, Mayor Riordan and Chief Williams responded to an explosive situation by increasing the police on the streets, and the crime rate went down significantly. The Los Angeles Times said it "helped keep criminals off the streets in record numbers." The people of L.A. rose to the occasion because they saw the police in their communities and knew they were not alone. We can't let America's communities fight this problem alone any longer.

[Punishment] No matter how many more police we put into our communities, we'll be wasting their time and their lives if we don't get the repeat criminals off the streets.

A small number of violent criminals today are responsible for a large portion of the violent crimes. We know that. That's why the crime bill gives us tougher laws and more prison cells to make sure the dangerous criminals get put away. And it will provide us with smarter, less costly punishments for the nonviolent criminals -- like boot camps for juvenile offenders and drug treatment so hard-core drug users don't bring their bad habits back into our neighborhoods.

[Prevention] On Monday at the Justice Department, I met a young man named Eddie Cutanda [kuh-TONN-duh], from Boston. In front of law enforcement officials from all over the country, he said, "I used to hate the police." (A very brave and honest young man.) He said, "I used to hate the police [because] I used to run the streets with my friends."

But he got away from gangs and drugs thanks to a community policing program, the kind of after school activity these officers belong to back home. The police in Boston probably saved this young man's life. And he knows it. When he introduced the two officers who had come down to Washington with him, he said they "were there for me like brothers."

We need more role models. We need to re-establish the basic things that connect people to one another in a community. We need more jobs, so young people will say yes to good paying work no to the high cost of crime. The crime bill will do all of these things. They work and we need more of them.

[We're all on same side] Crime prevention works best when all of us realize that we're on the same side. Look at us here today: Republican Mayors. Democratic Mayors. Police

Chiefs. Civilians. Community Leaders. Business owners. Neighborhood people. We're all in this together.

For six, long years, America has waited for a comprehensive, national crime law because people in this town have been caught up in political debates that do nothing to improve the quality of life in your communities. Conservatives on the right have said, "Do it our way." Liberals on the left have said, "No, do it our way."

All of the posturing behind the scenes helps nobody on the front lines. And the American people don't care two bits about left or right. They want what works -- more police, where it works. More punishment where it works. And, yes, more prevention where it works. The bill we want is a balanced, bipartisan, comprehensive approach to crime that gives people in America's communities the tools they need to do their job.

I came to Washington because I wanted this city to help people solve their problems at home. That's what the crime bill does. And look at how we pay for it. Not through new taxes, but by cutting the federal bureaucracy by over 250,000 positions, down to the lowest level since John F. Kennedy was President. We're going to get America's money out from behind the desks here in Washington and put it to work in your communities where it will do the most good.

Let's give our people hope and take away their fear.

Please call w comments by
7:15pm. It must be to Staff
Secretary by 8:00pm.

Don Baer draft as of 4/14/94 at 4:30pm

The President of the United States
Radio Address
Oval Office
April 15, 1994

6-7180
6-2777

Good morning. In 1991, before I began my campaign for the Presidency, I visited the Rockwell Housing Project (ck) in Chicago and saw again firsthand what happens to our children when they live too long in the shadow of fear. Dozens of children rushed out to greet me. They were so happy to have someone to tell their stories to. They talked of gunshots and drug dealers, of late-night knocks at their doors and hallways where they dared not stray. Almost all of the stories had one theme: The childhoods and the futures of these young Americans were being stolen from them, and they felt desperately alone.

In trying to show them that they are not alone, Vince Lane, the head of the Chicago Housing Authority, has become one of our genuine heroes. He put into effect a search and sweep policy to clean up Chicago's public housing communities. But just over a week ago, a federal district judge declared that policy unconstitutional.

elements - f and give them back to the honest, decent people who live here

Every law abiding American -- rich or poor -- has the right to raise children without fear of criminals terrorizing them where they live. That is why, as soon as I heard about the court's decision, I instructed Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros and Attorney General Janet Reno to devise a constitutional and effective way to protect the residents of America's public housing communities.

Secretary Cisneros and Attorney General Reno moved immediately. And, today, I am announcing a new policy to help public housing residents take back their homes from crime.

First, this new policy will give public housing residents more responsibility in managing the safety of their homes. (Do we need more here?)

Second, we will do more to protect them. The Department of Housing and Urban Development will work with local housing officials, police departments and tenant associations to put more officers in public housing, to fill up vacant apartments where criminals nest, to put metal detectors at the entrances and to make public spaces safe.

Finally, we want every tenant to be a partner in maintaining safety. Every public housing tenant will be asked to consent to a lease that says, when an emergency arises and residents are in danger, officials can search for illegal weapons -- in apartments or on suspects. And we will give tenants' groups the authority to make rules even more strict if that's what they choose to do.

This new policy honors the principles of personal and community responsibility at the heart of so much we are doing in this administration. It also shows all Americans that their government can move swiftly and effectively on their behalf.

It is now time to move swiftly on the crime bill before Congress. As I visit communities across this country, people, no matter what their incomes and no matter where they live, plead for help with the problems of crime and violence that are tearing us apart.

The tough and smart crime bill Congress is now debating provides the right balance of protection, punishment, and prevention. It will put 100,000 more officers on the streets for community policing efforts that work. It will make "three-strikes-and-you're-out" the law of the land and provide money for new prisons. And it will provide for alcohol and drug abuse education, for after-school programs and many other preventive efforts that will give our young people a future to say yes to.

We are facing a crucial moment in the crime bill debate. All Americans should tell Congress, as you tell me, that you have waited long enough for a comprehensive national crime bill. That you don't want partisan bickering. That you need this help to take back your communities.

This crime bill is for all Americans. But nobody needs it more than people like a mother of three who lives right here in Washington. One week ago, the 33-year-old woman came home after celebrating her 10-year-old daughter's birthday. She found a gang of gunmen ransacking her home. The mother pleaded with the intruders to spare her children. "If you believe in God, please don't shoot my children. Shoot me," she begged.

She got a cold, terrifying answer from one gunman. "I don't believe in God," he said. Then he put the gun to the head of one of her daughter's, pulled the trigger and killed her. Before the gunfire ceased, another child and the mother lay on the floor, shot in the head. And her three-year-old son witnessed the whole nightmare.

Who were these heartless murderers? The police now believe the shootings were part of a robbery carried out by youths who hang out in the very apartment complex where that mother was trying to raise her children.

There are many rights that our laws and our constitution guarantee to every citizen of this country. But that mother and her children -- and millions of others like them -- have certain rights we are letting slip away. They include the right to go out to the playground and the right to sit by an open window. The right to walk to the corner without fear of getting caught in gunfire. The right to go to school safely in the morning. And the right to go out for your tenth birthday without coming home to

bloodshed and terror.

The crime bill that Congress must pass will help us take back those rights. So will the new policy I have just put in place to help protect public housing residents. We must decide together that we cannot tolerate one more tragedy like the one that befell that mother. Then, together, we must act to take back our homes for the sake of our children.

Thanks for listening.

Crime

Document No. _____

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/22/94 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11:00AM! TODAY!!

PRESIDENTIAL RADIO ADDRESS: APRIL 23, 1994
(TAPED APRIL 22, 1994)

SUBJECT: _____

| | ACTION | FYI | | ACTION | FYI |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MYERS | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| McLARTY | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | QUINN | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Reed, B →
Cerde, J
Curiel

REMARKS: *Comments to Carolyn Curiel by 11am TODAY, 4/22*
(x62309)

RESPONSE:

JOHN D. PODESTA
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 2702

President William J. Clinton
Saturday Radio Address
April 23, 1994 (taped April 22, 1994)

Good morning. I'm happy to report to you today that we're closing in on a top priority for the American people: winning a crime bill that will make our homes, schools and communities safer.

This week the House followed the Senate and passed a version of the bill. We can thank the hard work of the leadership under Speaker Tom Foley, who, true to his word, put this legislation on the front burner. In doing that, he helped break almost five years of gridlock over this single bill, as Democrats and Republicans joined to pass it by an overwhelming majority.

But the hard work isn't over, not yet.

The leaders on Capitol Hill now must hammer together the House and Senate versions. This is their top priority: on that I have their pledge. And as soon as they produce a bill that the American people deserve, I'll sign it. That's my pledge.

While I congratulate the Congress, the credit for forcing this legislation along must go to you, the American people.

You sounded the alarm over crime. You told your lawmakers that the greatest nation on earth should not also be the place where 90 percent of all youth homicides are committed... should not be a place where 1 in 20 teen-agers carry a gun to school... should not be a place where gang members are often better armed than the police. In short, the greatest nation on earth should not also be the most violent.

And Washington got the message.

It heard the anguish of our people over the fate of young Polly Klass, who was abducted from her home and murdered by a repeat, violent offender. And over James Jordan, the father of Michael Jordan, killed in a robbery. And over mass murders with assault weapons... in a plaza in San Francisco... on a train in Long Island... at a fast-food restaurant outside Chicago.

Each time they were visited by this kind of violence, Americans felt a sense of common civility, security and humanity wither just a little bit more.

But now, we're on the verge of doing something concrete to change that. And we can't waste a minute.

In the coming weeks [can insert deadline here], I want crime legislation delivered to my desk that includes the best of both

the Senate and House bills... a bill that includes more police, punishment and prevention.

I want 100-thousand more police officers for community policing... the House voted for 50-thousand, but that's not enough. We've seen in cities like Los Angeles and Houston, putting more officers on the streets is a proven way to prevent crime.

I want the House to join the Senate to ban the weapons of war that plague our streets: assault weapons.

I want both Houses to tailor a provision to put away repeat, violent offenders... and put them away for good: three strikes and they're out.

I want to help the states build the prisons they need to close the revolving door and stop letting criminals go free after serving, on average, less than half of their sentenced time.

The legislation I sign will fight crime against women and it will take on youth crime.

It will employ boot camps to shake up the first-time offender and give him another chance at life... and drug courts to get the drug abuser treatment so he won't be a repeat criminal.

And it will give young people something to say yes to: More after-hours clean and safe activity, like midnight basketball and job programs. We need to give young people who want to play by the rules the chance to get ahead.

This is the most sweeping crime bill ever, the first to put extra police on the streets and the first to include crime prevention. On this we can't cut corners, and we don't have to. I believe we must pay for it through a Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund. This fund will cut the Federal bureaucracy by 252-thousand positions and use the savings to fight crime. I think that's a good trade for the American people.

I'm asking the Congress to move quickly on this... and if they do, I'll cut through the red tape and put the first 20-thousand extra police officers on the street within one year. That's how urgent this is.

Americans are weary of picking up the paper and reading about attacks like the one that occurred just this week in Norristown, Pennsylvania, a working-class community outside of Philadelphia: A 12-year-old girl shot in the face with a semi-automatic handgun. It was broad daylight and she was getting off

the school bus, surrounded by classmates. The boy arrested was 13-years-old.

Americans have the right to know that when their child goes to school, the other children are packing books, not guns. Our legislation bans juvenile ownership of handguns.

We are a country with the greatest of freedoms. But we must accept that with those freedoms come greater personal responsibilities.

Our responsibility now is to reclaim a part of America where freedoms do not trample on our greater liberties.

This is not a time for partisanship, for politics or for posturing. It's time to do what's right by America.

Thanks for listening.

DRAFT

Wilkie draft of 9/23/93 1:00 p.m.

The President of the United States
Pinellas Marine Institute
St. Petersburg Beach, Florida
Friday, September 24, 1993

Of all the threats to our nation abroad and at home, one of the greatest threats to our future is insecurity. Our society is burdened by too much fear today: fear that somebody might take my health care away; fear that somebody might take my job away; fear that somebody might take my life away.

Where these fears persist our people are not free. We must conquer these fears and take control over the great forces that shape the way we work and live.

For years the deficit spiraled out of control, and no one did anything real about it, until we passed our deficit reduction plan this year. We showed that America doesn't have to run from its problems, that we could take the difficult, but necessary step to protect our national economic security.

For decades, our health care costs have spiraled out of control, and millions of our people have lived in fear of losing health care. No one will have done anything about it for every American until we pass our plan. We're going to guarantee you health care security. We're going to pass a law that says nobody can take your health care coverage away. Ever.

If we ever want to be a healthy nation with a health care system we can afford, if we want to stop wasting tax dollars on unnecessary costs, then we must gain control over the violence that claims too many lives today.

This is not a problem in Florida alone. This is a national epidemic.

Floridians and Americans nationwide share a visceral anguish over the senseless murders that have captured our attention in recent weeks. We should be outraged at every act of violence across America today, regardless of the color of the victims' skin, or the country of their birth.

Earlier in the summer, our country was shocked and saddened when Michael Jordan's father was shot and killed. But who mourned the twenty-two others killed in Robeson County, North Carolina, this year? No, they weren't celebrities. Nor were they tourists from abroad. They were our neighbors; and to most of us they remain unknown.

When I was born, homicide was not even on the list of the ten leading causes of death in America. In fact, throughout my lifetime, homicide never made it to that list until 1989. Today, homicide is the second leading cause of death for Americans aged 15 to 25, and more of our teenage boys die from gunshots than from any other cause.

The day after the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot and killed, Robert Kennedy

said this about violence in America: "Some look for scapegoats, others look for conspiracies, but this much is clear: violence breeds violence, repression brings retaliation, and only a cleansing of our whole society can remove this sickness from our soul."

Every country in the world has its sinners and its saints. No society is free of wrong. But the moral test of any society is how its people overcome it.

American society has undergone tremendous changes in our lifetimes, but as crime and violence have risen, many have retreated. They've gone inside. Locked their doors. Turned on the television, and tuned out.

Law abiding citizens imprison themselves in isolation, while future criminals wear themselves on the bitterness of alienation. Too many young men are growing up without fathers in streets without laws facing lives without hope.

Americans of all races and walks of life are being numbed to disregard the humanity that surrounds us. As my friend Senator Moynihan, of New York, has put it: "we are getting used to a lot of behavior that is not good for us."

He's right. Security begins with responsibility. We should ask more of our neighbors. We should expect more of our children. We should demand more of their parents.

For years, people on the right have said, "Let others worry about themselves." And for years, people on the left have said, "Let government take care of it all." Both of these sides are wrong. Governments don't raise children -- parents do. But people can't raise children in isolation. They need support from active community lives that teach and thrive on mutual responsibility.

If there is a silver lining in these clouds it is this: violence doesn't have to be a wedge used to divide Americans for political gain. It can be a cause that brings us together.

That's what this Marine Institute is about. You are giving young people a chance to take their future back, showing them that life has meaning beyond gangs and drugs, teaching them that actions have consequences, that responsibility brings rewards, respect and self-esteem; and you have let them know that they belong to a community, an identity larger than themselves.

St. Petersburg's Chief of Police, Darrell Stephens, has been one of the nation's leaders in community policing, changing the way law enforcement approaches crime -- moving from old ways of reaction to new ways of prevention, working with people in the places they call home.

In communities all across America, brave mothers and fathers and neighbors are joining together to drive crack houses from their blocks. They're pushing for better lighting

on their streets. And they're speaking up to let the entertainment industry know that it ought to be ashamed of all the violence and disrespect for human life that our children are exposed to on the tube every day.

In the fight to control violence, state governments should be applauded too. Just last week in Colorado, my former colleague Gov. Roy Romer signed a law that prohibits juveniles from owning handguns. He joined Gov. Florio, of New Jersey, and the 17 other states that have passed that law this year.

While these constructive measures have been taken across the states, more people in Washington talk tough about crime than do anything to stop the violence. You're sick and tired of hearing politicians say "enough is enough." It's time to back up tough talk with real action.

We're the only nation on earth that lets teenagers roam the streets at random with assault weapons and be better armed than our police. It's time to put an end to that.

Like the young people here today, America's young people should be learning new skills -- and killing other people should not be one of them. I've talked to children in this country whose greatest fear is getting shot on the way to and from school. It's time to put an end to that.

I will fight to pass the crime bill introduced yesterday by Senator Joe Biden, of Delaware, and Congressman Jack Brooks, of Texas. It puts 50,000 more police officers on the streets. It streamlines the process for death penalty appeals to bring the system under control. It will help give citizens who obey the rules a criminal justice system where criminals get caught, the guilty get convicted, and the convicted go punished for their crimes.

This crime bill also expands support for places like this Institute -- and places like the boot camps for juvenile offenders we did in Arkansas -- which teach young people responsibility, and give them drug treatment if they need it too.

And finally, once and for all, it's time to pass the Brady Bill. Before anyone in Washington asks you to exercise discipline on your streets, you ask them if they've exercised discipline in the nation's capital.

Our administration has already brought discipline to the budget process. We're going to bring discipline to the health care system. Help us bring some discipline to our streets and our schools when it comes time for Congress to vote on that crime bill.

All of you here in St. Petersburg, Florida, have shown America that to protect our personal security, we must begin to restore our belief in community and responsibility. There is plenty of work and plenty of opportunity for us all. Together, and for the sake of all our children, please help me free our people from this fear. Thank you and God bless you all.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 20, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE CHILD PROTECTION ACT

The Roosevelt Room

11:54 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: I'm delighted to see all of you here. And I want to especially recognize Secretary Shalala and my good friend Marian Wright Edelman. Senator Biden, thank you for being here, sir. Congresswoman Schroeder; Congressman Edwards; and my former colleague and longtime friend Governor Jim Thompson from Illinois; Oprah Winfrey; Lynn Swann, and Andrew Vachss. Thank you all very much for helping this day to come to pass.

The holiday season is a time for sharing the warmth of human contact with families and friends. And making this a joyous and safe time for children everywhere is important. That makes this legislation, the National Child Protection Act, especially significant. With it we can give a great gift, a much improved system for protecting our children from being abused or harmed by those to whom we have entrusted them.

Not unlike the Brady Bill, this law creates a national data base network. This one can be used by any child care provider in America to conduct a background check to determine if a job applicant can be trusted with our children; and if not, to prevent that person from ever working with children.

For the first time, we'll have a system in place to protect the many millions of American children who receive care and supervision in formal day care and in other settings from other organizations. This law will give us the tools we need to safeguard children from those who have perpetrated crimes of child abuse or sex abuse or drug use or those who have been convicted of felonies. It's very important that we give working parents peace of mind about child care.

A majority of mothers with young children now work outside the home. Six million children are placed in formal day care settings everyday. Balancing work and family is hard. And parents are worried about their personal security and the security of their children in an increasingly violent world.

Like the Brady Bill and the crime bill, which I hope and believe will pass soon, this act will help us to take our streets, our neighborhoods, the institutions we rely on back for American values and American children. There is nothing more important that our government could be doing now.

Like all change, passing this important law has not been easy. And there are many to thank. First of all, I thank you, Oprah, for a lifetime of being committed to the well-being of our children and for giving child abuse issues such wonderful coverage on your show. You wrote the original blueprint for this law, and we're grateful -- becoming a tireless advocate for its passage, lobbying members of Congress of both parties for more than two years, and lobbying the President -- people occasionally do that, too.

MORE

(Laughter.) All of us, but especially our children, owe you their gratitude.

Now we can help to prevent child abuse with this measure, not just to catch people who do it. It's a great cause and a remarkable achievement, and I want to thank all the rest of you who were involved in it.

Finally, let me say, especially for the benefit of the members of Congress here, this is the last piece of legislation I will sign from this session of Congress. It wraps up a very productive session -- a session that dealt with family leave and motor voter and a new economic plan that brought low interest rates and recovery, with the National Service Bill that I think will galvanize the imagination of a whole generation of young people, with new trade legislation and with the Brady Bill. But this is a good bill to end on -- a bill that ends where all of us should begin -- by putting our children first.

Thank you very much. I'd like to invite you all to come up here for the signing.

(The bill is signed.) (Applause.)

END

11:58 A.M. EST

leadership. Thank you for caring about our cities and towns and, more important, this is the best Christmas gift that the city of Newark could ever receive. Our renaissance and our struggle must be more than mortar and bricks. And since public safety's our number one issue, this gift from your leadership will certainly help us to ensure that public safety remains our number one priority.

We'd like to commend you for your leadership in passing the Brady Bill. It's a foot in the door. We plan to work with you to ban all assault weapons and also the question of licensing and registration for those who carry a firearm. And finally, we pledge our wholehearted support to join with you in seeking passage of the crime bill.

But more important today, we want to thank you for making Newark, New Jersey, have a merry Christmas. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Loster.

MAYOR LOSTER: Mr. President, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the 70,000-plus citizens of the city of Saginaw. We have a number of representatives from the Senate as well as the Congress, police department, prosecutor's office and Saginaw City Council here this morning. I, too, want to echo the sentiments of my colleagues and be among the first to thank you for the 13 new police officers which will come to our community. We're certainly proud to be able to participate in the process.

And let me just say this, Mr. President, we want to extend to you, as the smallest city, an invitation to come back to the city of Saginaw and to look at our efficient utilization of the 13 police officers that you've given to us. We wholeheartedly support the anticrime initiatives, and certainly we feel confident that we will succeed in the battle against crime.

We were early one of the participants to support the Brady Bill, and we're proud of that. I will say to you: We give you our wholehearted support in terms of supporting the anticrime initiatives and look forward to seeing much, much more from the White House.

Thank you very much again. And to you and the First Lady, merry Christmas and a happy new year.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much.

Mayor Wolff?

MAYOR WOLFF: Mr. President, let me first say thank you for being the first administration to address crime as a number-one priority. The 40 police that we will receive will be added to 73 new positions that we have put in for the police department. They will emphasize community policing initiatives as outlined by Captain Philippos in the grant proposal.

In San Antonio, we see crime going down; but as we see overall crime going down, we see violence going up, particularly youth. And that is our number-one concern. We've taken many local initiatives -- the coalition, the Education Partnership, Project Quest which are recreational, education and job-training programs to address youth. We've created a violent crime task force, headed by Captain Sandoval, and a gang intervention unit headed by Sergeant Richie, who are with me today. And Councilman Lyle Larson heads up a citizens crime prevention task force that just recently recommended three initiatives dealing with graffiti, daytime curfews, and possession of firearms by youth which we passed last Thursday.

The crime bill that's before Congress, we support you 100 percent on it. It could have a major impact on crime in this nation. One aspect I would like to comment on. We must stop the firepower getting into the hands of youth, criminals and mentally unstable people. Resident Agent in Charge, ATF, Bill Lewis, is with me today. We support banning assault weapons and controlling handguns. We say that licensed dealers should only be those that have a place of business, that it should be illegal for anyone to sell guns to youth, licensed dealers or not. And we do need more ATF agents -- we only have 14 in San Antonio. And let me add by saying that a criminal must believe he's going to get caught, convicted and serve hard time.

Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mayor.

I want to ask the Attorney General now to say a word, because the Justice Department, as you know, managed the process by which your cities were selected. I think they did a very good job. And so I'd like to call on her and let her say a few words.

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO: Mayors, I just want to thank you. Your applications were so impressive. They indicate just what can be done with community policing, how it can both prevent crime and identify the real bad guys who need to be put away. And this is the first round -- they're more to come. And we look forward to working with you in a real, true partnership.

Merry Christmas.

THE PRESIDENT: I'm going to let Lee Brown say a word to you now. He started a community policing program in New York City. And I don't know if you saw it, but last week there was a wonderful cover story in The New York Times Sunday Magazine about a police officer named Kevin Jett who works eight square blocks in one of the toughest neighborhoods in New York. And the story pointed out that he not only arrests criminals, but he also prevents a lot of crimes from occurring in the first place. And I think that's the emphasis we ought to have here. This is not simply a question of catching people who break the law in a violent fashion, it's preventing crime.

So I want Lee to say a word.

MR. BROWN: Let me congratulate the mayors and certainly the police chiefs for being selected. I've experienced community policing in Houston and New York -- New York, for example, after one year we saw crime go down in every major category for the first time in 36 years. I see it as not only a better, but a smarter and certainly more cost-effective way of using police resources.

So congratulations to all of you, and Merry Christmas.

THE PRESIDENT: In closing, let me say, I know that from New York to Michigan -- and we've got members of Congress -- I mean, from Los Angeles to Michigan -- we've members of Congress who are actually there today, as well as in Buffalo and perhaps in some other places. And I really thank all of you for your support. Somebody told me that Mayor Riordan had the whole southern California delegation there, and if he does, I bet he's talking about more than law enforcement. (Laughter.)

I hear all of the movement in the background. I wish you all a happy holiday. And I thank you. When you're taking these kind of affirmative actions, the President can't do it alone, we've got to have the support of Congress. And I really appreciate their presence there. And thank you all so much. And congratulations to

you and to the 68 other cities and towns who are in the vanguard of this move to bring community policing to our entire nation.

Thank you very much.

Q Do you think you're going to get that bill through?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I do, yes.

Q The atmosphere has changed, hasn't it?

THE PRESIDENT: It has changed. You know, there may be some differences between us and the House on the amount of the bill or exactly how it should be spent. But I think there is now a clear bipartisan commitment in both Houses for the 100,000 police officers on the street, for the drug courts and for some of the other innovations. And so we're very, very hopeful that we can do it.

I think having the mayors, again, out there in small towns as well as the big cities, the Democrats and the Republicans marching arm in arm, it's changed the dynamic of this issue in America in a way that I think will be very good in helping us to make our people safer --

Q Do you think Congress is getting the message at home while they're at home?

THE PRESIDENT: Big time. That's our sense, that they're really hearing from the people that they just have to have more security on the streets, in their schools and communities.

Q Mr. President, are you taking too much credit for the growth of the economy? There have been stories suggesting that it may not be all your doing.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I saw those stories. I got tickled this morning -- I took a poll around the staff -- we just had a two-hour meeting on the budget, and I said if the economy were bad who do you think would be blamed? (Laughter.)

I'm not so concerned about who gets the credit really. The American people get the credit -- if they go back to work, if they're becoming more competitive, if they're investing their money.

I do know this: that from -- even going back after the election, from the time we announced our deficit reduction plan to the time it was presented, to the time it was enacted, to the present day, the steady, disciplined drop in interest rates has played a major, major role in helping millions of people to refinance their homes and businesses -- last year we had a 19-year low in delinquencies in home mortgages -- and getting all this investment for new jobs.

So I believe our economic policies are stabilizing this country and contributing to this recovery. I think a lot of Americans have been working for years and years and years to be competitive in the global economy, and I think that is to their credit. I mean, we have a private sector economy. No person in public life can take credit for it.

But if we hadn't done what we have done on the economic plan to spur both -- to drive interest rates down and to spur reinvestment, I don't think we'd be where we are on the economy.

Q But every day we read about thousands being laid off.

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it's still a terrible problem. That's why I always say we've got a lot more to do.

The problem that all rich countries are facing now is that productivity, which has always been a good thing in the economy; that is, fewer people produce more goods and services increases their ability to earn more income -- that's a problem unless you can sell all the goods and services you're producing. If you don't, it keeps unemployment higher than it should be and it depresses wages.

So that will be our challenge next year. That's why I wanted to get NAFTA this year; that's why I wanted to get that GATT trade agreement this year; that's why I wanted to try to start a new relationship with Japan and the Far East this year -- so we would have more customers for our goods and services, so we can grow this economy.

Q Are you going to have the flexibility to deal with the job-training issues and retraining, given the budget situation?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, that's what -- I've already spent two hours on that today and I expect I'll spend a couple more hours on it. I certainly --

Q Can you wrap it up now the budget's over?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we're not done yet, but we worked hard on that today. We're going to keep working. We have a few more days. But the retraining issue is important because there have been a lot of news stories lately -- many of you perhaps have run them -- showing that people that either have high skill levels or are capable of getting them in a hurry have much shorter periods of unemployment and are much more likely to get good-paying jobs.

We still don't have the kind of retraining system we need. So that's going to be a big part of next year's initiative.

Q Prime Minister Malval is criticizing President Aristide openly for being an obstacle to some sort of reconciliation. Are you on board with Prime Minister Malval or President Aristide? Where are you trying to throw your support?

THE PRESIDENT: I wouldn't say it's an either-or thing. Let me say, we have been working with this Friends of Haiti group, with our friends in Canada and France and Venezuela, to try to come up with a new approach that would restore democracy, would create the conditions where President Aristide could return, and would meet the fundamental objective we tried to meet in the Governors Island Accord -- to be to guarantee the security and the human rights and safety of all the parties in the previous disputes.

So we're going to take another run at it and see if we can do something on it. And it's going to require some flexibility on all sides. It just is. And we'll just have to see if we can get there. We're going to try -- hard.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much.

END

11:40 A.M. EST

Crime -
POTUS
speeches

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 20, 1993

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN CONFERENCE CALL WITH MAYORS

From The Oval Office

11:00 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: It's nice to hear all of you. I'm here with the Vice President and Attorney General Reno and our Drug Director, Lee Brown, to congratulate all of you for working so hard to help make your community and, of course, our country safer again. Today I'm proud to announce that the six of you on this phone, along with the leaders of 68 other cities and towns all across the country, will receive the first grants to put more police on the street and expand community policing.

The Justice Department received applications from more than 1,000 communities across our nation, and the proposals we got for community policing from your police departments were truly outstanding. I know these grants are simply a down payment on our pledge to put 100,000 new police officers on the streets. It's just the beginning. As soon as Congress comes back in 1994 I want them to send me a crime bill that finishes that job and puts 100,000 more police on the street, expands boot camps and drug courts like the one the Attorney General started in Miami, gets handguns out of the hands of minors, and bans assault weapons.

Earlier this month, as all of you know, I signed the Brady Bill which broke seven years of gridlock on this issue. And we just can't afford to wait any longer for the crime bill. In the meanwhile I'm excited about what you're doing because we know community policing works. It worked for our Drug Director, Lee Brown, in Houston and New York, and it's working all across the country.

So I want to just thank all of you very much and say that I wish I could be there with you today. I wish I could see your police officers, and I hope you'll tell them all that help is on the way and we'll do our best to be there for you, to be good partners with you. And I know I'm speaking for the Vice President, the Attorney General and Lee Brown in saying we'll stay after this until the job is done.

Mayor Riordan, would you like to say anything?

MAYOR RIORDAN: Mr. President, Mr. Vice President, General Reno, Dr. Brown, and fellow mayors, welcome from sunny Los Angeles. (Laughter.)

Thank you very much, Mr. President and General Reno, for including us in on the present appropriations. Fifty-four police officers are a great beginning, but they're merely a down payment, as the President mentioned, on the 100,000 police officers that are included in the crime bill of next year.

All of us in Los Angeles -- Chief Williams, members of Congress who are with me today, City Council members -- we are all rowing in the same direction. We realize that safety is the number one issue in big cities, and that if we're to turn L.A. around and

MORE

other big cities around, get jobs back, to get tourists back, to stop young families from leaving, we have to make the cities safe. As L.A. and other big cities go, so goes the United States.

So, Mr. President, again from the City of Angels, we thank you very much, and we look forward to working with you in the years to come.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Mayor Griffin.

MAYOR GRIFFIN: Mr. President, thank you very, very much for including the City of Buffalo, the City of Good Neighbors, in the grant program. Congressman LaFalce is here with me, along with our Commissioner of Police Rich Donovan and the two people that worked on the grant, Ed Hepling and Barbara Oakley -- or Maureen Oakley.

And this is going to be great for Buffalo. It will put 27 policemen and policewomen on the street, into the neighborhoods, around schools and talking to different groups. It's just one cog in the wheel that we need to get this crime off our streets. We've had quite a few murders these last years in Buffalo because of the drug problem, but we're winning the battle.

And thanks to you and the Brady Bill and the bills that will be coming from Washington, we're going to beat this thing. We need others. We've got to get monies into our cities for jobs and for training and retraining. And I know that's in your plan as well. But this is a start and it's in the right direction. And the people of the City of Buffalo want to thank you, Mr. President, for thinking of the cities. This is where life is and this is where our hope is and this is where our future is.

And God bless you, and I want to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Mayor Tauer, all of us were thinking about you last week, and we're very sorry about what you've been through.

MAYOR TAUER: Thank you very much, Mr. President. It was a very trying time, but we're helping the community heal and get over it and that's the important thing. But on behalf of the city council and our staff and our citizens, I want to thank you and all those who were responsible for us being selected for this grant. It's extremely important to us.

We feel we've been in the forefront of the issue of community policing and youth violence for several years, but our resources are stretched to the limit. And a big concern of our citizens has been neighborhood representation of the police department so that they can work more closely with them. And this grant is certainly going to help us be able to do that and increase our community policing response. And that's extremely imperative.

I want to thank you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to other things that will be done, and hope we will be able to support you on getting the crime bill through the Congress. So thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.

Mayor James.

MAYOR JAMES: Mr. President, Attorney General, Vice President and Mr. Brown, we'd like to thank you for your commendable

10/11/93, 7:30 pm

To: List
From: David Kusnet
Re: UNC speech

Please review and let me or Liz Bowyer know if there are any changes that must be made.

Thank you.

List:

Bob Boorstin
David Dreyer
Bill Galston
Mark Gearan
David Gergen
Bruce Reed
Nancy Soderberg
Gene Sperling/Sylvia Matthews
George Stephanopoulos

Chafe

Draft, 10/11/93, 7:30 PM

The President of the United States
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, N.C.
October 12, 1993

Introduction/UNC

I am proud to join you in celebrating the bicentennial of a great university whose lighthearted love of tradition and joyous embrace of change have kept it forever young.

This University has produced enough excellence to fill a library -- or lead a nation. In Thomas Wolfe, who captured the spirit of Chapel Hill in *Look Homeward, Angel*; two great defenders of the Constitution, Senator Sam Ervin and the civil rights activist Julius Chambers; the scientist Francis Collins, who discovered the gene for cystic fibrosis; and the journalists Charles Kuralt, Deborah Potter, and Tom Wicker -- we can count just a few of the tens of thousands whose lives have been brightened by the "light and liberty" this University offers.

There are few certainties in this life. But, when "March Madness" rolls around, you can be sure the Tarheels will be there.

As one who grew up in the South in a time of change, I admire this university and this state for understanding that our oldest traditions call on us to offer "light and liberty" to all.

Long before history caught up with him, your legendary President, Frank Porter Graham, spoke this simple but powerful truth: "In the South, two great races have fundamentally a common destiny in building a nobler civilization, and, if we go up, we go up together." More than three decades ago, in Greensboro, students from North Carolina A & T held the first sit-in at a segregated lunch counter, awakening the conscience of a nation.

North Carolina has always understood that education goes hand-in-hand with the expansion of our democracy and the advancement of our economy. Under the leadership of Luther Hodges, Terry Sanford, and William Friday, the state, the corporate community, and the universities began building an advanced research center to attract business and jobs. Now, with almost 60 companies and more than 34,000 employees, the Research Triangle is a tribute to two centuries of brave deeds and wise decisions.

The Founders/American Optimism

Tonight, we celebrate the day it all began -- the laying of a cornerstone that marked a milestone in the American journey.

On this day, near this place, two hundred years ago, the cornerstone was laid for the first building in the first public university in a nation that had just been born. It was a time of hopeful and historic change, when the future was clear to those who had the vision to see it and the courage to seize it. It was a time of heroes, such as William R. Davie; a fighter in the Revolution and a framer of the Constitution; a graduate of Princeton, who dreamed of creating a state university here in North Carolina, to make education accessible to more than the privileged few.

On October 12, 1793, General Davie did more than lay the foundation for the University of North Carolina. He laid the foundation for two centuries of progress, here and all across America.

Historians tell us that there was a joyous ceremony on that day -- and "the maple leaves flamed red in the eager air." Great joy there was -- but in the face of great uncertainty. The wounds of the Revolutionary War had yet to heal. The debts had yet to be repaid. And the new democracy seemed untested and unstable.

In spite of all these problems, the men and women of that time had the courage to build what had never existed before -- a great Republic, and a public University. In spite of the obstacles of their time, they had the confidence to bet on the future, not fret on the past.

The men and women who founded this nation and this University were filled with the faith in the future that is central to the American spirit. That optimism impressed the French aristocrat, Alexis de Tocqueville, when he traveled this country a century-and-a-half ago. As he wrote in **Democracy in America**:

"[The Americans] have all a lively faith in the perfectibility of man, they judge that the diffusion of knowledge must necessarily be advantageous, and the consequences of ignorance fatal; they all consider society as a body in a state of improvement, humanity as a changing scene, in which nothing is or ought to be permanent; and they admit that what appears to them to be good, may be superseded by something better tomorrow."

For two centuries, our country's greatness has been the promise of unlimited opportunity for those who are willing to work hard and play by the rules. That promise inspired pioneers

to settle the frontier, immigrants to journey to these shores, and men and women of courage to wage a peaceful struggle for equal justice and equal opportunity.

The New World: Opportunities and Uncertainties

Tonight, we honor those heroic builders and believers. We meet as their heirs a dozen generations after our nation was founded -- and we meet at another moment of change and challenge.

The Cold War is over. The threat of nuclear annihilation is receding. Democracy and free markets are on the march. A global economy is taking shape where a nation's greatest asset is not accumulated gold and silver, nor rich reserves of coal and iron - but the strength and the skills of its people.

All around us, we see the affirmation of the vision and the values of the generation that founded this nation and this University. Freedom fighters have walked out of their prison cells from Eastern Europe to South Africa -- and they quote the words of Thomas Jefferson and Martin Luther King. In less time than a courier used to travel from Chapel Hill to Charlotte, a company in the Research Triangle can exchange information and investment with companies from Toronto to Tokyo.

While this new world fulfills so many of our oldest dreams, it still presents us with new dangers. Just these past few weeks, we watched with concern as violence gripped Moscow, and we are reassured that reformers, led by Boris Yeltsin, now are moving Russia back toward democracy, free elections, and market reforms.

Danger has also confronted us in Somalia, where some of our best young soldiers have been killed or injured as they helped to save millions of Somalis from death, starvation, and anarchy.

Tonight, I want to express my gratitude and my profound sympathy to the families of the five servicemen from Fort Bragg who were killed in Somalia [Staff Sergeant Daniel B. Busch, Sergeant First Class Earl R. Fillmore, Jr., Master Sergeant Gary Gordon, Master Sergeant Timothy C. Martin, and Sergeant First Class Matthew L. Rierson].

The servicemen and women in Somalia represent the best in America. Our country is grateful to them; so is the rest of the world; and so are the great majority of the Somali people. That is why I have ordered new steps to protect our troops, to ensure the return of our missing or captive Americans, and to complete our mission in that country. I am determined to finish that job quickly but also to finish the job right.

Here at home, while the new economy offers hope and opportunity, it also brings uncertainty and insecurity. Between 1972 and 1992, while the work year got longer for most Americans, average hourly wages actually stagnated. The 75 percent of our workers who don't have college degrees felt it most profoundly. For those who began, but didn't complete, college, wages fell 10 percent from 1979 through 1981; for those who didn't go on to college, wages fell 17 percent; and, for those who left high school, wages dropped 24 percent.

International trade accounts for many of our new jobs -- but a textile worker in North Carolina must compete with a worker in Singapore or South Korea to sell a sweater in Berlin or Buenos Aires. Our medicine is the finest in the world -- but millions are just a pink slip away from losing their health insurance and one illness away from losing their savings. And America leads the world in violent crime, with 90,000 murders over the past four years, a fact in which we take no pride at all.

Building a Foundation of Security

We can do better -- and we must. Now, more than ever, we need the faith in the future that defines the American character. Every challenge that we face as a nation calls for the courage to change.

At every crucial moment in our history, Americans have always had the courage to change. We are a people who reach for the stars; but we need the confidence that the ground is not cracking beneath our feet. The only reason why too many Americans are tempted to reject change, rather than embrace it, is that they are insecure in three of the most important areas of their lives: their jobs, their health care, and their personal safety. When we answer those insecurities, we will set our people free to create and innovate and achieve, as Americans always have and always will.

As we face the future, we must move beyond the false choices and sterile debates of the past; between those who said government can provide people with total and permanent security -- and those who said people must be left entirely alone to make their own way as isolated individuals in a hostile world. Both of these old ways have been tried; both of these old ways have failed.

The challenge of our times is to offer people the security they need to build lives of responsibility and achievement. As we honor those who laid the cornerstone for the opportunities we enjoy today, I ask you to work with me to lay a foundation of security for ourselves, our children, and our children's children -- a foundation of economic security, health security, and personal security.

1. Economic Security: Lifelong Learning

First, we must offer Americans the ultimate economic security -- the skills you need to find new jobs and better jobs.

In a world transformed by trade and technology, we can no longer build our lives around the assurance that we can hire in at a job at age 18 or 21, retire from the same job with the same company at 62 or 65, and enjoy secure health and pension benefits all our lives. For three prosperous decades after World War II, Americans became accustomed to building our lives around one job with one company. Those were good times -- but nothing you or I can do can bring them back.

We cannot escape the fact that, unlike earlier eras, most of those who are laid off from their jobs today are never rehired at their old jobs. We cannot escape the fact that those of you who are just beginning your careers will have to change jobs at least seven times before you retire. We cannot escape the fact that the best job you ever have may be a job that has yet to be created, with a company that has yet to be founded, using a technology that has yet to be invented.

Economic security requires lifelong learning. And that begins with higher standards in our schools. Almost two decades ago, your Governor, Jim Hunt, began an education reform program that included higher standards for your schools. His efforts inspired Governors throughout our region and our country, including Education Secretary Riley and me.

With our Goals 2000 plan, we are saying that, in subjects such as science and mathematics, the right standard for American education is the best in the world. It's not good enough to say we're doing better than we used to. The right question is: Are we as good as the best in the world?

That isn't just a Democratic concern or a Republican concern; it's an American imperative. When Goals 2000 goes before Congress this week, it will benefit from an emerging consensus in this country that we must set higher standards for our schools and expect more from our students and teachers.

Economic security means every young person should have the opportunity to go to college. That is why we have made student loans easier to repay. And that is one reason why we are offering opportunities for National Service, to give our young people the chance to rebuild our communities and, at the same time, to help pay for college.

We must never forget the 75% of our young people who will not go on to a four-year college. That is why the Education

Department and the Labor Department are working together to find a way to bring the classroom and the workplace closer together. With school-to-work transitions in the last two years of high school and beyond, we will offer young people on-the-job experience, alongside classroom training, leading to certification in a marketable skill.

For those who lose their jobs in today's economy, we will transform today's system of unemployment insurance, originally designed to support workers on temporary layoffs, into a system of re-employment insurance, offering counseling, retraining, and jobless benefits. And whether you are employed or unemployed, whether you need a new job or a better job, we will offer you one-stop shopping from the 150 separate job-training programs that the government currently provides.

We should ratify the North American Free Trade Agreement. I have said this to supporters and opponents of NAFTA, even at the convention of the AFL-CIO. The global economy is no longer the wave of the future; it is here, and, like the oceans that surround us, we cannot order it to recede. We can only choose whether we will master those roiling waters or permit ourselves to be swamped by them. I believe we can enter an agreement with Mexico with confidence that we can create new jobs and new profits by entering new markets with new exports; that we can retrain and re-employ those who lose their jobs for any reason in the years ahead; and that we will ultimately make both countries -- both countries -- more prosperous and secure.

2. Health Security

Second -- in addition to employment security -- we must offer every American health security: the confidence that they have health coverage they can afford and can never be taken away.

Every month, two million people lose their health insurance -- and 100,000 of them lose it permanently. And, on any given day, over 37 million Americans, most of them working people and their little children, have no health insurance at all.

Nothing freezes people in their tracks like the fear that they will lose their health coverage if they change jobs. When we provide health security for all, we will put an end to "job lock," because we will set people free to find better jobs, without fear of losing their insurance. When we provide health security, we will put an end to "welfare lock," because we will set people free to move from welfare to work, without fear of losing Medicaid. With health security, there will be a new burst of energy and ambition throughout the economy, as Americans put their skills to work, finding new jobs, building new businesses, pursuing new dreams.

3. Personal Security

And, third, we must strengthen every American's sense of personal security, against violent crime. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live, work, play, and go to school.

To accomplish our goals, we must work together in a spirit of community. But, as long as the fear of violent crime makes neighbors seem like strangers and strangers seem like enemies, we will not be the country we ought to be. In order to renew our sense of community, we must restore our sense of personal security, as well as our sense of economic security.

Tonight, we are particularly pained by the senseless murder of Michael Jordan's father. And we should grieve for the death of the beloved father of a beloved athlete. But who mourned the 22 other men and women who were killed in Robeson County this year? They were not the parents of celebrities. Nor were they tourists from abroad. They were our neighbors. But, to most of us, they remain unknown.

It is heartbreaking, and we must do something about it. We can -- and we must -- put 50,000 more police on the street, as our Anticrime Bill proposes. We can -- and we must -- keep handguns out of the hands of criminals by finally passing the Brady Bill. And we can no longer go on being the only country on earth that lets teenagers roam the streets with assault weapons, better armed than the police. The best anti-crime program can be summed up in four words: more cops, less guns.

We must lay that foundation of economic security, health security, and personal security. But none of us can be secure until we all take greater responsibility for our own lives and build a new spirit of community. Our jobs will not be secure until we take responsibility for learning new skills -- and until companies take responsibility for treating their employees like indispensable partners, not disposable parts. Our health will not be secure until we take responsibility for seeking preventive care. And our communities will not be secure until every father and mother assumes the greatest responsibility they will ever have: the responsibility of a parent for a child.

The security we seek will revitalize --not replace -- the American spirit of enterprise and adventure. It will give our people the confidence to dream great dreams, take great risks, and achieve great things. The security we seek is like a rope for a rock climber, lifting those who will take responsibility for their own lives to even greater pinnacles of achievement.

The security we seek is not government doing more for people, but Americans doing more for ourselves and our families, for our communities and our country. The security we seek is not

the absence of risk but the presence of opportunity. The security we seek is not a world without change but an America that has the courage to change.

Like those we honor today -- the men and women who had the courage to create a new nation and a new university -- we must be builders and believers, the architects of a new security that will empower and embolden Americans as we enter a new Century.

The only difference between the America of two centuries ago and the America in which we live is the difference between dawn and high noon on the same beautiful day. In the words of Thomas Wolfe: "The true discovery of America is still before us...The true fulfillment of our spirit, of our people, of our mighty and important land, is yet to come."

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATEMENTS ON CRIME

"Most of our people are law-abiding citizens who love their families more than their own lives. But America leads the world in violent crime, has the highest percentage of its people behind bars, has 90,000 murders in the last four years and more and more of our children are born into and grow up in family situations so difficult that it is hard even to make the arguments that the rest of us have taken for granted all of our lives."

"And this last point I would make to you -- if we are to be personally secure enough to make the changes and meet the tests of this time, we must protect our people better against the ravages of violence. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live -- (applause) -- where they go to school and where they work."

"My fellow Americans, I was in California the other night and I talked to people all across the state in a hooked up town hall meeting. And this young African American boy, a junior high school student, said, 'Mr. President, my brother and I, we don't want to be in gangs, we don't want to have guns, we don't want to cause any trouble. We want to learn, we want a future. And we thought our school was too unsafe, so we decided to go to another school and enroll in it because it was safer. And on the day we showed up to register for school, my brother was standing right in front of me and he was shot,' because he got in a crossfire of one of these mindless, arbitrary, endless shootings that occur among children on our streets and in our schools today. We have to stop this. We cannot let those children be robbed of their future." (Applause)

"I know this state grieved recently when your native son Michael Jordan's father was killed. And I know we all wish him well as Michael embarks on a new journey in his life. But let us not forget that 22 other men and women were killed in that same county in your state this year. Ten foreign tourists were killed in Florida this year, and the state grieved over it. But in our nation's capital, in one week this summer, more than twice that many people were killed. They were not famous, but they were the President's neighbors."

"It is heartbreaking. What can we do about it? We can put more police on our street. Not to catch criminals just alone, but alone to prevent crime. It works. Thirty years ago there were three police for every violent crime. Today there are three crimes for every police officer. We have to give these people the help they need. And when they work the same neighborhoods and walk the same streets and talk to the same kids, they help to prevent crime."

"And we should not allow in city after city after city our police officers to go to work every knowing they will walk the mean street of our cities with people who are better armed than they are. Because this is the only country in the work where teenagers can have assault weapons designed only to kill other people, and use them with abandon on the streets of our cities. We can do better than that."

"Do you know, my fellow Americans, that I learned just last week that someone shot today with a bullet is three times more likely to perish because they are likely to have three times as many bullets in them as they did just 15 years ago. It is time for us to stop talking about law and order and thinking about how we can organize ourselves to protect our culture, to protect our heritage, to keep our rights as sportsmen and women, but to protect our kids lives and their future. The time has come to face this problem." (Applause.)

Remarks at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, October 12, 1993

And so, I tell you, my fellow Americans, we have a decision to make. And this is the time to make it. We can't keep saying that we deplore these things and it's terrible and keep extolling our American values on how much more law-abiding we are than other people and put up with this. We either need to say this is a level of chaos and human degradation and waste of human potential and incredible cost in society that we are willing to tolerate because we cannot bear to do something about it; or we need to get up, stand up and be counted and do something about it.

We have a crime bill -- Governor Florio mentioned it -- before the Congress. It does a lot of things, but most importantly, here's what it does. It does a lot of things, but most importantly, here's what it does. It requires the Brady bill, which is a national five-day waiting period, to establish background checks to check for age, criminal history and mental health history. It matters. You must do it nationally -- why? Just near here in New York City, of the many thousands of weapons confiscated last year by the police, 85 percent of them came from other states. If you don't have a national system, you will never fix this. It is a huge deal.

The second thing the crime bill does is to provide for the 50 percent of the downpayment of the commitment I made when I was running for President that I wanted to ask the Congress to give the American people another 100,000 police officers in the next four years -- not just to catch criminals, but to deter crime. And lest you think it doesn't work, let me -- I can cite you many examples. Places in New Jersey which have more police officers, where the crime rate has gone down. In New York City where the crime rate has gone down in seven FBI, all the seven major FBI categories where community policing has been deployed. In the city of Houston, which had a 17 percent drop in crime in one year, because

when people are there in force, it prevents crime from occurring in the first place. So that's an important part of this.

Another part of the crime bill gives states funds to establish innovative programs for kids when they get in trouble before they do shoot somebody to try to get them back into the mainstream of life. After all, a lot of these young people who get in terrible trouble are not really bad people, they have no structure, no order, they cannot imagine the future. There are no rules that bind them internally to the things the rest of us take for granted. And we've got to try to get as many of them back as we can before they do something terrible which will requires us to put them away for a long time.

We do have to deal with these things. And we need to pass a crime bill this year. These members of Congress can do it. There are still people who are holding them back, and you need to urge them on. And I'll guarantee you, I'll sign it as quick as they'll put it on my desk. We have to do it. (Applause)

But the second thing I want to say to you is that we need a national law to do what New Jersey has done here with the assault weapons. Again because we have a constitutional right to travel in this country. New Jersey can make a big dent in New Jersey's problems by abandoning these weapons here, and then by setting up a system to try to collect them, but people are still crossing the state line all the time.

We need national legislation. There are several bills in the Congress, and arguments about which one is better than the other one, but I will guarantee you they are all better than nothing. And the Congress should pass one of those bills and send it to me this year. It would be a great Christmas present to the American people to stand up for safety. (Applause)

Finally, let me just say that each of us in our own way are going to ask ourselves what we can do to deal with this. We have a culture of violence. We glorify it. I was delighted to see some of the television networks voluntarily say that they were going to do their best to try to monitor the content of violence and reduce it, and degradation of people during prime time television.

We have got to take a whole generation of young people who have very short attention spans for whom the future has no claim because they cannot even imagine the future, and slowly, carefully, and one-on-one, neighborhood by neighborhood, community by community, help them rebuild the kind of inner strength and sense of values and discipline and control and hope that will permit us to go where we need to go. No law will do that, but that is not an excuse not to pass these laws.

And let us have the courage to admit that some of these problems [health care] we will never fix until we change our ways as a nation, and let's start with violence, begin with guns, and prove that we can do in America what you are doing here in New Jersey. Thank you and God bless you all. (Applause)
Remarks on Health Care and Violence in America, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ October 8, 1993

Throughout the campaign for this office, and since I became your president, I've been asking that we have the courage to change, to compete in the world economy, and to bring prosperity back home. But we can't embrace change fully unless our own people feel a high level of personal and family security -- a security about our place in the world. I'm happy to report that we're making real progress on that too.

And the blanket of security for Americans has another side to it: personal security. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live, work, play and go to school. But too many of our people are denied that right. I've talked with parents who are afraid to send their children to schools where other kids carry guns. I've talked with children who were so afraid of becoming caught up with gangs, they didn't even want to leave their homes. I've talked with police officers who felt anger and frustration at trying, sometimes against overwhelming odds, to stem an epidemic of violence, especially from children, better armed than police, who shoot other children. And, most importantly, I've talked with the victims.

Yesterday I visited a trauma center in New Jersey and saw what people with guns can do to other people. I met a woman who couldn't speak any more because her husband shot her in the throat. I met a man who took a bullet in his chest during a robbery attempt. I met a child whose mother was killed by an assault rifle. It was heartbreaking and it was an outrage.

These kind of attacks happen too often, they shatter lives, they destroy families. And more and more they kill children. Violent crime crowds our emergency rooms and drains our medical resources. And it is siphoning away our humanity. Gunshot wounds are now the major cause of death among teenage boys.

My visits with these victims made me more determined than ever to win passage of our crime bill. This bill will help to restore a system where those who commit crimes are caught, those who are found guilty are convicted, those who are convicted are punished -- sometimes by the imposition of the death penalty for especially serious crimes. I support that. Two months ago I asked Congress to pass a tough crime bill. This month your lawmakers will consider it. And they should pass it this year.

But what really makes this crime bill effective and different is this; more police, fewer guns. Our bill would help to prevent crime by putting 50,000 more police officers on the street in America and by expanding community policing. Here in Washington recently, a beautiful four-year-old girl was caught in the line of fire and she died from a bullet wound. Her name was Launice Smith. All she

was doing was watching other children at play. How did that become the wrong place at the wrong time?

The fact is, with so many handguns and assault weapons flooding our streets, a lot of places can be the wrong place at the wrong time. That's why we have to pass the Brady Bill. It requires a five day wait before a gun can be purchased -- time-enough for a real background check to stop guns from getting into the hands of convicted criminals. And we can't go on being the only country on earth that let's teenagers roam the streets with assault weapons, better armed than even the police.

Our crime bill also gives a young person who took a wrong turn a change to reclaim his life by learning discipline in a boot camp. Every major law enforcement group in our country supports these measures -- more police, boot camps and alternative punishment for young people, the Brady Bill, and a ban on assault weapons. The men and women on the front lines know, our country needs this kind of action. On school grounds, on streets, in parking lots, and homes in our biggest cities and smallest towns, the silliest of arguments -- arguments that might have ended in a fist fight in bygone days now they're too easily ended with the sound of a gun. And often the sound of guns leads to death.

A gunshot wound is three times more likely to lead to death today, in part because there are so many assault weapons. And the average victim of gunshot wound now has over two bullets in him or her. It's getting hard to find a family that hasn't been touched by this epidemic of violence. Often it means another empty space in the hearts of those who lost a loved one.

Tell you representatives on Capitol Hill you want the crime bill and you want it now because it's important, it's long overdue. I guarantee you this; the minute I get it, I'll sign it. For we can never enjoy full economic security in our professional lives without real personal security in our homes, on our streets and in our neighborhoods.

I pledge to you today that we'll keep working to restore both. Thanks for listening.

Radio Address, October 9, 1993

The second thing I want to mention is violence. This is the only country in the world where police have to go to work every day on streets with teenagers better armed than they do. This is the only country in the world that would be fiddling around after these years -- how many years has it been since Jim Brady got shot in the attempt to assassinate Ronald Reagan, and we still haven't passed the Brady bill, because people are fiddling around the edges of it making parliamentary arguments because they're trying to find some way to please the people who don't like it. It's unconscionable. (Applause)

How can I preach to people about NAFTA, education, think of the future, and you've got to worry about whether your kid's going to get shot going to school?

We can do something about it. And it is time to close the massive yawning gap between our rhetoric and the way we are organized in this society. (Applause)
Remarks by the President at Yale Alumni Luncheon, October 9, 1993

We've got to know, how old are these people buying these guns? Who are they? Do they have a criminal record? Do they have a mental health history? It's a big deal.

The states can do something. 17 states have said kids can't own handguns unless they're out with their parents on a hunting trip or a target practice. A lot of states have tried to set up laws licensing gun dealers, but the federal law will give you a license for ten bucks, and the states can't overturn it yet.

You got hundreds of gun dealers out there and there's no system about it. And maybe the most important thing of all is, you've got a lot of these people, most of them very young, a lot of them with drug problems, nearly all of them with no real connection to the rest of society, who have easy access to rapidfire assault weapons, the sole purpose of which is to kill people quicker, in greater numbers. And we have lots of bills in Congress to do something about it, and we ought to do something about it. We ought to pass one of them and do something about it and take a stand. We ought to pass a crime bill which would put 50,000 more police officers on the street. It matters how many police officers are on the street. (Applause) Not -- and I say to you, not so much for catching criminals quickly, although that is a big deal, but for preventing crime.

I'll just give you -- first of all, look at New York. One of the few big cities in the country, where for two years running, there's been a decline in the crime rate in all seven major FBI categories because they went to a community policing system. Look at Houston. Where the mayor there, Bob Lanier, got elected on a commitment to put the equivalent of 655 more police officers on the street, and to concentrate them in areas of high crime, and they had a 17 percent drop in the crime rate the first year they did it. You can do this. (Applause) And we ought to be about the business of helping our places become more safe. This is a huge deal. And the Democratic Party ought to do it. If we were the party of social security, why can't we be the party of health security, and personal security, and freedom from fear? (Applause)

Remarks to the Democratic National Committee Breakfast, at the Washington Sheraton, October 8, 1993

When Michael Jordan's father was killed recently, a nation grieved, but no one knew the names of the other 22 people who died in that country this year. This is a national problem.

Remarks in St. Petersburg, FA, September 23, 1993

I want to pass this crime bill and pass the savings I've asked to help pay for it. I want them to know that if these cuts aren't passed, I'm going to come back with more cuts. And if those aren't passed, I'll come back with still more. I'll keep coming back until we have the money we need to make America safer.

Remarks in the Reinventing Government Announcement, October 26, 1993

Q: In that case, Mr. President, I'm wondering if you could tell us what the Brady bill would do in urban areas, like the District of Columbia, where the guns that kill people are not sold so much in shops, but more on the street, where there's not much of a waiting --

A: But they all do come out of regular manufacturers and they come into the country. And what the Brady bill would do, it would make uniform the require -- the losing battle a lot of states are fighting now because they're all alone to at least check those people who do buy from registered gun dealers. And there are an enormous number of people who do have criminal backgrounds, who have mental health problem, who don't even meet any kind of age requirement. We would be able to check all that, uniformly nationwide.

We find now that in a lot of states that have pretty strict gun laws, an enormous percentage of the guns that are confiscated by law enforcement officials every year come from other states that don't. So we do have some evidence that these laws work, that it's not the end all and be all. We've got a couple hundred million guns out there. There are a lot of other problems that we need to deal with in terms of minors in possession, in terms of assault weapons, in terms of the way the permitting process works for federal arms dealers.

But the Brady bill is the first step. And we are going to pass it this year, I believe because the American people finally have heard the long call of Jim and Sarah Brady. They've been out here on this for years and years and years, often times alone with no support. And finally, thanks to the leadership of the members of Congress who are here and others, we're going to be able to put it over.

In response to another question:

And you read all the these stories, like the story that was in *The Washington Post* yesterday of the children planning for their funerals, I think it's going to be very difficult got the Congress to justify continued inaction on what millions of Americans believe is the number one problem in their lives.

Remarks in Photo Opportunity with Jim and Sarah Brady, November 2, 1993

urban league

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4/10/94 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: _____

SUBJECT: CRIME BILL FORUM - REMARKS FOR 4/11/94

| | ACTION | FYI | | ACTION | FYI |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
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REMARKS:

RESPONSE:

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
CRIME BILL FORUM
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APRIL 11, 1994

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO; EDDIE CUTANDA, A YOUNG MAN WHO HAS MADE FRIENDS WITH OFFICERS THROUGH COMMUNITY POLICING; EARLINE WILLIAMS, A SENIOR CITIZEN INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY POLICING; AND, THE OFFICERS FROM ALBANY, GEORGIA.]

Like the Attorney General, I've used this Congressional recess to visit communities across America. I've had a chance to listen to the hopes -- and some of the fears -- of the American people. I'm here today because improving law enforcement and preserving the fabric of our society is probably more important to the American people -- and to our future -- than it has ever been in the history of America.

The fact is crime and violence don't take a recess. They continue to destroy our lives and communities. Generations of politicians -- of both parties -- have denounced crime. But that's a far cry from doing what's right and what needs to be done -- and the American people know it.

We've got to put more police on the street and more criminals in jail, and we've got to do it now. I've come here today to ask Congress to consider the crime bill immediately, and the Speaker has agreed.

The American people have waited on a solution long enough. Let's not waste their time and risk their safety with frivolous and political amendments. We don't need to take months on this. We can have this on my desk in weeks, and I will sign it in a minute -- and give the American people some of the solutions they want and deserve.

This has been a good year. We've reduced the deficit. The economy is growing. Twice as many private sector jobs have been produced in fourteen months than in the previous four years.

It took us 7 years and a change of Administrations, but we finally turned the Brady Bill into the Brady Law. It's already working to stop felons and fugitives from purchasing handguns. I'm proud that we passed it with the help of America's police officers.

But everything we do to move America forward will fail if we continue to let crime and violence tear us apart.

The number of murders each year has nearly tripled since 1960. So has the number of crimes per police officers. Death by gunfire will soon surpass death by car-accident. Almost one-

third of all Americans have had someone in their family victimized by crime, or been victimized themselves. And one in twenty children carry a weapon to school each day in this nation. It's surely time to act.

This crime bill is balanced. It's tough and it's smart. This is what it does.

First, it gives us a much stronger police presence in America. This bill adds 100,000 police officers over five years, for community policing, and community policing works.

In community policing the police know the neighbors, they know the children, they understand the problems and personalities that they are dealing with. 100,000 more police will make a big difference if they are in touch with their communities and deployed where the problems are greatest. The Mayor of Houston put another 655 police on the streets. Crime dropped 22 per cent and murders dropped 27 per cent in 15 months. Every town that the Attorney General and I just visited would like to do this. We must pass this bill and give them that chance.

Eddie Cutanda has a different attitude about the police because community policing gave him a chance to get to know Officers White and Platt as persons. These fine officers from Albany, Georgia -- who have already reduced crime in Albany because Congress wisely made a downpayment on community policing last year -- can now do the job they were trained to do and that the taxpayers of Albany want them to do. Community policing has engaged them as professionals and as citizens. Community policing is an American solution, based on community values and mutual respect and personal responsibility.

If Congress passes this bill soon to give the American people more officers, I'll make this commitment to the American people: I'll cut through the bureaucracy and red-tape in Washington so that within a year 20,000 of these new officers will already be hired and trained to make our streets safer.

The second thing the Crime Bill does is stiffen penalties. It does add capital punishment for a number of crimes. In my opinion when someone kills a law enforcement officer in the line of duty we need a completely clear and unambiguous deterrent, and it should be the death penalty.

We must also find a way to protect ourselves from repeat offenders, the relatively small number of criminals with no conscience who prey on us again and again. If they keep doing these things they've got to know that what's in store for them is certain and severe punishment, and not another parole. Ever. For us, baseball season just began. But for them it's going to be "three strikes and you're out at the old ball game."

Third, this is also a crime prevention bill. We know prevention programs work, especially for young people -- who have no greater advocate than the Attorney General. We want to invest a billion dollars in jobs for young people in high crime neighborhoods, and in recreation programs and summer programs. We've got to give them skills and something to say yes to, or the pressures of broken families and jobless communities will suck them into drugs and crime -- and then our work will be much more difficult and expensive. We can do better.

A big part of prevention is making our schools gun free, drug free, and violence free. If our kids can't go to school safely, we can't prepare America for the twenty-first century. We've got to make our schools safe, and this bill provides more resources to do just that.

That's our plan. More police. More punishment. Better prevention.

It is a big commitment in a time of very tight budget constraints. It is a lot more money for state and local governments. But we must do it, so the police and the courts can be tougher, and every American can be safer.

This Administration will use every resource it has to fight crime and violence -- from public schools to public housing.

Just a few days ago a Federal District Court declared the Chicago Housing Authority's policy of searching for guns in public housing to be unconstitutional. Within hours I asked the Attorney General and Secretary Cisneros to develop another policy that is constitutional and effective. Thirteen people died violently in Chicago the last weekend in March, three of them in the Robert Taylor Homes. More than 300 incidents were reported to police. There has to be a way to stop this madness, and we're going to find it.

The next few weeks are very important. Congress will soon consider health care and welfare reform and other very important matters. But we cannot be distracted. The American people have waited too long for a tough crime bill.

This is a Congress that hears the American people. In our first year we had the best cooperation in thirty years between a White House and Congress. I challenge Congress to meet the same standard, to forget politics and partisanship, and pass the crime bill now. We can put more police on the street. We can put more criminals in jail. We can keep more kids out of trouble. And we can start now. Let's do it.

Thank you very much.

Brace
FVB
Joe

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
CRIME BILL FORUM
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APRIL 11, 1994

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The most important task before us right now is to put more police on the street and more criminals in jail. I've come here today to ask Congress to bring the Crime Bill up immediately, so we can do both of these things, and the Speaker has agreed.

The American people have waited on a solution long enough. We can't waste their time and risk their safety any longer by delaying with frivolous and political amendments. We don't need to take months on this. We can do it now. We can have this on my desk in weeks, and I will sign it in a minute -- and give the American people some of the solutions they want and deserve.

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Thank you very much.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 10, 1993

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE PRESIDENT

The East Room

3:05 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. As we approach the end of this congressional session, just before Thanksgiving, it's important that our people know that here in Washington we are finally tackling issues that are central to the lives of all Americans, replacing gridlock in an action with progress in the pursuit of the common good.

In the last few months, we passed the largest deficit reduction package in history, interest rates and inflation have remained at historic lows, millions of Americans have been able to refinance their homes, investment is up, and more new jobs have come into our economy in the last 10 months than in the previous four years.

There's been a real effort to improve security for America's working families, with the dramatic expansions in the earned incomes tax credit, to help working Americans with children who live in modest incomes to do better through tax reductions. We've opened more of our products in high-tech areas to exports. We've passed the family leave law. We've expanded opportunities for people to invest in new businesses in this country. And we've presented a comprehensive plan that will put real health care security within reach of every American.

We're working on reinventing our government to do more with less, and I am proud to say that the Congress is clearly signaling today its determination to move on reforming campaign finance laws. A bill passed the Senate several months ago. Today the House committee is voting out a bill which I believe the House of Representatives will pass.

This is a record of real achievement. But in the next few weeks before we go home, Congress will be challenged to take even greater strides in protecting the personal security of Americans and in creating more opportunities for us to compete and win in the global environment.

The Senate is completing work now on our crime bill -- legislation that will fulfill the campaign promise I made to put 100,000 additional police officers on the street, to keep felons behind bars, to take criminals off the street, to provide boot camps and alternative service for first-time youthful offenders, and to remove guns from the hands of people who should not have them. We have a real shot now to pass the Brady bill. After years -- 12 years -- of heroic activism by Jim and Sarah Brady, Congress is finally determined, I believe, to stand up to the interest against the Brady

File
Crime -
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Starts

bill and to take action on crime, which is the number one personal security issue for most Americans.

And a week from today, Congress will decide whether to expand exports and jobs by passing the North American Free Trade Agreement. The case for NAFTA could not have been made more forcefully or eloquently than it was by Vice President Gore last night in his debate with Mr. Perot. Last night the Vice President showed that just stating the facts about NAFTA and showing our concern for the interest of working Americans can overcome the fears, the distortions that had been leveled against this agreement. NAFTA means exports; exports means jobs. No wealthy country in the world is growing more jobs without expanding exports.

When the American people hear that case, they showed last night they were willing to listen and willing to join not only millions of other Americans like those the Vice President called by name last night, but every living former president, former secretary of state, Nobel Prize-winning economist, and over 80 percent of the sitting governors.

The contrast we saw last night was clear. Mr. Perot warned members of the House of Representatives that they would face awful retaliation if they voted their conscience on NAFTA. The Vice President urged the members of the House to vote for hope against fear; to vote for the proposition that Americans can compete and win in the global economy; to vote their conscience and tell the constituents back home why they were voting as they were. And if the preliminary results on the debate last night are any indication, the members of the House of Representatives can trust the American people with the facts and with their own convictions.

This vote comes at a defining moment for our nation. We have been through a very tough period. For 20 years -- 20 years -- 60 percent of the American people have been working harder for the same or less wages. We have had great difficulty in increasing the productivity that is absolutely essential to creating jobs and raising incomes. But we have now done it. This country is now the most productive country in the world across a broad spectrum of manufacturing and service activities in this economy. We can win. And we have to decide, beginning next week, whether we're going to reach out to compete and win, or try to withdraw.

I will say again one point I want to make about NAFTA before I open the floor to questions that was not emphasized last night simply because it didn't come up as much. This agreement means more jobs, but the real job growth for America will come when two other steps are taken. It will come when all the other Latin democracies and free market economies also join in a great trade group with Mexico, Canada and the United States. And it will come because once this happens, we will have enormously increased influence in the world community to argue that we ought to adopt a worldwide trade agreement before the end of the year, to get that new GATT agreement. That will influence Asia, it will influence Europe if the House votes for NAFTA. The stakes for this country, therefore, are quite high. I believe the House will do the right thing.

I want to say, too, that I am grateful that today Congressman Hoagland, Congressman Kreidler, Congressman Dicks, Congressman Valentine and Senator Nunn announced their support for NAFTA. I think that we will see more coming in the days ahead, and I

think that by the time we get to vote counting, we'll have enough to win.

Thank you.

Q Mr. President, U.S. foreign policy endeavors have been less than successful in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia. And on Sunday on Meet the Press you seemed to be lukewarm about your foreign policy team. Is Secretary Wharton being made your sacrificial lamb? And are you planning a shake-up of your foreign policy team? I mean, is that the signal?

THE PRESIDENT: No to both questions. First of all, I did not mean to be lukewarm. I have always followed a policy as long as I've been a chief executive of not discussing a lot of personnel issues. But I will say again what I said on Sunday. This team has worked hard on a lot of difficult issues. I think they deserve high marks for dealing with the central, large, strategic issues of this time -- dealing with the Soviet -- the former Soviet Union, working on the bringing down the nuclear threat, working on stemming nuclear proliferation, working on peace in the Middle East, working on putting economics at the forefront of our foreign policy.

Secondly, Mr. Wharton is not being made a scapegoat in any way, shape or form. What he worked on at the State Department, in my judgment, he did a good job on. He worked on reorganization; he worked on the aid programs; he worked on a number of issues that have nothing to do with the controversies which were thorny when I got here and are still thorny today in Somalia, Haiti and Bosnia. It would be a great mistake for anyone to misinterpret what happened.

I think you have to take his remarks on their own terms. But believe me, his departure has nothing to do with scape-goating. I have the highest regard for him. And I am grateful for the service he rendered.

Q Mr. President, there's a growing expectation that Israel and Jordan are going to sign a peace treaty when Prime Minister Rabin visits the White House on Friday. Could you tell us what's the likelihood of that? And also on Mr. Rabin, Israeli radio says that he's written you a letter asking you to cut the prison sentence of convicted spy Jonathan Pollard to 10 years. Are you going to do that?

THE PRESIDENT: First of all, I am delighted by the reports of progress in the relationships between Israel and Jordan. And as you know, we are talking with both of them. And we've been involved with that. But I don't think anything will happen Friday on that. I would be pleased if it did. But the truth is, we have no reason to believe that anything will be happening Friday.

On the Pollard case, it is true that the Prime Minister has written me about Jonathan Pollard. I have asked the Justice Department to review his case, as I do in every request for executive clemency. I have not received a report from them yet. And I will not make a decision on the Pollard case until I get some sort of indication from them.

Q Mr. President, there are some who suggest that you deliberately wanted to have the Vice President debate Mr. Perot in order to elevate Mr. Perot as a potential threat to Republicans down the road more than Democrats. Did you have those kinds of interests

in mind?

THE PRESIDENT: I wish I were that Machiavellian. It never occurred to me. (Laughter.) I wanted the Vice President to debate Mr. Perot because I believed -- and I know that the conventional wisdom around here was that it was a mistake -- but, first, I want to give credit where credit's due. The Vice President, not the President -- the Vice President had the idea that maybe this was the time to have a debate and to do it on Larry King.

My immediate response, however, was very positive, because I believe the American people -- first of all, we know they're hungry for debate. They know we have to change, and they're deeply skeptical of people in politics. So the more direct access people have to this issue, one that affects their lives, the more feeling they get for the facts and the arguments as well as for the conviction of the parties involved, I just think it's better. So there was no ulterior motive in that, whatever.

Q Mr. President, the polls indicate that Vice President Gore did do well in the debate last night and that Mr. Perot did not do so well. You clearly believe he was wounded on the issue of NAFTA. Do you think that carries over into his role in politics in general? Does it hurt his standing as a political force in this country in the future?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I don't have any idea. I don't know about that. I will say this: I think there are a lot of people out there who are alienated from the political system for good reasons. And it is -- one of the greatest frustrations I have as President is that it is often difficult for me to cut through the din of daily events here to keep speaking to those people and to try to keep them involved.

I think that they will feel more supportive of not only this administration, but of the American political system, if we can produce sustained economic growth, greater security for people who work hard and play by the rules; if we can produce a genuine effort to fight crime and to deal with the problems of the breakdown of the society and family in many of the troubled areas of our country; and if we can produce political reform -- if we can produce campaign finance reform and lobby reform -- and if the Congress sometime in the next few weeks passes a law that says they'll live under the laws that they pass and impose on the private sector.

These are the things that you keep hearing from people who voted in the last election for Mr. Perot. I think what we should focus on, t'òof us who are here, is address«†the concerns, the hopes and the fears of those people. And the rest of it will take care of itself. We'll just have to see what happens.

Q Mr. President, the White House has complained and Mr. Gore scored some points about Mr. Perot's exaggerations and exaggerations of the anti-NAFTA forces. But last night the Vice President said that 22 out of 23 studies have shown job increases. He cited a figure of 400,000. The Joint Economic Committee, a bipartisan committee of Congress, said that's not true. Doesn't it hurt their arguments for NAFTA when --

THE PRESIDENT: What did they say was not true?

Q Well, they said that the studies were being double

counted, and that he did not cite the job losses, so he wasn't giving a net figure and that actually the overall size of the economy, that those really are not that significant, or can't be properly counted.

THE PRESIDENT: That's what I tried -- let me respond to that on the specific allegations. I have always tried to couch NAFTA as a job winner, both gross -- a net job winner. That is I think that the evidence is clear that not just in the long run, but in the near run, we'll have had more job gains than job losses out of this. There will plainly be some job losses. But, the point I have tried to make, always, is we have a lot of job losses every year in America we can't prevent. So when we have an opportunity to create more jobs, we are almost more morally bound to do it when we can have a net job gain.

I think some of the most -- I don't think the Vice President willfully misstated that, because we've had this conversation a long time -- many times. But a lot of the extreme claims on both sides ignore the fact that Mexico itself, on its own terms, only comprises four to five percent of the size of the American economy. The size of the Mexican economy today is about the size of California's economy from the Los Angeles county line, the north line, down to the Mexican border. And, therefore, the ability of the Mexicans in the near term to hurt the American economy, or to totally inflate it, is somewhat limited.

As you know, we said that we thought we would gain 200,000 jobs over the next two years. Well, last month our economy produced 177,000 jobs. That's why I say -- let me reiterate what I said in my opening remarks. The thing that's important about this is that it makes a statement that we're reaching out to expand trade. It really will -- 200,000 jobs is nothing to sneeze at. And almost all of our people believe that the net will be well above 150,000. That is, that's nothing to sneeze at in two years, especially since they will be higher paying jobs.

But the important thing is that by showing we can have this relationship with Mexico, we will rapidly be able to move to conclude similar agreements with other market-oriented democracies -- with Chile, with Argentina, with a whole range of other countries in Latin America. And this then will give us the psychological leverage -- just as for the anti-NAFTA people this has become the repository for all their resentments, for us that are for it, it's become the symbol of where we want to go in the world. This will give me enormous leverage when I get on the airplane the day after the NAFTA vote and go out to meet with the General Secretary of the People's Republic of China, when I go out to meet with the Prime Minister of Japan and all the other leaders of Asia, when I try to convince the Europeans that it's time for a worldwide trade agreement.

And nearly everyone who has analyzed what we agreed to about the time of the G-7 on the GATT Round, the new trade agreement, concludes that it will add hundreds of thousands of jobs, significant jobs near-term to the American economy. So I say that, on balance, this is a huge deal for America, but both sides need to be very careful not to make extreme claims. This is a job winner for our country -- more jobs with Latin America, even more jobs when we have a new world trade agreement. It all begins with NAFTA.

Q Mr. President, do you have any regrets about your comments about labor during the Sunday television interview, your comment about the naked pressure that they've exerted on members of

Congress on NAFTA? And what are you going to do to kiss and make up with them?

THE PRESIDENT: I sent a little note to Mr. Kirkland the other day and said I hope my comments Sunday morning didn't ruin his Sunday afternoon. And I told him basically what I said before. I have enormous respect for many of the people who are fighting us on this. I just think they're wrong. But, specifically, I don't think a congressman who has been a friend of the labor movement for 20 years should be told that he or she will get an opponent in the next election or never get any more help on this one vote. I just disagree with that.

If you go back and look at the interview, I was trying to make the point that I thought in the Congress the labor movement was more -- a bigger force from keeping this passing than the Perot folks were. I didn't mean to hurt their feelings, but I can't retract what I said because I don't think it's right for people to be told, if you vote your conscience on this vote we're through with you forever, no matter what you've done with use before. I think that's bad and it's not conducive to good government.

Q We seem to be heading for one of those cliffhangers next week in the House, kind of high political drama that Washington enjoys. I can't imagine, though, sir, that perhaps you enjoy it quite as much. And I wonder as you look back on this if you feel that this issue could perhaps have been managed differently, perhaps an earlier start that would have enabled you to make what you seem to feel is a very strong case a bit more easily.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the only way we could have started earlier is if we'd been able to conclude the side agreements sooner, because keep in mind, first of all, I ran for this job with a commitment to support NAFTA if I could get the right side agreements. This thing was dead in the water in January when I became President. It was gone. There was no support among the Democrats in the House. There were Republicans who thought they weren't going to be able to vote for it. Yes, the opposition then got geared up and made a lot of charges against it. But the only thing we had to hold out was the promise that we could conclude side agreements that would improve the environmental issues and that would deal with the labor issues and that would give us some leverage for people to move forward.

If we had been able to conclude those agreements more quickly, then we could have started the campaign more quickly.

Q You don't think these side agreements added credence to the idea that it was a flawed agreement and perhaps hurt politically?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't think so. I don't know. Anybody can always second-guess. But what I always tried to say about NAFTA was that the concept was sound and that we needed an agreement with Mexico. One of the things we haven't talked about very much is it means a lot to the United States to have a neighbor with 90 million people that is moving toward democracy, that is moving toward an open economy and that is moving toward greater friendship with us. I mean, this is a big deal. If you want cooperation in the immigration problem, the drug problem, this means a lot to us.

I always felt that we would get there, but in dealing

with at least the people in our party, we had to be able to have something to show that would indicate we were making progress in these areas. So that's all I can say. We may be able to be second-guessed, but the thing simply wasn't ready, and I didn't have anything to argue with.

Q Mr. President, a moment ago you stated that your leverage would be increased in Seattle if you get a NAFTA v you come at it from the other side? If you have a NAFTA defeat on Wednesday, would that in any way diminish your prestige in Seattle or your ability to conduct foreign policy?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it would diminish my ability to conduct foreign policy except in the economic area. I think it would limit my ability to argue that the Asians should open their markets more. And, after all, our trade problem, in terms of open markets, if you look at it, where is our trade deficit -- \$49 billion with Japan, \$19 billion with China, \$9 billion with Taiwan. We have a \$5.4 billion trade surplus with Mexico. So I think my ability to argue that case forcefully that "you ought to open your markets; look at what we're doing" will be undermined.

And I think, more importantly, my ability to argue that the Asians and the Europeans should join with me and push hard, hard to get a world trade agreement through the GATT Round by the end of the year will be more limited. There's no question about it.

Look, the anxieties that we have here -- the same thing is going on in Japan, where they're not generating jobs and they've got staggering income. Same thing in Europe; it's been years since the European economy as a whole has generated new jobs. So in each of these great power centers of the world there are these debates every day just like the one that went on last night between the Vice President and Mr. Perot. They're debating it -- are they going to be more open or more closed, which way are they going to go? And so I think that my ability to tip the scales in that debate in the right direction for history and for the American people will be limited significantly in the short run if we lose NAFTA. It will not be good for the United States.

Q Mr. President, beyond signing a crime bill, if and when one hits your desk, what else can you do? What else will you do about crime and violence?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I think that there's a lot more that we have to do. I think the administration has got to examine everything we can do to try to put together an approach that will challenge every community in this country and every organization in this country, and every individual in this country to make a contribution with us in restoring the conditions in which civilize life can go on.

I think that the crime bill is very important. I don't want to minimize that. I know some disagree that it is. It really more make a difference if you put another 100,000 police out there. We're losing the ratio of police to crime. We have been for 30 years. This is an important issue. It matters whether we get these police out there, if they're properly trained and properly deployed in community policing.

But we have to rebuild families and communities in this country. We've got to take more responsibility for these little kids

before they grow up and start shooting each other. We have to find ways to offer hope and to reconnect people. When children start shooting children the way they're doing now, and little kids go around planning their own funerals, what that means is that they're a whole lot of people, millions of people in this country, who literally are not even playing by the same set of rules that all the rest of us take for granted. And we have learned in this country to accept many things that are unacceptable. And I think the President has a pulpit, Teddy Roosevelt's bully pulpit, that I have to use and work hard on and try to live by to try to help rebuild the conditions of family and community and education and opportunity.

And I'll just say one last thing about that. What a lot of these folks that are in such desperate trouble need is a unique combination of both structure and order and discipline on the one hand and genuine caring on the other. It is impossible to structure life in a society like ours where there is no family or at least no supervising, caring adult on the one hand, and on the other hand where there is no work.

If you go generation after generation after generation and people don't get to work -- you think about your lives. Think about what you're going to do today, what you did this morning when you got up, what you'll do tonight when you go home. If you think about the extent to which work organizes life in America and reinforces our values, our rules and the way we relate to one another and the way we raise our children; and then you imagine what it must be like where there is no work -- I know the budget is tight. I know there are all kinds of tough problems. I know that people with private capital, even with our empowerment zones, may not want to invest in inner cities and decimated rural areas, but I'm telling you, we have to deal with family, community, education and you have to have work -- there has to be work there.

Q Mr. President, on the issue of crime, can you explain a little bit more about how the White House, how the administration is going to accomplish some of these things?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. First of all, the Attorney General and Secretary Cisneros and a number of other people are now working in our administration on how we can develop a comprehensive approach to the whole issue of violence in our society and how we can merge that with what we want to do in terms of community empowerment, and how it will fit with all the things that we are now doing. And I think what you will see from us over the next several months is a sustained, organized, disciplined approach so that we don't just respond to the horror we all feel when a little kid gets shot after being picked up off the street like happened here last weekend, or when they children plan their funerals. I want to give -- I want to put this right at the center of what we're doing.

I have spent years going to neighborhoods and talking to people and dealing with issues that most politicians in national government have not talked a lot about. I care a great deal about this. There is a lot of knowledge in this town about it. Senator Moynihan wrote a very powerful article just a couple of weeks ago on how we have defined deviancy down. I think there's an enormous bipartisan willingness to face this. What I think I have to do is to mobilize every person in my government to do what can be done to address these problems. And you will see that coming out after the Congress goes home and in my address to the people next year when the Congress begins.

Q Mr. President, you mentioned Senator Moynihan. He's proposed a federal tax on bullets that would make certain kind of bullets, particularly cop-killer bullets, prohibitively expensive. Do you support the general idea of an ammunition tax? And would you like to see it to be part of the financing for your health care package, as Senator Moynihan has proposed?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Senator Moynihan has been very candid in saying that what he really wants to do is to try to use this to deal with the problem of gun violence in America. I think the health care plan that I put forward will finance itself in the way that we have. And I think we should proceed with that. I think that this idea of his, however, deserves a lot of consideration.

But one of the things that I question in my own mind is if some of these bullets are being manufactured solely for the purpose of having a devastating effect on someone's body if they hit someone's body, whether we ought not just to get rid of those bullets. Because if you look at the money that can be raised as a practical matter, in the context of this federal budget or the health care budget, it's limited. I have asked -- I agree with the Treasury Secretary. Secretary Bentsen stated our position. We think the Senator has given us an interesting idea. We're looking at it, we're seeing what the objectives are. But some of that ammunition, it would seem to me, there might be a consensus that we ought not to make it at all in this country.

Q Mr. President, it turns out that your friend, Jim Florio in New Jersey, may have lost the election by a narrow margin because of some -- an approach dreamed up by the Republican strategists which depressed black voter turnout. What do you think about that tactic?

THE PRESIDENT: First, I think we should all acknowledge that people have died in this country, given their lives to give other Americans, especially African Americans, the right to vote. And this allegation, if it is true -- and I say if it is true -- I don't know what the facts are, but if it is true, then it was terribly wrong for anyone to give money to anybody else not to vote or to depress voter turnout. And it was terribly wrong for anyone to accept that money to render that nonservice to this country.

Q Can you give us a count right now of how many votes you have in the House on NAFTA?

THE PRESIDENT: No, because it's changing every day. But we're getting a lot closer. I honestly believe we're going to win it now, and that's not just political puff. I think we'll make it. I'll be surprised if we don't win that.

Q -- what is going to happen to Latin America if NAFTA is not passed? What would be the impact in the United States, not in you, but in the people of the United States if NAFTA is not approved?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, if it's not passed, we'll lose a lot of opportunities to sell our products. We will not do one single thing to discourage people from moving to Mexico to set up plants to get low wages to sell back in here. We will depress the environmental and labor costs more than they otherwise would be depressed in Mexico, which will make it harder for us to compete.

It'll be bad for America if we do it.

Q Mr. President, so far you haven't talked about Haiti and Bosnia. The situation in those two countries seems to have gotten worse in the year since you've been elected. Right now, what can you tell us you're doing to reverse the situation in the short-term, or do you fear that this is go on all winter long in Bosnia as well as in Haiti?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the problem -- or the conditions in Bosnia at least seem to be that none of the parties now, including the government, at least at the moment we speak, based on what I knew this morning, are of a mind to make peace on any terms that the others will accept, because there are different military results being achieved on the ground there in different places in ways that make all the parties feel that they shouldn't agree now. Under those conditions, all we can do is to try to make sure that we minimize the human loss coming on for this winter; that we try to get the United Nations to agree to let the NATO position that the United States put together on the availability of air power in the event that Sarajevo is seriously shelled be an actual live option and not just something on the books; and that we make sure our humanitarian program works.

I will say this -- I want to emphasize this -- the airlift to Bosnia, which this nation has spearheaded, has now gone on longer than the Berlin airlift. And it's one of the most comprehensive humanitarian aid efforts in the history. And we'll have to keep doing it.

In Haiti, I'd like to say a word or two about that. First of all, it's important that the people of Haiti understand that the people who brought this embargo on were Mr. Francois and General Cedras, because they didn't go through with the Governors Island Agreement.

Now, I believe that Mr. Malval and President Aristide are willing to talk in good faith and try to reach an accommodation that would enable us to get back on the path to democracy and to implementing that agreement. I don't -- I grieve for the people of Haiti. We feed almost 700,000 people a day in Haiti. We participate actively, the United States does. I don't want anybody else to be hurt down there. But I think it's very important that the people of Haiti understand that the people that brought this embargo on them were Francois and Cedras in breaking the agreement that was agreed to by all parties there. And we have to try to reach another agreement so that the country can go back to normal.

Q The financial community has been worried about Mexico's policy of gradually devaluing the peso and saying that this would underscore the low-wage environment there. What would you foresee under a NAFTA pact that was approved as far as the relationship between the dollar and the peso? And would we end up finding the Federal Reserve having to support the peso because of our tighter economic relationship?

THE PRESIDENT: Actually, I would think that -- I want to be careful how I say this because I don't want anything I say now to be -- have an impact in the Mexican financial markets today, but I believe that you have to just say that the peso would become stronger if NAFTA passes because it would strengthen the Mexican economy. And, normally, when you've got a strong economy that's growing, the value of the currency will rise.

Let me say, I know we've got -- no, I'm sorry. I want to introduce someone before we go, because I think I would be remiss here at a press conference with all of you not to do this. I'd like to ask Khan Pham to stand. Would you stand up?

I want to tell you a little bit about this young woman. She's here today with a program that puts role models and young people together, and she said her role model was Dee Dee Myers, so she wanted to come here and be here. (Laughter.) But let me tell you about her. Maybe she should be our role model.

When she was two-and-a-half years old, she was cradled in her five-year-old brother's arms as her mother made a desperate run for freedom from Vietnam. They forced their way onto an overcrowded small wooden boat after giving away their life savings for those spots. They endured heavy seas, were separated on the boat for a period of time. They watched people die before being picked up by a U.S. naval ship, the U.S.S. Warden.

After coming here, because of language barriers, her mother could only get jobs in manual labor. She also baked Vietnamese pastries to sell. She held two or three jobs at a time. Sometimes she didn't have enough money to wash the clothes so the family would have to wash them in their tub, while Khan and her brother would try to teach their mother English.

A couple of years ago, she missed several months of school while she single-handedly worked with all the agencies and authorities here to get her two sisters back from Vietnam and to the United States. Finally, they were reunited a year and a half ago, and they now live with Khan and her mother. She is 17, a senior at Reston High School of Virginia. She holds an office with her student government and she's a student representative elected to the Board of Governors, a city office in Reston.

And as I said, she's spending the day here today, and she's interested in being in the press today. But one day she hopes to be America's ambassador to Vietnam.

Thank you for coming here. (Applause.)

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

END

3:40 P.M. EST

Willkie draft of 12/8/93 1:45 p.m.

The President of the United States
Meeting with Mayors and Chiefs of Police
Indian Treaty Room
December 9, 1993

Some of you were with me when I signed the Brady Bill into law a week ago last Tuesday. It was a triumph born in tragedy, a victory for everyone on the front lines in the fight against crime and violence in America -- not just police chiefs and police officers, but children who want to be safe on their way to school, doctors tired of the sight of wasted lives, and neighbors who want their communities back.

Still, America had to wait almost seven years for the Brady Bill to become law. Seven years. And all of you on the front lines -- the mayors and the men and women in blue -- have been waiting on a crime bill for years.

When the Congress returns in January, the first thing it ought to do is send the crime bill to me so I can sign it in an instant. That means 100,000 more cops on the street and fewer guns on the street. Our people shouldn't have to wait for this any longer.

More cops and fewer assault weapons in the hands of teenagers will help bring safety to our streets, but that won't mean the issue in Washington will be over. Yes, we need a crime bill, but we also need a new bill of health for our communities.

When I spoke to the ministers in Memphis last month, I talked about a speech I had read given by a man who grew up years ago in Washington, not far from here, in Anacostia. He said, 'Even then, this neighborhood was all black and very poor, but we had a crime rate that was lower than the average crime rate of our city. Why? We had coherent families. The people who filled the church on Sunday lived in the same place they went to church. The guy that owned the drugstore lived down the street. The person that owned the grocery store lived in our community. We were whole.'

When I was young, my own family didn't have much money. My mother worked, and my grandparents helped to raise me. They ran a small town grocery, the kind of place where everyone knows everybody who comes in. In that environment, there were always adults to look up to: Grandparents. Teachers. The town marshall. The town minister. The man who brought your mail. Neighbors who would call your mama if you ever misbehaved.

Today, too many children are growing up in broken homes, leading broken lives on broken hope. They have never known the structure that raises children into responsible adults, with a shared understanding of right and wrong.

Together, we have to stitch back together the fabric of our society. We have to help the vulnerable find order and security and discipline in their lives. We have to give them

hope. We have to help people feel safe enough, and secure enough, to trust each other.

That's why I support community policing, where your officers work closely with people, in their neighborhoods and near their homes. With community policing, young people don't see a system; they see a human being. Face to face. I want to help you deliver the message that community policing builds trust, and trust builds safety.

We know the old way doesn't work. For years, when it came to public safety, Washington postured and left you on the front lines on your own. We've seen the results of that legacy: the crime, the neglect, and the fruitless calls for attention. For years, you had a hard time getting people in this town to listen, let alone just getting them to open the door.

The Brady Bill -- the Brady Law -- is a signal that times have changed. This doesn't mean that government can do it alone. And none of what we do will matter if our people don't take responsibility and do their part, too. But together, I want to form an unprecedented partnership with you to help them take their communities back. Not from Washington on down, but starting in the communities on up, in your cities -- block by block, neighborhood by neighborhood.

We've got a great opportunity before us, so let us make the most of it. I'm glad you're here, and I'm looking forward to sitting down and working with you. Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9:50 am

Bruce -

Here's the final version
of the Brady bill remarks -
Jose has seen it & made
changes. We already sent
~~the~~ it to the President but
if you have any major changes,
please let me know.

Liz

President William Jefferson Clinton
Remarks at the Brady Bill Signing
November 30, 1993

[Acknowledgments]

Thank you... Sarah and Jim Brady... Attorney General Reno... Vice President Gore... Mrs. Musick... members of Congress. I am elated that on this historic day we are also joined by law enforcement representatives... governors... mayors... officials of Handgun Control Incorporated [Pete and Jean Shields].

The people we have invited here today have something in common: all of you have been important voices in the campaign against violence in our society. We are honored to have you here.

The Brady bill was first introduced almost seven years ago by former Congressman Ed Feighan, on February 4th, 1987. There was no great fanfare and as recently as last year, no great prospects.

Today, I'm glad to say, we change all that. But the journey to this day has been long, painful and tragic... marked by a growing awareness among our people that the small arms race in our country must end... and it must end now.

Since Jim and Sarah Brady began their crusade for the passage of the bill that bears their name, more than 150-thousand Americans -- men, women, teen-agers, schoolchildren, even infants -- have been killed with handguns... and even more have been wounded.

150-thousand Americans, of all races, from all walks of life, in every corner of our nation, urban and rural... gone... because of handguns.

But this courageous couple... through all the defeats and the setbacks as special interests fought this legislation... never gave up. And now, because of Jim and Sarah Brady... countless lives can be spared.

For that, all America owes them a debt of gratitude. If anyone ever doubted that an individual or two individuals could make a difference, I say look at what these two people have done.

Because of the grassroots effort the Bradys led, today the most significant piece of gun-control legislation in a quarter century becomes a reality: the Brady bill becomes the Brady law.

Very simply, now we will be able to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and the mentally unfit. With the enactment of the Brady bill, civility won, security won, the Bradys won... America won.

Our people are fed up with violence that cuts down an American with gunfire every 20 minutes of every day... they are fed up with fearing for themselves and fearing for their children.

To those who have scoffed at a five-day waiting period on the purchase of guns, I say this: It will work, and we have seen that it does work. If you saw the front page of The Washington Post today, you saw the figures:

* Since 1989, more than 47-thousand attempted purchases of handguns were blocked just because of computerized background checks in state programs in California, Florida, Virginia and Maryland.

* Without these checks, thousands of people who shouldn't have guns would be armed right now.

* At the same time, these checks are helping to find fugitives from the law.

* But these state programs, valuable though they are, can only be made more effective with the national standard we set today with the Brady law.

This bill is an urgent first step to help bring a level of personal security back into the lives of all Americans.

Still, it is just the first step... and I think we can all agree that we cannot afford to wait another seven years to take the next step against crime. We must pick up the momentum as soon as Congress returns to work next year.

* Crime Bill: 100-thousand new police officers on the street... boot camps/state prisons... drug treatment.

* Ban on handguns for minors.

* Ban on assault weapons.

* Reform our federal firearms licensing system.

* Safe schools legislation.

Each of these measures will help us get a handle on the violence gripping our society. But even the sum of these measures needs something more.

We have to change as a people... we have to adjust the course of our society to restore those things that make us stable, like family and community... work and education... and respect for each other and a healthy regard for life.

And each American in his or her own way must take personal responsibility to make a difference.

As our people have become more concerned about crime, it's clear that more and more, Americans are making it their duty to help take back streets, schools and neighborhoods; Americans like:

* The Reverend Jesse Jackson -- who is taking a vital message to teen-agers across our nation: that they can defend themselves with a powerful weapon, information. These young people should not be cowed by others carrying drugs and guns in our schools and streets... they should defy them and break the silence that protects the killers among them.

* David Plaza -- a former gang member who turned his life around, he is now coordinating Gang Alternative Programs in Norwalk, California. He embodies what he tells gang members: that they take personal responsibility for their actions.

* The Reverend William Moore -- who organized parents, educators and other clergy in North Philadelphia to provide safety corridors for children going to and from school in an area plagued with drug dealers.

* And, of course, there are the police officers on the street who have restored confidence in neighborhoods by becoming involved in ways above the call of duty... like Officer Anthony Feudo [FWAY'-doh] of Boston. Under his leadership, a tough section of East Boston has been transformed -- in the words of his sergeant -- from a neighborhood full of fear, to one in which elderly residents feel safe sitting on benches and passing the day.

These stories are a testament to the determination of our people to make a difference.

In every way that we in government can, we must provide the supports that will allow the hard work of these Americans to take hold. That, in short, is why we are here today.

And now, I will sign into law the legislation requiring a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases, known as the Brady bill.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S STATEMENTS ON CRIME

Remarks at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, October 12, 1993

"Most of our people are law-abiding citizens who love their families more than their own lives. But America leads the world in violent crime, has the highest percentage of its people behind bars, has 90,000 murders in the last four years and more and more of our children are born into and grow up in family situations so difficult that it is hard even to make the arguments that the rest of us have taken for granted all of our lives."

"And this last point I would make to you -- if we are to be personally secure enough to make the changes and meet the tests of this time, we must protect our people better against the ravages of violence. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live -- (applause) -- where they go to school and where they work."

"My fellow Americans, I was in California the other night and I talked to people all across the state in a hooked up town hall meeting. And this young African American boy, a junior high school student, said, 'Mr. President, my brother and I, we don't want to be in gangs, we don't want to have guns, we don't want to cause any trouble. We want to learn, we want a future. And we thought our school was too unsafe, so we decided to go to another school and enroll in it because it was safer. And on the day we showed up to register for school, my brother was standing right in front of me and he was shot,' because he got in a crossfire of one of these mindless, arbitrary, endless shootings that occur among children on our streets and in our schools today. We have to stop this. We cannot let those children be robbed of their future." (Applause)

"I know this state grieved recently when your native son Michael Jordan's father was killed. And I know we all wish him well as Michael embarks on a new journey in his life. But let us not forget that 22 other men and women were killed in that same county in your state this year. Ten foreign tourists were killed in Florida this year, and the state grieved over it. But in our nation's capital, in one week this summer, more than twice that many people were killed. They were not famous, but they were the President's neighbors."

"It is heartbreaking. What can we do about it? We can put more police on our street. Not to catch criminals just alone, but alone to prevent crime. It works. Thirty years ago there were three police for every violent crime. Today there are three crimes for every police officer. We have to give these people the help they need. And when they work the same neighborhoods and walk the same streets and talk to the same kids, they help to prevent crime."

"And we should not allow in city after city after city our police officers to go to work every knowing they will walk the mean street of our cities with people who are better armed than they are. Because this is the only country in the work where teenagers can have assault weapons designed only to kill other people, and use them with abandon on the streets of our cities. We can do better than that."

"Do you know, my fellow Americans, that I learned just last week that someone shot today with a bullet is three times more likely to perish because they are likely to have three times as many bullets in them as they did just 15 years ago. It is time for us to stop talking about law and order and thinking about how we can organize ourselves to protect our culture, to protect our heritage, to keep our rights as sportsmen and women, but to protect our kids lives and their future. The time has come to face this problem." (Applause.)

Remarks on Health Care and Violence in America, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, New Brunswick, NJ October 8, 1993

And so, I tell you, my fellow Americans, we have a decision to make. And this is the time to make it. We can't keep saying that we deplore these things and it's terrible and keep extolling our American values on how much more law-abiding we are than other people and put up with this. We either need to say this is a level of chaos and human degradation and waste of human potential and incredible cost in society that we are willing to tolerate because we cannot bear to do something about it; or we need to get up, stand up and be counted and do something about it.

We have a crime bill -- Governor Florio mentioned it -- before the Congress. It does a lot of things, but most importantly, here's what it does. It does a lot of things, but most importantly, here's what it does. It requires the Brady bill, which is a national five-day waiting period, to establish background checks to check for age, criminal history and mental health history. It matters. You must do it nationally -- why? Just near here in New York City, of the many thousands of weapons confiscated last year by the police, 85 percent of them came from other states. If you don't have a national system, you will never fix this. It is a huge deal.

The second thing the crime bill does is to provide for the 50 percent of the downpayment of the commitment I made when I was running for President that I wanted to ask the Congress to give the American people another 100,000 police officers in the next four years -- not just to catch criminals, but to deter crime. And lest you think it doesn't work, let me -- I can cite you many examples. Places in New Jersey which have more police officers, where the crime rate has gone down. In New York City where the crime rate has gone down in seven FBI,

all the seven major FBI categories where community policing has been deployed. In the city of Houston, which had a 17 percent drop in crime in one year, because when people are there in force, it prevents crime from occurring in the first place. So that's an important part of this.

Another part of the crime bill gives states funds to establish innovative programs for kids when they get in trouble before they do shoot somebody to try to get them back into the mainstream of life. After all, a lot of these young people who get in terrible trouble are not really bad people, they have no structure, no order, they cannot imagine the future. There are no rules that bind them internally to the things the rest of us take for granted. And we've got to try to get as many of them back as we can before they do something terrible which will requires us to put them away for a long time.

We do have to deal with these things. And we need to pass a crime bill this year. These members of Congress can do it. There are still people who are holding them back, and you need to urge them on. And I'll guarantee you, I'll sign it as quick as they'll put it on my desk. We have to do it. (Applause)

But the second thing I want to say to you is that we need a national law to do what New Jersey has done here with the assault weapons. Again because we have a constitutional right to travel in this country. New Jersey can make a big dent in New Jersey's problems by abandoning these weapons here, and then by setting up a system to try to collect them, but people are still crossing the state line all the time.

We need national legislation. There are several bills in the Congress, and arguments about which one is better than the other one, but I will guarantee you they are all better than nothing. And the Congress should pass one of those bills and send it to me this year. It would be a great Christmas present to the American people to stand up for safety. (Applause)

Finally, let me just say that each of us in our own way are going to ask ourselves what we can do to deal with this. We have a culture of violence. We glorify it. I was delighted to see some of the television networks voluntarily say that they were going to do their best to try to monitor the content of violence and reduce it, and degradation of people during prime time television.

We have got to take a whole generation of young people who have very short attention spans for whom the future has no claim because they cannot even imagine the future, and slowly, carefully, and one-on-one, neighborhood by neighborhood, community by community, help them rebuild the kind of inner strength and sense of values and discipline and control and hope that will permit us to go where we need to go. No law will do that, but that is not an excuse not to

pass these laws.

And let us have the courage to admit that some of these problems [health care] we will never fix until we change our ways as a nation, and let's start with violence, begin with guns, and prove that we can do in America what you are doing here in New Jersey. Thank you and God bless you all. (Applause)

Radio Address, October 9, 1993

Throughout the campaign for this office, and since I became your president, I've been asking that we have the courage to change, to compete in the world economy, and to bring prosperity back home. But we can't embrace change fully unless our own people feel a high level of personal and family security -- a security about our place in the world. I'm happy to report that we're making real progress on that too.

And the blanket of security for Americans has another side to it: personal security. Our people have the right to feel safe where they live, work, play and go to school. But too many of our people are denied that right. I've talked with parents who are afraid to send their children to schools where other kids carry guns. I've talked with children who were so afraid of becoming caught up with gangs, they didn't even want to leave their homes. I've talked with police officers who felt anger and frustration at trying, sometimes against overwhelming odds, to stem an epidemic of violence, especially from children, better armed than police, who shoot other children. And, most importantly, I've talked with the victims.

Yesterday I visited a trauma center in New Jersey and saw what people with guns can do to other people. I met a woman who couldn't speak any more because her husband shot her in the throat. I met a man who took a bullet in his chest during a robbery attempt. I met a child whose mother was killed by an assault rifle. It was heartbreaking and it was an outrage.

These kind of attacks happen too often, they shatter lives, they destroy families. And more and more they kill children. Violent crime crowds our emergency rooms and drains our medical resources. And it is siphoning away our humanity. Gunshot wounds are now the major cause of death among teenage boys.

My visits with these victims made me more determined than ever to win passage of our crime bill. This bill will help to restore a system where those who commit crimes are caught, those who are found guilty are convicted, those who are convicted are punished -- sometimes by the imposition of the death penalty for especially serious crimes. I support that. Two months ago I asked Congress to pass a tough crime bill. This month your lawmakers will consider it. And they should pass it this year.

But what really makes this crime bill effective and different is this; more police, fewer guns. Our bill would help to prevent crime by putting 50,000 more

police officers on the street in America and by expanding community policing. Here in Washington recently, a beautiful four-year-old girl was caught in the line of fire and she died from a bullet wound. Her name was Launice Smith. All she was doing was watching other children at play. How did that become the wrong place at the wrong time?

The fact is, with so many handguns and assault weapons flooding our streets, a lot of places can be the wrong place at the wrong time. That's why we have to pass the Brady Bill. It requires a five day wait before a gun can be purchased -- time-enough for a real background check to stop guns from getting into the hands of convicted criminals. And we can't go on being the only country on earth that let's teenagers roam the streets with assault weapons, better armed than even the police.

Our crime bill also gives a young person who took a wrong turn a change to reclaim his life by learning discipline in a boot camp. Every major law enforcement group in our country supports these measures -- more police, boot camps and alternative punishment for young people, the Brady Bill, and a ban on assault weapons. The men and women on the front lines know, our country needs this kind of action. On school grounds, on streets, in parking lots, and homes in our biggest cities and smallest towns, the silliest of arguments -- arguments that might have ended in a fist fight in bygone days now they're too easily ended with the sound of a gun. And often the sound of guns leads to death.

A gunshot wound is three times more likely to lead to death today, in part because there are so many assault weapons. And the average victim of gunshot wound now has over two bullets in him or her. It's getting hard to find a family that hasn't been touched by this epidemic of violence. Often it means another empty space in the hearts of those who lost a loved one.

Tell you representatives on Capitol Hill you want the crime bill and you want it now because it's important, it's long overdue. I guarantee you this; the minute I get it, I'll sign it. For we can never enjoy full economic security in our professional lives without real personal security in our homes, on our streets and in our neighborhoods.

I pledge to you today that we'll keep working to restore both. Thanks for listening.

Remarks by the President at Yale Alumni Luncheon, October 9, 1993

The second thing I want to mention is violence. This is the only country in the world where police have to go to work every day on streets with teenagers better armed than they do. This is the only country in the world that would be fiddling around after these years -- how many years has it been since Jim Brady got shot in the attempt to assassinate Ronald Reagan, and we still haven't passed the Brady bill, because people are fiddling around the edges of it making parliamentary arguments because they're trying to find some way to please the

people who don't like it. It's unconscionable. (Applause)

How can I preach to people about NAFTA, education, think of the future, and you've got to worry about whether your kid's going to get shot going to school? We can do something about it. And it is time to close the massive yawning gap between our rhetoric and the way we are organized in this society. (Applause)

Remarks to the Democratic National Committee Breakfast, at the Washington Sheraton, October 8, 1993

We've got to know, how old are these people buying these guns? Who are they? Do they have a criminal record? Do they have a mental health history? It's a big deal.

The states can do something. 17 states have said kids can't own handguns unless they're out with their parents on a hunting trip or a target practice. A lot of states have tried to set up laws licensing gun dealers, but the federal law will give you a license for ten bucks, and the states can't overturn it yet.

You got hundreds of gun dealers out there and there's no system about it. And maybe the most important thing of all is, you've got a lot of these people, most of them very young, a lot of them with drug problems, nearly all of them with no real connection to the rest of society, who have easy access to rapidfire assault weapons, the sole purpose of which is to kill people quicker, in greater numbers. And we have lots of bills in Congress to do something about it, and we ought to do something about it. We ought to pass one of them and do something about it and take a stand. We ought to pass a crime bill which would put 50,000 more police officers on the street. It matters how many police officers are on the street. (Applause) Not -- and I say to you, not so much for catching criminals quickly, although that is a big deal, but for preventing crime.

I'll just give you -- first of all, look at New York. One of the few big cities in the country, where for two years running, there's been a decline in the crime rate in all seven major FBI categories because they went to a community policing system. Look at Houston. Where the mayor there, Bob Lanier, got elected on a commitment to put the equivalent of 655 more police officers on the street, and to concentrate them in areas of high crime, and they had a 17 percent drop in the crime rate the first year they did it. You can do this. (Applause) And we ought to be about the business of helping our places become more safe. This is a huge deal. And the Democratic Party ought to do it. If we were the party of social security, why can't we be the party of health security, and personal security, and freedom from fear? (Applause)

Remarks in St. Petersburg, FA, September 23, 1993

When Michael Jordan's father was killed recently, a nation grieved, but no one knew the names of the other 22 people who died in that country this year. This is a national problem.

Remarks in the Reinventing Government Announcement, October 26, 1993

I want to pass this crime bill and pass the savings I've asked to help pay for it. I want them to know that if these cuts aren't passed, I'm going to come back with more cuts. And if those aren't passed, I'll come back with still more. I'll keep coming back until we have the money we need to make America safer.

Remarks in Photo Opportunity with Jim and Sarah Brady, November 2, 1993

Q: In that case, Mr. President, I'm wondering if you could tell us what the Brady bill would do in urban areas, like the District of Columbia, where the guns that kill people are not sold so much in shops, but more on the street, where there's not much of a waiting --

A: But they all do come out of regular manufacturers and they come into the country. And what the Brady bill would do, it would make uniform the require -- the losing battle a lot of states are fighting now because they're all alone to at least check those people who do buy from registered gun dealers. And there are an enormous number of people who do have criminal backgrounds, who have mental health problem, who don't even meet any kind of age requirement. We would be able to check all that, uniformly nationwide.

We find now that in a lot of states that have pretty strict gun laws, an enormous percentage of the guns that are confiscated by law enforcement officials every year come from other states that don't. So we do have some evidence that these laws work, that it's not the end all and be all. We've got a couple hundred million guns out there. There are a lot of other problems that we need to deal with in terms of minors in possession, in terms of assault weapons, in terms of the way the permitting process works for federal arms dealers.

But the Brady bill is the first step. And we are going to pass it this year, I believe because the American people finally have heard the long call of Jim and Sarah Brady. They've been out here on this for years and years and years, often times alone with no support. And finally, thanks to the leadership of the members of Congress who are here and others, we're going to be able to put it over.

In response to another question:

And you read all the these stories, like the story that was in *The Washington Post* yesterday of the children planning for their funerals, I think it's going to be very difficult got the Congress to justify continued inaction on what millions of Americans believe is the number one problem in their lives.

November 9, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR CIRCULATION

FROM: BRUCE REED

SUBJECT: Talking Points on House GOP Welfare Reform Plan

On Wednesday, November 10, House Republicans will hold a press conference to announce their welfare reform plan, which is based on the President's campaign pledge to require welfare recipients to work after 2 years. The Administration's reaction is spelled out in the attached HHS press release. The key points to stress are:

1. Welfare reform is a bipartisan issue, and we welcome the Republicans' effort to help the President pass a plan. Many elements of the Republican proposal are consistent with the President's vision, including their emphasis on parental responsibility and a two-year time limit followed by work. There is widespread consensus across party, class, and racial lines that the current welfare system is broken. We look forward to working with members of Congress and governors in both parties to fix it.

2. The President has laid the groundwork to make good on his promise to end welfare as we know it. His economic plan included a dramatic expansion in the Earned Income Tax Credit, which will move people off welfare by rewarding work and make good on another campaign promise -- that no one who works full-time with a family at home should live in poverty. The Administration's health reform plan will remove the incentive in the current system for people to stay on welfare in order to keep their health benefits.

The Administration has granted welfare reform waivers on a bipartisan basis to several states, including Iowa, Georgia, and Wisconsin. The Administration's Welfare Reform Working Group has held a series of hearings around the country (including one this week in Memphis) with state and local leaders, people in the welfare system, experts, and citizens who support reform. The Working Group will present policy options to the President later this year, with reform legislation likely early next year.

3. Many elements of the Republican plan are consistent with the President's approach; other elements raise some concerns. We want to do everything we can to reward work, family, and responsibility. Some provisions in the Republican plan raise concerns -- such as capping the EITC, a powerful work incentive with bipartisan support. Moreover, while we believe that welfare reform can save money over the long run by moving people into independence, we are concerned that some of the savings claimed in the Republican plan could shift considerable spending to the states. Finally, we would like to do more in the area of child support enforcement. But we are confident that we can work together with leaders in both parties to develop a welfare reform plan with bipartisan support.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 456-6515.

DRAFT STATEMENT RESPONDING TO REPUBLICAN PLAN

Mary Jo Bane, David Ellwood and Bruce Reed, co-chairs of President Clinton's Working Group on Welfare Reform, issued the following statement today in response to the release of the welfare reform legislation by House Republicans:

"We are pleased that the Republicans in the House of Representatives have entered the debate on welfare reform. We will certainly be looking closely at their legislation in the weeks ahead as we work with Congress and the states and localities to continue the development of the Administration's plan. Many of their proposals address the President's vision for reform, which stresses work, family, opportunity and responsibility.

Clearly there is broad consensus throughout the country and across party lines for fundamental change in the welfare system. The emphasis in the Republican plan on work and parental responsibility is very much in keeping with the President's goals.

While we applaud their emphasis on work, some elements of the plan concern us, such as the cap on the EITC - a powerful work incentive which has bipartisan support - and the across-the-board cuts in cost-effective nutrition programs which are likely to shift costs to the state. Much more can and should also be done to crack down on parents who fail to pay child support. Most importantly, we want a plan that focuses both on opportunity and responsibility, to ensure that Americans can and do work and become self-sufficient in the work force. As the President said in his February 17 address to Congress, "in the end, we want people not to need us any more."

We look forward to working with Congress on a bipartisan basis to develop a plan which fulfills the President's vision of a welfare system which truly helps people to work and become self-sufficient."

**SUMMARY OF WELFARE REFORM LEGISLATION
SPONSORED BY HOUSE REPUBLICANS
Fall, 1993**

I. ATTACKS THE TWO FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES OF WELFARE

CAUSE 1: NONWORK

- Less than 10% of welfare mothers work
- Although many mothers leave welfare within 2 years, many stay for 8 years or more; today there are more than 3 million mothers on AFDC who will remain on welfare during 8 years or more

THE SOLUTION: MANDATORY WORK

- When fully implemented, the Republican bill requires 63% of mothers who have been on AFDC for at least 2 years to work 35 hours per week for their benefits; mothers do not lose their benefits if they work in community or private sector jobs arranged by the state
- Mothers must use the first 2 years on AFDC (less at state option) to participate in education, training, work experience, and job search to prepare for a position in the private economy; if they do not find a job within that 2 years, they must participate in a community work job in order to continue receiving welfare benefits
- Provides states with an additional \$10 billion to provide welfare mothers with employment services, including day care
- One adult in two-parent families on welfare must work 32 hours per week and search for a job 8 hours per week starting the first day they receive welfare
- Mothers applying for welfare must participate in a job search program while their application is being processed
- Fathers of children on welfare who do not pay child support must also participate in work programs
- Mothers who refuse to work have their benefits reduced and then terminated; states failing to ensure that parents work suffer serious financial penalties

CAUSE 2: ILLEGITIMACY

- Illegitimacy has risen wildly in recent years; now 2 of every 3 black children and 1 of every 5 white children are born out of wedlock – and the rates are still rising
- Of illegitimate babies born to teen mothers, a shocking 80% will be on welfare within 5 years
- Teen mothers are the most likely to stay on welfare for many years without working
- Most of the increase in poverty and welfare in recent years is caused, not by a poor economy or reduced government spending (both are up), but by increased illegitimacy

THE SOLUTION: ESTABLISH PATERNITY, RESTRICT WELFARE, CRACK DOWN ON DEADBEAT DADS

- All mothers applying for welfare must identify the father or they will not receive benefits
- After identifying the father, mothers receive a reduced benefit until paternity is legally established
- Mothers who are minors must live at their parent's home, thus preventing them from using an illegitimate birth to establish their own household
- States must increase their paternity establishment rates, over a period of years, to 90% or suffer stiff penalties
- States are required to stop increasing welfare checks when families on welfare have additional children; states can avoid this requirement only if they pass a law exempting themselves
- States are required to stop paying welfare benefits to parents under 18 years of age; states can avoid this requirement only if they pass a law exempting themselves
- Deadbeat dads with children on welfare are required to pay child support or work

(OVER)

II. SLASHES WELFARE FOR NONCITIZENS

THE PROBLEM: TOO MUCH WELFARE FOR TOO MANY IMMIGRANTS

- Hundreds of thousands of noncitizens are added to the nation's welfare programs each year
- A recent study by the Social Security Administration shows that more than 11% of all recipients and 20% of elderly recipients of Supplemental Security Income are noncitizens
- Noncitizens also qualify for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Food Stamps, Medicaid, housing, and other welfare benefits

THE SOLUTION: STOP WELFARE FOR NONCITIZENS

- Simply end welfare for most noncitizens
- Allow refugees to receive welfare for only a fixed number of years unless they become citizens
- Allow noncitizens over 75 to receive welfare
- Continue the benefits of current noncitizens receiving welfare for 1 year

III. EMPHASIZES PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Requires mothers who are minors to live at their parent's home
- Requires states, in most cases, to stop welfare payments to unmarried parents under age 18
- Requires states to terminate the cash welfare benefits of families that do not have their preschool children immunized
- Encourage states to reduce the cash welfare benefit of families that do not assure that their children attend school regularly
- Allows states to require AFDC parents to participate in parenting classes and classes on money management
- Allows states to discourage parents from moving to a new school district during the school year

IV. ATTACKS SEVERAL ADDITIONAL WELFARE PROBLEMS

- Requires adults applying for welfare to engage in job search before their benefits start
- Requires addicted recipients of welfare to participate in treatment programs or lose their benefits
- Converts 10 major food programs into a block grant that provides states with almost complete discretion over spending; funding for the programs is reduced by 5%
- Caps spending on Supplemental Security Income, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Food Stamps, Public and Section 8 Housing, and the Earned Income Tax Credit to inflation plus 2% per year
- Provides states with much greater control over means-tested programs so they can coordinate and streamline welfare spending
- Encourages states to provide financial incentives to induce mothers on welfare to work and marry
- Allows states to let welfare recipients accumulate assets to start a business, buy a home, or attend college
- Allows states and local housing authorities to use more generous income disregard rules to promote work incentives
- Requires addicted recipients of Supplemental Security Income benefits to submit to drug testing; ends SSI benefits for those testing positive for illegal drugs

V. ACCOMPLISHES ALL THE ABOVE IN A BILL THAT REDUCES THE DEFICIT BY \$20 BILLION OVER 5 YEARS

- The training and mandatory work provisions of the bill cost nearly \$12 billion over 5 years
- The paternity establishment, job search, parental responsibility, block grant, and immigration provisions of the bill save about \$31 billion over 5 years.
- Thus, the net impact of the bill is to reduce the budget deficit by almost \$20 billion over 5 years.

File:
Crime - speeches

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
National Performance Review
OCTOBER 26, 1993

The Presidential Memorandum on Electronic Commerce I have just signed is the direct result of the work done by the National Performance Review. It will make our antiquated paper-based procurement system accessible to anyone with a personal computer, and will open up a world of possibilities for small businesses in America, as it drives down costs to the taxpayer.

Most of all, this demonstrates why the National Performance Review has been an enormous success. The NPR has become a true action plan for unprecedented cost-cutting and for the re-invention of the entire government and all its processes.

The National Performance Review is dedicated to reforms that will give us a government that works better and costs less. We are determined to give the taxpayer a more effective government, to reduce the deficit, and to provide new resources so that we may respond to urgent national priorities. The proposals we announce today meet every one of these objectives. By sending to the Congress a bill that produces billions in savings, we will now be able to finance an expansion of our anti-crime initiatives. Reinventing government is working, and we have the leadership of Vice-President Gore to thank for that.

Today I am sending to Congress a significant package of spending cuts totalling 10 Billion dollars, based on the National Performance Review, and fulfilling a promise I made to further reduce the deficit by sending additional cuts to Congress that could be passed this year. The Government Reform Act phases out Federal support for wool, mohair, and honey; consolidates environmental satellite programs; streamlines the operations of the Departments of Agriculture and Housing and Urban Development; reduces costly regulation and proposes other reforms reflecting more than twenty, deficit cutting recommendations of the NPR.

These cuts are part of our commitment to put our economic house in order. With passage of our economic plan this summer, containing nearly \$500 billion in deficit reduction, we have helped drive down interest rates to historically low levels and to keep inflation down. This has meant more private sector job growth in one year than in the previous four; increases in housing starts; auto sales that have climbed by 18.4 percent in mid-October; and orders for heavy equipment that continue to rise. While we still have far to go, and many more good paying jobs to produce, this recovery is beginning to shift into a more promising phase. That is why our progress on deficit reduction is so important.

We now move to achieve real savings through procurement reform. While the private sector is becoming more flexible and innovative, government is becoming more bloated and bureaucratic. And at a time when all businesses are looking for better suppliers and lower prices, the government is losing suppliers and paying higher prices, by putting up so many costly hurdles and requirements in its procurement system.

Procurement waste is costing us tens of billions of dollars, and it must stop. We must fundamentally reform the procurement system, save billions of dollars, and use that money in ways that meet the basic needs of the American people.

Senator Glenn and Congressmen Dellums and Congressman Conyers and the other distinguished Members who have joined us today have introduced important procurement reform legislation. It will make it much easier for agencies to buy the same commercial products ordinary consumers and businesses buy off-the-shelf. It will cut down enormously on paperwork, speed deliveries, and provide new incentives for small businesses to do business with the government.

At the same time, the Department of Defense has requested, with my support, immediate congressional authorization to undertake seven pilot projects to reform their procurement processes. These projects will allow the Department to demonstrate innovative approaches to acquiring commercial jet aircraft and aircraft engines, as well as items like clothing and medical supplies. Cost-saving innovations like these are critical to our ability to meet future military needs within our budgetary limits.

Procurement reform will also enhance national security. Procurement regulations virtually force defense contractors to develop business practices and products that are unique only to the military. This division of U.S. industry into defense and non-defense sectors results in higher prices to the government, less purchasing flexibility for our Armed Services, and too often denies our military access to state-of-the-art technologies found in the commercial marketplace. Today five of the top ten U.S. semiconductor producers refuse defense business because of the burdens and special requirements government imposes.

Finally, procurement can work, by allowing the government to run more like a business -- buying products based on price and on other important considerations such as how well a supplier has performed in the past. We want the marketplace, not the bureaucracy, to determine what we buy and what we pay.

According to the NPR report, if Congress does its part in passing that legislation, and we do our part in making it work, we could save more than \$5 billion in the first year alone. We

ought to take some of that money that your government has been wasting all these years and use it to uphold government's first responsibility, which is to keep its citizens safe here at home.

With that money, we can make our crime bill even stronger. We can make sure we put at least 50,000 new police officers on the street over the next five years.

We can help states build more boot camps -- like we did in Arkansas -- so we can take young criminals off the street and teach them respect for the law. And we can have more drug courts like the one the Attorney General started in Florida and the one my Administration is helping to launch here in D.C. -- so we can stop sending tens of thousands of criminal addicts back onto the street every year where they'll commit more crimes if they don't get treatment first.

I want Congress to pass the crime bill and pass the savings I've asked for to help pay for it. I want them to know: If they don't pass these cuts, I'm going to come back to them with more cuts. And if they don't pass those cuts, I'll come back again with more. And I'll keep coming back until they give me the money it takes to keep America safe.

Procurement reform shares a common border with many of our most important goals: saving the taxpayer money; reinventing government; strengthening our military; and improving our economy. But in a larger sense, the steps we are taking today are also about proving to the American people that we can deal seriously with the issues that matter to them, and that for so long they have felt powerless to change.

We can and will cut the deficit. We can and will run a government that works better and costs less. And we can and will use those savings to keep all Americans safe in their homes and secure on their streets.

I would like to close by introducing you to Lt. Col. Brad Orton. He has a story to tell that reveals the price we will continue to pay if we continue to do nothing.

During the Gulf War the Air Force placed an emergency order for 6,000 Motorola commercial radio receivers. But because Motorola's commercial unit lacked the record-keeping systems required to show the Pentagon that it was getting the lowest available price, the deal reached an impasse. The issue was resolved when the Japanese government bought the radios and donated them to our Air Force.

This should never happen again. Today is about taking responsibility for doing better. It is about working together to build a better America. I know, together, we will make it

happen. Thank you.

CRIME - POTUS SPEECHES

of humanitarian supplies (including to its northern provinces). Iraqi authorities bear full responsibility for any suffering in Iraq that results from their refusal to implement Resolutions 706 and 712.

Proceeds from oil sales also would be used to compensate persons injured by Iraq's unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait. The U.N. Compensation Commission has received about 900,000 claims so far, with a total of roughly two million expected. The U.S. Government is preparing to file a sixth set of individual claims with the Commission, bringing U.S. claims filed to roughly 2,700. The Commission's efforts will facilitate the compensation of those injured by Iraq once sufficient funds become available.

Security Council Resolution 778 permits the use of a portion of frozen Iraqi oil assets to fund crucial U.N. activities concerning Iraq, including humanitarian relief, UNSCOM, and the Compensation Commission. (The funds will be repaid, with interest, from Iraqi oil revenues as soon as Iraqi oil exports resume.) The United States is prepared to transfer up to \$200 million in frozen Iraqi oil assets held in U.S. financial institutions, provided that U.S. contributions do not exceed 50 percent of the total amount contributed. We have arranged a total of over \$100 million in such matching contributions thus far.

Iraq still has not met its obligations concerning Kuwaitis and third-country nationals it detained during the war. Iraq has taken no substantive steps to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as required by Security Council Resolution 687, although it has received over 600 files on missing individuals. Iraq refused to participate in a July 29 meeting under the auspices of the ICRC to consider further steps with regard to these missing persons. We continue to work for Iraqi compliance.

Iraq can rejoin the community of civilized nations only through democratic processes, respect for human rights, equal treatment of its people, and adherence to basic norms of international behavior. A government representing all the people of Iraq, which is committed to the territorial integrity and unity of Iraq, would be a stabilizing force in

the Gulf region. The Iraqi National Congress (INC) espouses these goals. In August, Iraq's ambassadors to Tunisia and Canada fled to Britain and announced their support for the INC.

I am grateful for the support by the Congress of our efforts.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert C. Byrd, President pro tempore of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on September 24.

Remarks to the Community in St. Petersburg, Florida

September 24, 1993

Thank you very much. We are delighted to be here today, all of us. I'm especially glad that Attorney General Reno came down from Washington with me. When she became the Attorney General, Florida gave the United States a great national resource, and I know you're all proud of the job that she has done.

I also want to thank my longtime friend Governor Chiles. You know, in his former life Governor Chiles was a Member of the United States Senate and was head of the budget committee. He thought arithmetic was functioning better at the State and local level, and so he decided to leave Washington. But when he left, it made it harder for the rest of us to make arithmetic work in Washington. And I'm glad to be here with him, and I especially honor the innovations that he has pushed in health care and in crime.

I want to thank Congressman Bill Young for hosting me in his district and for coming down last night on the plane. I'm also glad to see Congressman Miller here today and Congresswoman Karen Thurman from your neighboring districts.

We had a remarkable health care forum last night, as you probably know, in Tampa, with about 1,000 people there. And there were six or seven Members of Congress, roughly evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats, who came there with me in

our effort to bring this country together around that issue.

I got a little briefing on St. Petersburg Beach from Mayor Horan when I was up here. He told me that we had a wide variety of ages here. I think—you said your grandson was here, and he's one year old today. Where—is the Mayor's grandson here? Hold up the Mayor's grandson. Look at that. And we have at least one of your distinguished citizens here who is in her nineties. Melita, stand up there. Thank you. In between, we've got a President; an Attorney General; a Governor; three Members of Congress; your State attorney general, Bob Butterworth, who is here; the Mayor of St. Petersburg, David Fisher; the chief of police of St. Petersburg, Darrel Stephens; a number of State representatives and county officials and representatives from community groups, Crime Watch and other groups.

I say that to make this point: If you look out across this crowd today, from that young man celebrating his first birthday to this fine lady who has seen almost this entire century come and go, you see across this crowd people of different races, different political parties, different walks of life, all of us part of the family of America, all of us caught up now in a time of sweeping and profound change, change which opens up to us vistas of opportunity that our forebears could never have imagined and change which presents us with threats and troubles that our forebears never could have imagined.

I really believe that in a time like this, my job as your President is to try to identify the challenges facing our country and then to try to offer my best ideas about a solution and then to try to energize people all across the country to work until we find a solution. Whether it's the one I suggested or some other one, we have to urgently face both the opportunities and the problems before us in a time when we have to change so much.

And that's the first decision we all have to make. Whether it's in education or the economy, we have to be willing to change. When you're confronted with a time of sweeping changes, with a bunch of things that are happening that are good that you can be part of and a bunch of things that are happening that are bad that you want to

avoid, basically you have two options. You can sort of hunker down and put your arms around yourself and hope it will go away; that works about one time in a hundred. And then if you play the odds, 99 percent of the time what you have to do is take a deep breath and stick your chest out and turn right into the change and figure out what you can do.

Now, one of the things that all of us have learned in our lives, that even children learn early, is that you are more able to make changes you need to make when you are more secure. The more personally secure you are, the more you feel good about who you are and your connections to other people and your roots in a community, the more you are able to change. It seems almost ironic, but the more rooted you are in the traditionally human ties and the traditional human values that make life so rich, the more you're able to change so that you can enhance what you value. The more insecure we are, the more difficult it is for us to change because we're too busy just trying to survive.

So, in a funny way, the pursuit that we must have as a people for security is tied closely to the pursuit we must have as a people for change. And I believe as strongly as I can say that that's one of the reasons that makes this campaign for health care reform so important, that it will give our people the security to change. And it's one of the things that makes our efforts to try to reduce the crime rate and enhance human decency and dignity and reduce violence and destruction in our country so important because that is the security we need, the bedrock we need to make the economic changes, to make the education and training changes, to make the other changes we need in this country.

Last night, when we had that wonderful town hall meeting, people asked dozens and dozens of questions—I don't know how long we stayed there; it was way too late. [Laughter] There are a lot of people in America, if they watched that whole show last night, are sleepy at work today, I'll tell you that. But what you saw there is people yearning for security.

Here in this area, the principles I announced in health care reform are very much related to the principles of this anticrime effort our administration is undertaking. Secu-

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ity, health care that you've always got, that can't be taken away. Simplify the system; it's a nightmare for the doctors and the nurses and the people who are getting health care. Achieve savings, because the system is too wasteful, you can't justify putting more money in a broken machine until you've fixed it. Maintain choice for consumers and have quality. One of the things that matters so much in Florida is the idea that people on Medicare as well as people on Medicaid will be able to get prescription drugs now under this program, very important for older people to maintain their quality of life. And finally, to have more responsibility in the system. And that relates directly to the crime issue because one of the reasons American health care is so expensive is that our hospitals and our emergency rooms are full of people who are cut up and shot. If you look at the amount of money the American taxpayers pay in health care for violence, it is staggering. And the more we do that, the less we have to spend on other things that make us all well and more secure.

Now, one of the things that our health care reform package and the crime initiatives that the Attorney General is leading have in common is a focus on prevention. You know, I got a great hand the other night talking to Congress, and I said, "You know how your mother said an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure? Well, your mother was right." Well, that's the truth. For the first time, if we pass this health care reform program, everybody will have in their health care package preventive services. We will save money and enhance the quality of life, enhance security if you give every child an immunization plan, if you have well-baby visits, if you have Pap smears and mammograms and cholesterol tests and the kinds of things that keep people well as well as help them to get well if they get sick.

The same thing is true in crime. We know from experience after experience after experience that the kind of violence that has unfortunately gripped the headlines in Florida in the last several days and grieved so many of us as Americans, when people who come to our shores are hurt or killed when they want to see our country and they want to be the best about it, that is far from

a problem of Florida alone. And certainly not a problem for our foreign visitors alone. When Michael Jordan's father was killed recently, a nation grieved, but no one knew the names of the other 22 people who died in that county this year. This is a national problem.

When I was born in 1946, homicide wasn't even in the top ten leading causes of death in America. In fact, listen to this, throughout my lifetime homicide never made the top ten until 1989. And yet, now, homicide is the second leading cause of death among Americans age 15 to 25. And more of our teenage boys die from gunshots now than any other cause.

Now, we can decide again what to do with this. Are we going to hunker down and turn away and pretend it's not happening? Maybe it will go away; we've got a one chance in a hundred that will happen. Or we can face it, and we can face the problem in all of its human manifestations, just the way the Attorney General said.

These kids we just met out here who got in trouble and now they're in this program, pretty good kids. They've got a whole life ahead of them. They've got contributions they can make. And we need to see what we can do about preventing the life that might happen that none of us want to occur.

This initiative that we have undertaken in our administration to give more security and to make this society safer includes at least three forms of prevention I want to emphasize, because we know they work and because they are rooted in getting people at the grassroots community level more power over their own lives.

First is giving these children who get in trouble something to say yes to and some order and framework in their lives. Senator Moynihan said on television last Sunday, the distinguished Senator from New York who's been a student of American social history for 50 years, "We have gotten used to accepting a lot of behavior from people in this country that's pretty destructive. We have gotten used to the fact that a lot of kids grow up alone or almost alone in conditions that are very damaging to themselves and aren't conducive to learning good things and good habits." And we have let it happen. But all over America there are programs like the boot

camp program. One of these young men just came out of the boot camp program of this program and he told the Governor that he liked the program. More people ought to be in it, because, he said, "It used to be you could"—he knew this—he said, "It used to be you could ship kids my age off to the service, but we're going down. We don't have a draft anymore. We're going down in the number of people in the service. So we've got to have a substitute where people can learn discipline and order and be able to see the future as something that happens 3 years from now, not 3 minutes from now." And we have to have programs like this Marine Institute, which now is spreading across the country. This program is giving young people a chance to take their future back, a chance to understand that there is good inside them, that they can do things that are useful and productive and profitable and a lot more fun than whatever it is that got them into this program in the first place.

Those young people told me what it was like to learn how to give CPR, to learn how to scuba dive, to learn how to repair a boat and fix it so it would sail, to learn how to deal with each other and with adults so that they could get jobs. This program now operates in partnership with grassroots people in seven other States nationwide. They've taken 20,000 young people at risk and helped them to become responsible citizens. And so far, after they leave this program 75 percent of the young people that go through this program never have any criminal convictions again. If every young person in America that got in trouble had a chance to be in a program like this, think what a difference it would make. It's very important. How many times do you pick up the paper and read about somebody finally did something terrible after they had been arrested 13 times or 15 times or 20 times. We need a system in this country, and the National Government cannot do it, but we can help you do it. We can help provide funds and support and technical expertise, but people at the grassroots level have to do it. We've got to have systems in this country where everybody in those critical young years has a chance to be in a boot camp like this, like

you have in Florida, or a program like the Marine Institute or both if they need it.

We have an experimental program we started last June. Ten military facilities have been enclosed across the country where kids who are high school dropouts are able to come back and get their GED and have the benefit of military-type training. And a lot of these kids just love it. It's just changed their whole outlook on life. We have got to understand that we are raising a generation without the structure and order and predictability and support and reinforcement that most of us just took for granted. We took it for granted. And there's no use in us pretending that some National Government program and money alone will fix it. But there's no use in us pretending that just preaching at people will fix it, either. We have to actually change the conditions of opportunity for these young people.

The second thing we have to do is to recognize that our police forces can do more if they're more closely connected to the community, if there are enough of them, and if they operate in the same neighborhoods and concentrate on the problem areas. The buzzword for that is community policing. And it works. It works. I have been in cities all across America where the crime rate is dropping because of concentrated community policing strategy where police work in partnership with the citizens who live in a community, focus their resources on the areas of greatest opportunity, respond quickly to problems. I have seen that. That works.

The chief of police of St. Petersburg, Darrel Stephens, who's here, has been one of our Nation's leading promoters of community policing. And it does move away from the old ways of trying to catch criminals after a crime occurs to doing as much as you can to prevent crime in the first place. That drives down the crime rate.

This year under Attorney General Reno's leadership, our Department of Justice will fund five community policing projects in our Nation to serve as models for the rest of the country. In a competitive process, the Justice Department tried to find rural examples and urban examples, small and medium sized towns as well as big ones. Due to the strength of the programs in your communities, the

Justice Department has selected two of the five prototypes to be here in Florida, one in St. Petersburg, and the other in Hillsboro County, right next door. And these funds—not massive amounts of money, \$200,000 apiece—will enable these communities to strengthen their own community policing programs and develop them in a way that can be copied by other communities.

One of the things that the Attorney General and I were talking about on the way up here is it never ceases to amaze me that nearly every problem in America has been addressed well by somebody somewhere, but we don't learn very well from one another yet. And one of the things that this Government is dedicated to doing in my administration is taking what works at the grassroots level and giving other people a chance to do it. And I thank you for that.

Now, the third thing I want to emphasize and the third thing I think we have to recognize is if you want to prevent crime in this country, violent crime, if you want to stop gunshot wounds from being the leading cause of death among young teenage boys, if you want to change the circumstance in which the average age of people killing each other is now under 16 in some of our cities, you have to change the fact that America is the only country in the civilized world where a teenager can walk the street at random and be better armed than most police forces. We have to face that fact. The crime bill, which was introduced just a couple of days ago in both the Senate and the House, contains more funds for more police officers on the street, something I believe in, we want to put another 100,000 out there in America so everybody can adopt a community policing strategy. It also has the Brady bill which will require a 5-day waiting period before anybody can purchase a handgun. And in addition to that, there are several bills in the Congress, and I hope and pray one of them can reach my desk this year, which will ban various types of assault weapons entirely from being held in the possession of our young people.

Let me tell you something, folks. I come from a State where more than half the adults have a hunting or a fishing license or both, where most of us were in the woods by the

time we were 6 years old, where some schools and some plants have to be closed on the opening day of deer season. Nobody shows up anyway. [Laughter] There's not a person in this country that values the culture of the outdoors and the hunting and all of that any more than I do. But neither those who love to hunt, or who love to shoot weapons in contests, nor the framers of the Constitution when they wrote the second amendment ever envisioned a time when children on our streets would illegally be in possession of weapons designed solely to kill other people and have more weapons than the people who were supposed to be policing them. And we better stop it if we want to recover our country.

Just last week the Governor of Colorado, Governor Roy Romer, signed a law that prohibits juveniles from owning handguns. He joined Governor Florio of New Jersey and 17 others who have passed that law this year.

These are things we have to do. All three of these things are preventive. They're worth a pound of cure. Have more programs like this one. Give these kids a chance to have something to say yes to, not just telling them what they have to say no to, and a chance to order their lives and to fill themselves from the inside out. A lot of these programs don't deal with people from the inside out. That's the only way you can really change people's lives.

Give our police forces a chance to succeed with a community-based strategy that prevents crimes as well as catches criminals. And get the guns out of the hands of the kids. Give our law enforcement officers a fighting chance to keep the streets safe and people secure.

These are elements of prevention that will give us the security we need to make the changes we need economically to move into the 21st century. They will have the extra benefit of dramatically lowering the costs of health care and enabling us to finance the kind of progress we need in health care which again will give us the security we need to be the people we have to be in this dynamic era.

Thank you very much, and God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:14 a.m. at the Pinellas Marine Institute.

Remarks and an Exchange With Reporters on Arrival on the South Lawn

September 24, 1993

The President. I was asked on the way out of Florida this morning to make a comment on the Court of Appeals decision involving NAFTA, where the Court of Appeals reversed the trial court and said, in effect, that NAFTA does not have to have an environmental impact statement. First, I applaud the decision. And second, I want to emphasize that if this agreement goes through, it will lead to improvements in the environment and increased investment on the Mexican side of the border in environmental cleanup.

I also would like to say, based on the cause and conversations that I have been having with Members of Congress, I'm beginning to feel a little bit better about this agreement. I think that more and more Members of Congress who actually listen to the arguments, pro and con, understand that the overwhelming majority of the arguments against NAFTA are complaints about things that have already happened under the existing law, all of which NAFTA will make better.

NAFTA will raise wages more quickly in Mexico than if we don't adopt it. It will raise environmental spending more in Mexico than if we don't adopt it. It will reduce illegal immigration more in Mexico than if we don't adopt it. And it will plainly lead to more high-tech jobs, high-wage jobs in this country. And also I think more of our Members of Congress understand that NAFTA stands for, in the minds of the rest of the market-oriented countries of Latin America a desire on the part of the United States to have a hemispheric trading bloc, which everyone believes will lead to more jobs and higher incomes in America; that is, NAFTA is the beginning, after which you can look at Chile, at Venezuela, at Argentina, at other of the market-oriented economies in Latin America. These

things, I think, are beginning to sink in, and I'm very hopeful that we're going to be making some more progress. I think we are.

South Africa

Q. Mr. President, on another subject, Nelson Mandela today called for an end to the sanctions on South Africa. I know you've followed this issue closely for many, many years. Is the United States now prepared, are you prepared to lift the sanctions?

The President. When Mr. Mandela was here with President de Klerk, we talked about this. And then I've talked with him on the phone since he was here. And I'm looking forward to doing it again. Obviously the United States is going to be heavily influenced by the remarkable turn of events in South Africa, by the continued commitment on the part of the people of South Africa to move to a multiracial democracy. And so I will be very influenced, obviously, by what Mr. Mandela says. But I'll have a statement about that—

Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, when you go to the United Nations on Monday, can you tell us what you'll tell them about your feelings concerning Bosnia?

The President. Tune in Monday. I don't want to give the speech today.

Support for Russia

Q. Mr. President, regarding the situation in Moscow, President Yeltsin now is clearly threatening to use force, if necessary, to disarm his opponents in the Parliament. Does that affect your attitude towards the situation in there, your support for Yeltsin?

The President. My support has not been affected by anything that has happened thus far. It is a difficult situation. I don't think we should attempt to quarterback every move from the United States. And I don't think I have anything else to say about it yet.

Anticrime Legislation

Q. Mr. President, there are a lot of people who are asking, after your comments this morning on the nexus between violence and medical costs, what your crime policies are really doing to make a change in this other than just support for gun control?

The President. Well, I've got a crime bill up there that goes far beyond support for the Brady bill and for a restriction on automatic weapons—I mean, assault weapons, although I favor both those very strongly. We also, through the crime bill and several other initiatives, are attempting to put more police officers on the street, to support boot camps and other alternative forms of punishment for young people to try to steer them away from a life of crime, and to support improvements in the criminal justice system itself to make punishment more swift and more sure.

But if you look at the crime bill, if you look at the effort to put more police officers on the street and to support community policing, and if you look at the effort to provide boot camps and alternative forms of punishment and pass the Brady bill and pass some limits on these semi-automatic assault weapons, that's a pretty broad-based anticrime strategy. I hope that the Congress will act on it and act on it this year.

NAFTA

Q. Mr. President, some people have expressed the view that NAFTA constitutes a kind of an unfortunate obstacle to you in political terms with all the focus that will be needed to pass the health care reform. How do you see the politics of the two issues fitting or not fitting together?

The President. I disagree with that, because, first of all, let's look at what has to happen now on health care reform. We're going to do one more round of intensive consultations, then we'll have some legislation to send to the Hill that embodies the principles I discussed with the American people. There will be other bills. They will go to the committees, and then we will begin the careful and exhaustive process of reviewing this.

Meanwhile, NAFTA is on a much faster time track. The trade agreement has to be turned into legislation within a limited period of time by the Congress. And then there's a limited period of time for debate. So I will be spending a significant amount of time everyday calling Members of Congress in both parties trying to line up support and working on other people like Mr. Iacocca, to try to get them to speak out for us and working on bringing people into this debate who are

selling things to Mexico and people whose jobs depend on it to show that it's a job winner as well as trying to illustrate to the Congress that the great benefits of NAFTA may well lie in its ability to be expanded to the rest of Latin America.

So I've got a big agenda. And the NAFTA issue will be over before too long. That is, under the fast track legislation on trade agreements, there is a fixed amount of time we have to do it. We're either going to do it or not. It'll be over—the health care debate is on a different timetable. So I don't see them conflicting now. We just had to get the health care debate started, or we never would have finished it.

Health Care Reform

Q. Mr. President, on health care reform, if you end up underestimating the cost of your plan, are you calling for a formal annual review mechanism that would allow for tax increases or benefit cuts, if necessary, in order to meet your target?

The President. What I think we should do is we should have an annual review process which would permit us, if we don't realize the savings through management we intend to realize, to make a decision to phase in some of the newer benefits over a longer period of time. That would control what we do—or to present them as options that can be paid for separately at the decision of the consumer until the savings enable us to phase them in completely.

I do not believe—I will say again—I do not believe you can justify taking the world's most expensive and bureaucratic system in which most Americans who have insurance pay more than they should, under any conceivable model that they'd be in, anyone besides this one, and ask them to pay taxes on top of that to pay for the uninsured. We have got to manage this system to make it simpler, to achieve the savings without sacrificing choice and quality. We can plainly do it. We know it's been done in Germany, just to take one other example. We know it's been done several places in the United States. And the administration is happy to carry the burden into these congressional hearings of demonstrating the evidence that it can be done. But if it doesn't happen just as it should, then

what should happen is we should phase the benefits in more slowly or present them as options that can be paid for. We shouldn't raise general taxes on people who are already paying too much for their own health care to pay for somebody else's health care who's not paying anything for it. I just don't think that's right.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:35 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to former Chrysler Corp. chairman Lee Iacocca.

Statement on Lifting Economic Sanctions Against South Africa

September 24, 1993

I welcome the call today by ANC President Nelson Mandela for the lifting of economic sanctions against South Africa. This call from this courageous man who has been one of the principal victims of apartheid means that the leading groups in South Africa now oppose the maintenance of economic sanctions on their country.

Yesterday's action by the South African Parliament to create a Transitional Executive Council (TEC) and today's announcement by the ANC are watershed events in the history of South Africa and its movement toward a nonracial democracy. South Africans of all races can be proud of these momentous achievements. Americans can also take pride in the role they have played through government, churches, unions, universities, activist groups, and businesses throughout America to protest the apartheid system.

We must now respect the judgment of the leaders of South Africa and move to lift our remaining economic sanctions. We will be taking steps necessary to permit lending to South Africa from the International Monetary Fund. I welcome the introduction and passage of legislation in the Senate to lift the other remaining sanctions at the Federal level and hope the House can move rapidly on the legislation as well. I also urge States, counties, and cities to move quickly to lift their sanctions.

But removing sanctions will not be enough. Americans who have been so active in breaking down the pillars of apartheid must remain committed to helping build the nonracial market democracy that comes in its wake. For this reason, I have asked that Commerce Secretary Ron Brown lead a trade and investment mission to South Africa to explore business opportunities, particularly with South Africa's black private sector. We will offer an OPIC investment encouragement agreement and propose negotiations for a bilateral tax treaty. We will consider the possibility of initiating a Peace Corps program in South Africa.

I urge private companies, investment fund managers, universities, labor unions, and other Americans to take advantage of opportunities for trade and investment in South Africa and to use their fullest talents to assist South Africa's historic transition to democracy.

Message on the Observance of Yom Kippur, 1993

September 24, 1993

My heartfelt greetings to all who are observing Yom Kippur in this momentous year of history and hope.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is a holy day that provides the opportunity to seek forgiveness and to enter the new year with a clean conscience and a clear purpose. It is a chance to seek pardon and to ask divine guidance for self-improvement. Yom Kippur emphasizes the importance of honoring the memories of loved ones no longer living, but still remembered. Above all, Yom Kippur recognizes the need to repair personal relationships—relationships with friends and family, with God, with those who live on in our memories, and with those for whom we may have previously felt animosity.

With the recent signing of the agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, this Yom Kippur is particularly significant. It is my wish that people of all cultures and faiths will pledge their active support and energy to help achieve a new era of peace and hope in the Middle East.